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## GREEN BELT POLICIES

### ***GB/1 – Green Belt boundaries***

**The boundaries of the Green Belt are defined on the Proposals Map.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other	~	~	~	

climate change impacts			
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> This is a procedural policy indicating where the extent of the Green Belt will be legally defined. Defining on the Proposals Map formally incorporates it into the LDF and district planning policy. As such the option cannot be assessed. Any impacts of the Green Belt are covered by the assessment of policy GB/2.			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> None – see below.			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> The Council is assumed to have an underlying intention of preserving the Green Belt as far as possible. Developments such as Northstowe are mitigated by compensatory redesignation of land, but overall this represents a loss of the district's 'stock' of open land. Developments such as Northstowe are predicated on decisions taken high in the planning structure, but this raises the issue of whether this should result in more stringent controls on how much Green Belt land is removed and/or replaced as a result of other developments in order to limit the loss of open land in the longer term. (In practical terms this comment implies a concern that repeated redesignation of Green Belt land may weaken its role in managing development.)			

## **GB/2 – Development in the Green Belt**

**Planning permission will only be granted within the Green Belt in very special circumstances (defined in 8 points). Inappropriate development will not be permitted and any form of development may require landscaping.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	+++	+++	+++	Clearly one of the two main objectives of this policy.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+	+	+	Supportive in principle as such sites will lie beyond urban edge.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	Supports maintenance.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	+	+	+	Ensures that open countryside surrounds settlements (proximity), although accessibility depends on rights of way.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	+	+	+	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+++	+++	+++	Within 1.1 the other principal objective of this policy.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	Supports 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	?	?	?	Impact of traffic growth which may occur as a result of permitting development of leisure facilities?
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	(+)	(+)	(+)	As vegetation helps to fix carbon it can be argued that the policy supports this objective indirectly.
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	?	?	?	Depends whether land is available for recreational use.

5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	++?	++?	++?	Supportive in principal though designation does not imply public accessibility.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Overall the policy is clearly prevents <i>loss of agricultural land, maintains local character</i> , and provides the opportunity for <i>accessible open space</i> within easy reach of settlements.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> Condition 2 of the policy permits appropriate development for recreational and leisure use. Should the policy or the supporting text indicate that ‘appropriate’ should be determined not only by maintaining the open character of the land but also that it should not result in excessive traffic since this indirectly affects the character and tranquillity of the area. This issue is partly addressed in GB/7 by encouraging non-car access, but traffic impacts are not mentioned specifically.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> None identified.				

### ***GB/3 – Location and design of development***

**Development considered appropriate must be located and designed so it has no adverse effect on the character and openness of the Green Belt.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	?	?	?	Depends on locality although in principle the policy is supportive
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	Supports 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	



5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	?	?	?	Maintains quality of open space although does not imply public accessibility.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Little to comment on; clearly supportive.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> If the Council has prepared design guidelines should these be referenced in the supporting text? Equally, the text might make it clear if guidelines are to be covered in forthcoming guidance, possibly as an SPD.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> None identified.				

#### **GB/4 – Landscaping & design measures**

Development on the edge of settlements must be carefully landscaped and designed to minimise the visual impact on the adjacent Green Belt.

#### **Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]**

#### **Assessment Short Med. Long**

#### **Comments / Proposed Mitigation**

1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings

~ ~ ~

1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	?	?	?	Depends on proximity of sites, but supportive in principle.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	Supports 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	(Addresses visual impact not availability of open space.)
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	

6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment: As with GB/3, aims to minimise the impact on the <i>landscape character</i> of the Green Belt of any peripheral development that is considered appropriate.</b>			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: As for GB/3.</b>			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>			

### ***GB/5 – Major developed sites***

**Identifies four major sites and defines the nature of development that would be permitted within their boundaries.**

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	Technically, land within the sites is brownfield land. The policy is neutral provided the constraints on development do not result in an extension of the site onto adjacent land (which might be resisted by policy GB/2).
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	?	?	?	Not possible to assume without understanding the nature of redevelopment, however the current policy focuses on footprint only. See comments under mitigation at the bottom of this assessment.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	?	?	?	As above.

