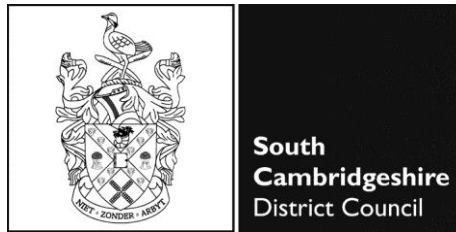


In case of enquiry contact David Roberts
Direct Dial 01223 457172
Fax 01223 457109
E-mail david.roberts@cambridge.gov.uk



NEWS RELEASE

22nd September 2006

COUNCILS PUBLISH JOINT PLAN FOR CONSULTATION ON UNIVERSITY EXPANSION

Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council have unveiled the first stage in a new Area Action Plan which they are drawing up to guide development to the north west of the City. They are working together as the site, between Huntingdon Road and Madingley Road, lies in both Councils' areas.

The development will be predominantly for Cambridge University related uses, including key worker housing for University staff, student housing and new faculty buildings and research facilities.

The first stage in the process is an Issues & Options Report, which asks the public and key organisations about a number of matters including:

- Five different options for the development of the site together with a new Green Belt boundary and how to ensure green separation for Girton village;
- The possibilities for an orbital transport route;
- Whether there should be additional road connections to the M11 at Madingley Road;
- Where a local centre should be sited; and
- Whether a new secondary school should be located here.

A six-week period of public consultation starts on Monday 25th September and ends on Monday 6th November. The public and stakeholders are being invited to comment on the matters raised in the report.

A number of exhibitions have been organised so that people can see what is involved and have the chance to speak to officers of the Councils. These will be:

Friday, 6 th October, 2.00 – 8.30pm	The Pavilion, Girton Recreation Ground, Girton
Tuesday, 10 th October, 2.00 – 8.30pm	The Pavilion, University Sports Ground, Wilberforce Road, Cambridge
Monday, 23 rd October, 2.00 – 8.30pm	The Auditorium, Fitzwilliam College, Storey's Way, Cambridge

At the exhibitions there will also be the opportunity to see:

Cambridge City Council The Guildhall
Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB2 3QJ

- The University's emerging masterplan for the site
- David Wilson Estates' emerging masterplan for 1780 homes on land nearby between Huntingdon Road and Histon Road in Cambridge City where an outline planning application is expected in November and their proposals for the redevelopment of the NIAB site on Huntingdon Road
- Cambridgeshire County Council's draft transport strategy for the area
- Cambridgeshire Horizons' work on providing infrastructure to serve the developments.

The Issues and Options Report can be seen on-line at:

The City Council's website, (www.cambridge.gov.uk) and South Cambridgeshire District Council's website (www.scambs.gov.uk) or at:

- Environment and Planning Reception, Cambridge City Council, The Guildhall
- South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park
- The Central Library, Lion Yard, Cambridge and other libraries and access points across South Cambridgeshire

Councillor Sian Reid, Executive Councillor for Planning and Transport at the City Council said, "This is a real opportunity for those affected by the proposed expansion of the University onto this site to make their views known at an early stage. This work on an Area Action Plan is the best way for the Councils to establish what is needed by the community as well as by the developers on this site and now is the time for local people to help shape the way in which the development takes place. The University did consult local opinion on a masterplan in 2005 and their work on this will be on show, but it is important to understand that it is through the Area Action Plan process that we can make sure that local opinion is thoroughly considered."

Councillor Daphne Spink MBE, South Cambridgeshire's Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development said, "I want to emphasise that that this is not a planning application for the expansion of the University. There are a number of important issues to be resolved first, not the least of which is deciding how much Green Belt land can be taken for the University's development and ensuring the separateness of Girton from the City."

Notes for Editors

For further information, contact:

Cambridge City Council:

Sian Reid, Executive Member for Planning and Transport, tel: 01223 356100 or email: sianreid@dsl.pipex.com

John Durrant, Labour Spokesperson for Planning and Transport, tel: 01223 563387 or email: john.durrant@cambridge.gov.uk

David Roberts, Planning Policy Manager, Cambridge City Council, tel: 01223 457172 or email: david.roberts@cambridge.gov.uk

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Daphne Spink, Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder, tel: 01480 880383 or email cllr.spink@scambs.gov.uk

Caroline Hunt, Principal Planning Policy Officer, South Cambridgeshire District Council, tel: 01954 713196 or email: caroline.hunt@scambs.gov.uk

Copies of the report can be purchased for £10 (including postage and packing), either from the Planning reception at Cambridge City Council on 01223 457200 or South Cambridgeshire District Council on 01954 713183

Additional unstaffed exhibitions will also be located in the Guildhall, Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne during the following dates:

Date & Time	Location
25 th September – 13 th October (during normal office hours)	Outside the Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge
16 th October – 6 th November (during normal office hours)	Planning Reception, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge
25 th September – 6 th November (during normal office hours)	South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne

Representations can be made using the online response form available on the City Council website (www.cambridge.gov.uk) or using printed Response Forms which are available from both Councils offices as listed above. Representations can be sent to either Council at the following addresses:

Director of Environment & Planning
Cambridge City Council
The Guildhall
Cambridge CB2 3QJ, or

Executive Director
South Cambridgeshire District Council
South Cambridgeshire Hall
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne
Cambridge CB3 6EA