2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	Policy provides for no net expansion of developed land within these sites (all of which have a parkland setting). Redevelopment should not result in loss of important vegetation / biodiversity features, though this should be implemented through the EIA process.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	+	+	+	Positive although benefits are confined to a small area.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	As above.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	+	+	+	As above.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	Effect is neutral provided redevelopment does not result in a sizeable increase in employment levels or changes in industrial process that increasing vehicle trips to/from the site.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	Sites have constraints on public access.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	

6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment: A supportive policy necessitated by the presence of large campus sites with land potentially available for redevelopment, but lying within the open area of the Green Belt. The policy controls horizontal and vertical redevelopment.</b>			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: It is not clear what redevelopment is envisaged, though the sites are a mixture of medical, research and manufacturing uses. In the light of Objectives 1.2 and 1.3 it could be made clearer that land use changes that result in significant changes in resource use, especially of water, would be resisted. However such provisions might be made in the Development Briefs mentioned in the supporting text.</b>			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None as these are isolated sites.</b>			

<b>GB/6 – Recreation in the Green Belt</b>				
<b>Encourages use of Green Belt land for recreation provided land use change is sympathetic and facilities are conveniently close to built-up areas and/or readily accessible by non-car modes of transport.</b>				
<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	?	?	?	It is not clear whether farm diversification through the release of land in a suitable location for non-agricultural purposes would be permitted.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	?	?	?	Facilities such as country parks have near-neutral impact, however the level of provision of amenities such as showers, etc. needs to be controlled. Overall effect likely to be neutral

1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	?	?	?	As above.
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	Adverse impacts should be prevented by planning application process and the policy does not preclude sensitive development enabling the public to visit designated sites (see 2.3 below).
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	Intrinsically protects some land from possible redevelopment and maintains its openness. Development should not result in loss of important vegetational, water and other features, but the overall effect is assumed to be positive.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	+++	+++	+++	One of two principal objectives of this policy.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	Assumed that redevelopment would not be permitted in the proximity of historic sites (eg. in grounds of halls, houses, etc.).
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	++	++	++	Aims to provide for a variation in landscape that is still sympathetic and aims to provide for land uses other than agriculture around settlement edges.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	Supports 3.2. Provision of convenient recreation outside the urban area should contribute to residents' satisfaction with their surroundings.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+	Supportive if accessibility encourage less use of cars, and the indirect carbon-fixing benefits of the vegetation.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	++	++	++	Accessible recreational facilities encourage exercise.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	++	++(+)	+++	The other principal objective of this policy. Effect is assumed to build over time as facilities are added.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+(+)	++	++(+)	Addresses requirements for better accessibility for leisure facilities, and helping to reduce dependence on private cars.

6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	?	?	?	Might contribute to rural diversification, though this depends on the nature of the redevelopment.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	(+)	(+)	(+)	Appropriate development could support sustainable tourism, but this might offset other benefits of the basic policy (eg. reduced private car use) and should not entail inappropriately extensive development.
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Supports objectives of <i>accessible open space</i> and <i>maintaining landscape character</i> by ensuring there is a range of countryside 'land uses' (ie. not just agricultural land) around settlements as they expand.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> The policy and its supporting text does not refer to the nature of recreational developments, which appears potentially broad in type and impact. Country parks are mentioned and, implicitly, footpaths and bridleways. However other new development such as farmland turned over to golf courses, driving ranges and other non-agricultural uses are not mentioned specifically and the nature of these developments would need to be controlled carefully where they are acceptable.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> Synergistic impact of out-of-town recreational space combined with open space provision within settlements (the assessment assumes recreational features are not included in open space targets). There is also a longer-term synergistic effect of adopting a strategy for managing recreational facilities in the Green Belt – as proposed in the supporting text – if this supports provision and variety.				

### ***GB/7 – Improvements to landscape and biodiversity***

The Council aims to reverse declining habitat quality in the Green Belt through additional planting and habitat creation.

#### **Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]**

#### **Assessment**

#### **Comments / Proposed Mitigation**

**Short Med. Long**

1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and	~	~	~	
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productive agricultural holdings				
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+	+	+	Implicitly supportive, although the condition of designated sites is primarily the responsibility of other agencies.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+(+)	++	Clearly supportive of this objective, and supporting text makes specific mention of land and aquatic features, trees and linear habitats. Effect builds over time as new planting takes hold.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	?	?	?	Proposals do not necessarily attract people to the countryside and the supporting text acknowledges the need to protect some sites as they are re-established. Any negative impact must be outweighed by the clear benefits of improving biodiversity and husbandry of countryside resources.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	+?	+?	+?	Depends where improvements occur – at worst the effect is neutral.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+(+)	++	Clearly supportive, and recognises the need to manage and regenerate features to maintain their quality. Activities will take time to deliver improvements so effect grows.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	+	+	+	Supports 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	?	?	?	Carbon-fixing benefit of vegetation?
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly	+	+(+)	++	Text wording implies the council rather than private landowners have responsibility for these improvements, and this suggests



accessible open space				they would occur where the public can enjoy the results.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	Any leisure benefits implicit in 5.3.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	+	+	+	Supporting text makes mention of coordinating work with volunteer groups.
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment: Clearly sustainable with a strong positive environmental focus that recognises countryside resources must need management to maintain quality.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified – policy is a reaction to secondary effects of agricultural practices.</b>				

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT POLICIES

### **NE/1 – Energy efficiency**

**Prescribes a range of measures to improve the energy efficiency of new and re-developed properties which will be adopted as an SPD at a later date. Encourages developers to seek 10% improvement on CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup> emissions compared to minimum Building Regulations.**

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	+	+(+)	++	The principal objective of this policy. Benefit accumulates as more energy efficient properties are built or converted. The 'start point' for the trend depends on the proportion of existing properties that already meet Building Regulations. We assume that the relatively recent adoption of efficiency standards means this will not be particularly high.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	Not addressed – but see mitigation proposals.
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	

4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+(+)	++	The main objective of this policy, though as with 1.2 the benefit will grow over time from a relatively low starting point. However the positive rating must be qualified by the relatively 'light touch' of the proposals. See mitigation proposals for details.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	+	+(+)	Addresses issue of vulnerability of properties to long-term temperature change, though again the starting point is low.
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	?	?	?	There are some concerns that the cost of energy efficiency and other sustainability measures effects the price of new housing and this may have an effect on developers' willingness or ability to provide affordable housing. The significant of this impact cannot be calibrated on the information available at present.
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	

**Summary of assessment:** Supports *reduction in energy consumption and emission of greenhouse gases*. The Council appears to have set a fairly low and easily achievable threshold for this policy. There is clear potential long-term impact on energy consumption if there is a large-scale growth in housing and other forms of development during the lifetime of the initial LDF, and this policy must maximise positive impacts.

**Summary of mitigation proposals:** The policy has four components: the stipulated threshold; the calculation method; the assessment structure (Building Regulations); and the policy requirement ('encouragement' rather than obligation). Our initial assessment has proposed that the Council should adopt an alternative policy approach to enforce more stringent targets. However the Council has advised us that it limited scope to implement higher targets and that the main mechanism for this would be through changes to the Building Regulations.

**Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:** Potential increase in the stock of energy-inefficient buildings if new requirements do not keep pace with projected change in sustainable construction standards.

## NE/2 – Renewable energy

Renewable energy developments will be permitted where these do not infringe district-wide development criteria, where there is ready access to the National Grid, and the land can be redeveloped subsequently for other purposes.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	No obvious impact, although the policy and text does not mention biomass energy, which is one solution to renewable fuel provision and farm diversification.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	(+)	+	+(+)	Benefit through replacement, although the potentially slow rate of equipment of solar panels, etc., and reluctance to permit wind farms suggests slow incremental growth.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	Limited size of windfarms may have some benefits (removes potential impact on birds though farms can be sited appropriately with RSPB guidance), and limits visual impact.

2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Smaller windfarms are assumed to have less visual impact, although this assumes cumulative development would be controlled.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	(+)	+	+(+)	As for 1.2.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	

7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Clearly supports reduced reliance on non-renewable sources, however the incremental provision of technology suggests benefits will grow slowly. Baseline data does not enable comparison of current performance with national average, and any shift in target generation levels may require reconsideration of the position on windfarms and other approaches.			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> No mention of biomass as a way of meeting targets while also supporting farm diversification and keeping farmland under agricultural use.			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> None identified in the policy as proposed.			

### **NE/3 – Renewable energy technologies in new development**

Developments larger than 1000m<sup>2</sup> or 10 dwellings will include technology enabling at least 10% of their energy to be derived from renewable sources.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	+	+(+)	++	Clearly supportive.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	

3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+?	+?	+?	Indirect benefit it is obviates need for windfarms and other solutions with visual impacts, although this must be balanced against the same incremental capacity of each new unit.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	(+)	+	+(+)	Incremental benefit from reduced consumption of energy from power stations.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	Minor, incremental background changes that would only become significant with nationwide switch to renewable energy.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	?	?	?	Possible impact of technology on cost of new housing, and the knock-on effect on the provision of affordable homes. We also recognise that policy NE/1 advocates a more stringent position on providing energy efficient technology which might turn this into a negative assessment.
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	

7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Policy encourage developers to build energy-efficiency into the housing stock, and this is clearly valuable given the scale of growth that will occur in the plan period. The baseline data suggests the District performs well against regional and national comparators, but this should not mean a slackening of the promotion of renewables. One concern is the possible impact of technology cost on the price of new units, and the impact this might have on affordable housing provision however we recognise that a balance must be struck between the suggestion for NE/1 or more stringent targets for providing this technology and its impact on house prices.			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> None.			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> Obvious long-term impact on the District's energy consumption although limited provision suggests this will be an incremental change.			

<b>NE/4 – Landscape character areas</b>				
The areas will be defined on the Proposals Map, and development within these areas will only be permitted if it is sympathetic to local character and distinctiveness. Design policies will be detailed in an SPD to be produced at a later date.				
Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	+	+	+	Policy specifically refers to the land management regime and not just built development.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	Vegetation is a component of landscape character and therefore this is implicitly supportive.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their	+	+	+	Again, implicitly supportive.



settings				
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy. Supporting text acknowledges the care needed at the urban fringe, though this is addressed through policies GB/4, GB/5 and GB/7.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	Supports 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	

**Summary of assessment:** Supports objectives of respecting *landscape character* and (indirectly) maintaining the natural features of the landscape that sustain and *enhance biodiversity*. Some problems may be experienced with expansion of settlements, however these will be addressed in part by other policies in this DPD, notably those supporting the Green Belt.

**Summary of mitigation proposals:** None.

**Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:** None identified.

### **NE/5 – Countryside enhancement areas**

Takes forward Cambridgeshire Structure Plan policy 7/3 to identify areas for enjoyment of the countryside and to take steps to enhance their natural characteristics while preserving tranquillity.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	Effect assumed to be neutral as designated areas are already subject to access controls and enhancement programmes by other agencies.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+(+)	++	Policy supports Biodiversity Strategy and provides for enhancement of specific areas. Difficult to calibrate impact as scope of work is not evident.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	+	+(+)	++	As above.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Supportive.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work	+	+	+	Objective tends to be assessed in urban setting, but equally

well	importance in the countryside.			
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	(+)	(+)	(+)	Provides areas for quiet relaxation. Proximity to urban areas is not clear and will probably vary from site to site. Nevertheless, provision does not guarantee use. Implicitly supportive.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+(+)	++	Assessment may be slightly optimistic as it is not clear yet how much space will be provided, but it is clearly beneficial.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+	+	+	Supports quality of leisure facilities; accessibility is not addressed by the policy text.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment: Supports the District's Biodiversity Strategy and is consistent with other policies (eg. GB/8) although the degree of overlap is not clear.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>				

**Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:** The supporting text envisages implies synergistic effects from combining enhancement programmes in certain localities. Presumably this will enable cost-effective provision of improvement of sustainable access.

## NE/6 – Biodiversity

Overarching commitment to maintaining and where possible enhancing biodiversity that prioritises prevention over mitigation and compensation.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+++	+++	+++	Clearly supportive. In practice the policy is more concerned with protecting biodiversity broadly, recognising that designated sites have specific protection measures overseen by other agencies. The policy also clearly prioritises measures to support BAPs and achieve their targets.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	Addressed by other policies, and clearly needs to be balanced against conservation objectives (see GB/8 for example).
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	Objective refers primarily to human/built artefacts and sites.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Contributes to this objective especially due to the predominantly rural nature of the county.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other	(+)	(+)	(+)	Vegetation benefits carbon-fixing.

pollutants			
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> A clear statement of support for supporting and <i>enhancing biodiversity</i> which is pragmatic insofar as it recognises the need to weigh conservation and development objectives in certain locations. It establishes a clear priority based on scarcity/importance (development will be resisted) and the measures used to resolve clashes between development and conservation, and also establishes the principle of using Section 46 developer contributions to fund appropriate measures.			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> Replace reference in supporting text to Section 106 with Section 46/47 (change has been made in policy NE/6). See also comments for NE/7.			

**Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:** It is difficult to identify specific benefits. Much concern with biodiversity change has focused on the loss of woodland and farmland bird species. Clearly this will be addressed by this very broad policy, with specific activities dictated by other policies such as GB/8 and NE/5.

### **NE/7 – Sites of biodiversity importance**

Establishes the controls on development that reflect the relative biodiversity importance of sites, corresponding to the strength of conservation designation.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+++	+++	+++	The joint-primary objective of this policy.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+++	+++	+++	As above.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	Objective refers to built environment designations.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supports maintenance of natural landscape features.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	

4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> The policy establishes a basic protection policy for sites covered by a range of designations, reflecting their scarcity and importance, and consistent with PPG9. In fact the inclusion of protective measures to County Wildlife Sites suggests a greater degree of protection that might be warranted by the status of these sites, but it is within the Council's discretion to do this. The policy also makes specific reference to scrutiny of applications affecting SACs/SPAs/SSSIs, and the need for careful assessment of any indirect effects.			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> The supporting text states that policy NE/6 suggests additional planning controls to ensure that development prevent people enjoying wildlife sites. This is not evident in the text for NE/6 and it is not clear, therefore, whether this is actually a reference to NE/7.			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> None identified, although clearly the policy is intended to prevent secondary impacts on important sites and to provide a structure for appropriate levels of conservation to prevent progressive loss of habitat.			

<b>NE/8 – Natural Areas</b>				
<b>Prohibits development that would adversely affect biodiversity and nature conservation value of designated Natural Areas.</b>				
<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	++	++	++	Clearly supportive. The Natural Area designation effectively extends conservation beyond the relatively small sites or point locations covered by the main wildlife designations.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	++	++	++	As above.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly preserves biodiversity for public enjoyment.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Implicitly supportive.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	



5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Extends the scope of conservation beyond the boundaries of designated sites to cover the broader Natural Areas (a non-statutory designation). The main problem with this policy is that it sets an overall objective without making it clear how biodiversity harm would be assessed consistently from one site to the next.			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> Consider removing this policy or merging it with NE/6.			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> None identified.			

### **NE/9 – Species protection**

Prohibits development that would adversely affect species protected in UK law, although provision is made for mitigation.

**Sustainability Appraisal Objectives**  
 [abridged in some cases]

**Assessment**  
 Short Med. Long

**Comments / Proposed Mitigation**

1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	++	++	++	Supports 2.1.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	

6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment: Affords mandatory protection to certain species consistent with UK law and international biodiversity conventions.</b>			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified as effects would be confined to specific sites.</b>			

### **NE/10 – River valleys**

Identifies the biodiversity importance attached to the district's principal river valleys. Guidance is contained in the Council's Biodiversity Policy.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	

2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	Sites are not protected in the conventional sense although parts of them may be covered by other designations and therefore this policy appears to provide a 'safety net' to ensure their importance is recognised.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	Access issues are not mentioned. Helps to maintain
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Implicitly supported by this policy.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	

7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> This policy recognises the particular value of certain river valleys and ensures that they are afforded an appropriate degree of protection through the Biodiversity Policy, where this is not already provided by designations for part of their length and broad over-arching conservation principles.			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> None.			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> None.			

<b>NE/11 – Countryside enhancement areas</b>				
<b>Indicates intention to nominate these areas and coordinate conservation measures with the existing Biodiversity Policy.</b>				
<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	++	++	++	The joint principal objective of this policy.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	+	+	+	Policy text supports enjoyment of the countryside.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	

3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	++	++	++	The joint principal objective of this policy.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	(+)	(+)	(+)	Indirect benefit from recreational opportunities.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> In principle provides for biodiversity conservation and enhancement across a broader range of areas than those covered by other policies.				

**Summary of mitigation proposals: None.**

**Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None.**

Note: these policies are extremely repetitive. While we recognise there are subtleties in the different levels and importance of designation, the overall principles are the same, and protection is already provided in the overarching policy (NE/6). This approach appears inconsistent with the Council's aim of removing repetition.

**NE/12 – Regionally important geological and geomorphological sites**

**Affords protection to natural features although no such designated sites exist in the district at present.**

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+	+	+	Supportive. Low rating merely reflects the lack of such sites in the district at present.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	+	+	+	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Particularly true of geomorphological features.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	Assumed neutral; any benefit subsumed by comment for 3.2.

4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	?	?	?	Supportive in principal, though sites may be less popular than, say, wildlife reserves.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment: A safety net policy to ensure the natural physical features are afforded protection comparable to that given to biodiversity assets.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: The policy text refers to Section 46 agreements which needs to be qualified by additional text. Whereas biodiversity can be compensated by translocation and habitat recreation, the loss of physical landscape features is more final and difficult to compensate. This issue should be taken into account when reviewing planning applications, balancing the loss of the feature against the importance of or need for the development.</b>				



**Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.**

<b>NE/13 – Groundwater</b>				
<b>Prohibits development that threatens groundwater resources.</b>				
<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	?	?	?	Not strictly relevant as the policy protects the quality and quantity of groundwater supply rather than addressing demand.
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+++	+++	+++	Explicitly protects groundwater resources from potential pollution.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	(+)	(+)	(+)	Very indirect support in terms of the effect of maintaining the water table in clay areas to prevent shrinkage and potential

				increase in subsidence problems.
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+	+	+	Pollution protection is included in policy objectives.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	?	?	?	Groundwater controls should also affect farming practices; their effect on farm diversification opportunities is difficult to quantify.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment: Sustainable in providing overarching protection of groundwater resources.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: The supporting text refers to the need to recharge groundwater and clearly the large scale developments included in the LDF will have substantial effects on local rates which need to be addressed. However policies NE/14 and NE/17 deal with preventative and mitigation measures and have parallel policies in the corresponding AAPs. All address the supply-side issues which mirror the demand-side focus of this policy.</b>				

### **NE/14 – Water and drainage infrastructure**

**States the requirement that development proposals must show adequate provision for water supply, removal of foul water, and other drainage that is consistent in scale with the phasing of the development. The policy makes clear the Council's obligation to coordinate these matters for large-scale development, but that developers must liaise with water companies for smaller sites.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	(++)	(++)	(++)	Policy does not actually restrict consumption but ensures supply and demand are coordinated.
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	Policy states this objective is the responsibility of other agencies.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	As above.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	(+)	(+)	(+)	Does not reduce pollutant levels directly but aims to ensure it does not occur as a result of the lack of treatment and/or removal infrastructure.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other	~	~	~	

climate change impacts				
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	++	++	++	Ensures supply of water for new development.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy.
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Little to consider as this policy makes clear it is essential that development and provision of the supporting infrastructure (in this case water supply) are coordinated from the outset.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> None.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> Clearly the principal cumulative effect concerns the demands made of local water supply by the scale of development that will occur in the district over the next 10-15 years. That is not addressed by this policy which is primarily concerned with ensuring the timing of supply. It is assumed modelling of water demand has been undertaken already, and that supply rates will be monitored during development to ensure supply and demand are matched.				

### **NE/15 – Foul drainage: alternative drainage systems**

**Defines requirements for providing sewerage facilities for most forms of development including structures and the road system, and for special provision for sites producing slurry or effluents.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	Does not address water supply / consumption/
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	Relevant comments subsumed under 2.2 below.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	Intrinsically aims to prevent leakage, spills and other problems of foul materials that would adversely affect humans and the natural environment.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	++	++	++	Deals with removal of domestic and industrial pollutants.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	Materials handled by these systems cannot be recycled.
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	

5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	++	++	++	The principal objective of this policy.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Clearly a sustainable policy requiring the provision of adequate and appropriate infrastructure to remove solid and liquid effluents, or for their storage.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> None; policy DP/6 also provides for protection of ground and surface water resources from contamination during construction.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> See above.				

### NE/16 – Flood risk

Proposes to restrict all development in designated high flood risk areas, and development in some areas where the lower level of risk cannot be substantiated and / or minimised, and to prevent development which might contribute to flood risk.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	

1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	(+)	(+)	(+)	Indirect / tenuous link insofar as run-off impacts of development could be cited as a reason for declining planning permission in rural areas.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+	+	+	Could help to reduce threats to habitats that are sensitive to changes in water levels.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	As above.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	+++	+++	+++	Clearly the principal objective of this policy.
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	

6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Given the district's position at the edge of the fens, an essential policy prohibiting development in risky locations. The policy wording and supporting text provide flexibility in permitting development in areas of lower risk provided that appropriate defensive or mitigation measures are provided, and that these are appropriate to the estimated risk/			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> None.			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> The main potential issue is the increase in impermeable surface areas as a result of the major new development, although this is addressed by policy NE/17.			

### **NE/17 – Sustainable drainage systems**

Requires the use of SUDS where appropriate and establishes the right to seek Section 46 contributions for this infrastructure.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	Additional land required for these systems is assumed to be negligible and use of brownfield land is assumed to be a priority.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected	?	?	?	Impact of water release onto fluvial systems and nearby habitats



species				is assumed to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	As above. Moreover development proposals for Cambridge East and Northstowe integrate these features into the open space and green corridor strategy.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	+	+	+	As above.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	(+)	(+)	(+)	Depends on design, but supportive in principle – see also 2.2. above.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	(+)	(+)	(+)	As for 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	SUDS assumed to be separate from foul water systems.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy.
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+	+	Can contribute, provided facilities do not constitute a safety hazard and there are rights of way.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	Space for SUDS assumed to have no effect on land available for other purposes.
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	

7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment: Another policy stating an essential measure required by the vulnerability of parts of the district to flooding, and the need to address water shortages by maximising the rate at which groundwater resources can be recharged.</b>			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>			

### NE/18 – Water conservation

Mandates the incorporation of water-efficient and water-saving technologies into new development, while ensuring this does not adversely affect the water environment.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	+++	+++	+++	Clearly the principal objective of this policy is to minimise the impact on water resources of the significant development in the district in the immediate future.
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+	+	+	Need to avoid damage to the natural environment in general is stated.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+(+)	+(+)	+(+)	As above.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	

3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	Meets design standards that are evolving to deal with climate-change related problems.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+	States requirement for measures that will not pollute water courses.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	+	+(+)	Clearly an aim of this policy although the benefit will take time to build without retrofitting of technology to existing properties
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supportive.
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+	+	+	As for 4.1 and this is assumed to have implications for human health also, particularly as technologies include greywater recycling.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	?	?	?	Neutral provided that technology does not significantly increase new house prices affecting the provision of affordable property.
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	+	+	+	Supports provision of a type of infrastructure essential for dealing with climate change problems.

7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> A further sustainable policy necessitated by limitations on the district's water supply. One slight concern is the impact of technology costs on the price of new housing, however this should be offset by the scale of new construction which should mean the unit cost per home is lower than, say, retrofitting to an existing property.			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> None.			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> None identified.			

<b>NE/19 – Hazardous installations</b>				
States a procedural and legal requirement to consider human health risks and other impacts when considering planning applications for developments where hazardous substances will be present.				
Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly aims to prevent spills, leaks, etc. by appropriate preventative measures.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work	+	+	+	Provides a control mechanism for ensuring people are not at risk

well				from nearby hazardous materials or facilities.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+	Aims to reduce accidental emissions and their consequences.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment: A further largely procedural policy reflecting the Council's obligations to prevent development in locations where the nature of the materials or activities constitute an unacceptable risk to human health and/or safety.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None.</b>				

### NE/20 – Lighting proposals

Identifies five requirements for external lighting (implicitly for both routes and sites).

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	?	?	?	Proposals to limit times when lighting is permissible can also be used to control consumption, indirectly supporting this objective.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	Supporting text acknowledges potential impact of night-time light pollution on some species though the significant of this impact cannot be determined at this stage.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly beneficial in terms of night-time effects, particularly in rural areas where excessive light pollution reduces remoteness.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	(+)	(+)	(+)	Supports 3.2 implicitly.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+(+)	++	Given the substantial light pollution at present, application of the policy to new development will introduce only incremental change, though clearly this is desirable.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	

5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	++	++	++	Policy balances need to reduce pollution with its role in providing a secure environment.
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Addresses issue of increased awareness of the impact of light pollution on the character of the area, and the particular impact in rural areas. Applying policy to new development limits its overall impact in an area where skyglow is already a problem.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> Is it practical to consider measures to address the problem with existing light sources, or to survey where the problems are worst.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> The existing problem is the principal cumulative effect; the policy proposals will limit further problems but not redress the root cause.				

### NE/21 – Noise pollution

Establishes policy principles to prevent unacceptable noise from new development; to prevent new development where ambient noise levels might be unacceptably high; and general conditions under the EPA to prevent noise nuisance.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	?	?	?	Policy deals with noise but not vibration, and mentions the impact of traffic. Development should not lead to an increase in road traffic that might adversely affect listed properties that may be at risk or in susceptible locations.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	+	+	+	Eliminating noise nuisance and controlling ambient noise levels should contribute to residents' satisfaction with their environment.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy which deals with noise from new development. It is assumed that noise nuisance from existing sources is addressed through the EPA.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other	~	~	~	



climate change impacts				
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	(+)	(+)	(+)	There must be an implicit health benefit from reducing noise where it is a nuisance, even if this does not correspond directly to the criteria for this objective.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime				
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	?	?	?	Other policies (including NE/5) address provision of recreational space and tranquil rural areas. The policy text is primarily concerned with urban areas and these other sites are not identified as potentially sensitive receptors.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	Noise constraint on development could limit the availability of sites (although the policy makes provision for B1(a) uses which may subsume much of the demand in the district. This is a long-term cumulative impact that is hypothetical at present and difficult to quantify.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Policy establishes measures to prevent increases in ambient and point-based noise from new development, and to ensure new development will not be subjected to noise from existing sources.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> The policy and supporting text appear to refer principally to noise in settlements. Other Natural Environment policies propose establishing areas of tranquil countryside and it appears appropriate that this over-arching policy should include measures (at least in outline) that support NE/5 for example.				

**Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.**

### **NE/22 – Emissions**

**Requires development proposals to identify and mitigate / minimise emissions to prevent impacts on the surroundings, and to comply with relevant pollution control regulations.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supportive.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	(+)	(+)	(+)	As above.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	(+)	(+)	(+)	As for 2.1 / 2.2.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly beneficial if it limits nuisance from fumes, dust, etc.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	++	+++	++(+)	The joint-primary objective of this policy. The time trend reflects the potential impact during the construction of Northstowe and Cambridge East
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	

4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	++	+++	++(+)	As for 4.1. The policy mentions air quality and pollutants, and it might be help to make clear that this includes dust, which will be a significant potential problem during construction of the new settlements.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment: An essential policy outlining the need to prevent contamination by pollutants, whether airborne or carried by other media, and which is particularly necessary given the potential impacts of major phases of construction at Northstowe and at Cambridge East.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: Possibly make clear the controls apply to dust also. Policies in the Transport section mandate the provision of a Transport Assessment, should the Council encourage good/best practice by suggesting that developments likely to generate pollutants or emissions should be supported by a Health Impact Assessment. In order for this to be practicable we assume there would need to be a size threshold above which this option might apply.</b>				

**Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:** Clear impacts from the scale of development, although this would be mitigated to some degree by the phasing of development on both of the principal sites.

Comment: in terms of logical grouping should policy NE/19 be placed next to NE/22 and NE/23 as all three concern emissions or forms or risks of contamination by materials?

<b>NE/23 – Land contamination</b>				
<b>States the procedural requirement to investigate the nature and extent of contamination in all development proposals where there are reasonable grounds to assume this is an issue, and to implement appropriate treatment and monitoring of the site.</b>				
<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other	++	++	++	Procedural requirement to ensure unforeseen contamination

pollutants				does not occur, and which is necessitated by the high proportion of brownfield land being used for new housing development in the district over the plan period.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	++	++	++	Clearly the principal objective of this policy.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment: A high-level statement of the Council's obligation to ensure new development does not constitute a risk to human health, and which is given added weight by the large volume of housing development in the district that will occur on former military and industrial land.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>				

### **NE/24 – Protecting high quality agricultural land**

**Establishes a blanket ban on any development that takes Grade 1, 2 or 3a agricultural land without providing scope to return it to its current use.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	Limited provision for alternative reversible change provided this retains the openness of the area.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	?	?	?	In absolute terms, retaining land under agriculture limits public access, however intensive cultivation means these areas have degraded biodiversity value, and keeping them in agricultural use as a national resource has a much higher priority.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	As for 2.2
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	

4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	?	?	?	Difficult to assess in the light of the adverse impact of intensive farming practices on water quality. Baseline data indicates river quality is improving and does not refer to any nitrate or phosphate problems although much of the district is a Nitrate Sensitive Zone NBED check Magic down on Friday night!
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	?	?	?	Possibly prevents development that could interfere with groundwater recharge, although this would be localised and its impact on flooding, etc., negligible.
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	Only potential threat is supply constrain on development land and the impact this may have on the ability to bring through enough stock of land for employment. This cannot be quantified at this stage.
<b>Summary of assessment: Clearly an essential policy to safeguard one of the district's strategic resources.</b>				

***Summary of mitigation proposals:*** None.

***Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:*** There is a potential impact of land shortages on provision of housing and employment land in the longer term, though this cannot be quantified at present. However the policy does allow for a pragmatic position, recognising some loss of land will occur in the current plan period.



## TRAVEL POLICIES

### ***TR/1 – Planning for more sustainable travel***

**Proposes that new development will only be permitted in locations that are readily accessible or will attain accessibility by a range of transport modes that encourage reduced use of cars. The policy also provides for broad linkages between the Local Transport Plan and LDF policies, and the coordination of policies on car parking with those that encourage cycling and walking.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	+	+(+)	++	Implicitly supportive because development will be directed towards more accessible sites in urban centres.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	+	+(+)	++	Promotion of non-car transport implies reduced fuel usage as more people walk, cycle or use shared (public) transport.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	(-)	(-)	(-)	Policy is primarily concerned with new housing or employment development. Other policies on the Green Belt and Natural Environment, and TR/4, will help to facilitate non-car access to countryside areas, however it is likely this objective would be compromised if there is not appropriate provision for car access.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	?	?	?	Not clear if this would result in long-term reduction of vibration problems. Concerns about damage to rural features must be balanced against need to provide for access (see 2.3 above).
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	(+)	+	+(+)	Potential longer-term aesthetic improvement if settlements are less dominated by traffic (cf. town centre pedestrianisation).
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	(+)	+	+(+)	As above.

4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+(+)	++	Clearly supportive of reducing emissions by more efficient use of public transport and non-fuel burning modes.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+	+(+)	++	Difficult to calibrate benefit, which will clearly be greater if more people cycle, walk or use public transport.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	+	+	+	Addresses physical safety and theft.
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	++	++(+)	+++	Impact depends on level of new development, but this policy is clearly consistent with sequential testing of sites for retail units and the settlement hierarchy proposed in ST/1 and ST/2. Must be marked as strongly positive as this is the core objective of this policy which meets all the supporting criteria.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+(+)	++	Central location near transport ought to benefit the less mobile and disabled and to integrate public and other transport mode provision (eg. for cyclists) benefiting those without a car.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	?	?	?	May be supportive but may also contribute to development pressures particularly in existing centres (as opposed to planned new development at Cambourne, Northstowe, etc.). See comments below on secondary and other impacts.
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	++	++	++	Support objective of easier non-car access between homes and jobs.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	(+)	(+)	(+)	Although not explicit, the policy and supporting text appear to imply Section 46 agreements may be used to secure developer contributions to appropriate transport improvements. (This issue is covered explicitly by policy TR/3).

7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+(+)	+(+)	Impact on the economy should be beneficial but this depends on the volume of land available for development in appropriate locations.
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**Summary of assessment:** Proposes spatial policies for locating new development in the most accessible locations that is consistent with the broader strategic policies on housing and development in general stated in ST/1 and ST/2, and that is also consistent with current planning guidance in PPS1 and PPG13.

**Summary of mitigation proposals:** None.

**Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:** The main issue is that this and other policies focus development towards generally the same locations – readily accessible central sites in the main Rural Centres in the district. This will clearly contribute to development pressure though the impact of this is difficult to judge at this stage. Nevertheless it suggests some principles may need to be defined to help determine whether a particular suitable site close to the centre of one of the district's main settlements is best developed for housing (presumably with affordable housing provision), for employment, or for other amenities.

### **TR/2 – Car and cycle parking standards**

Proposes provisioning levels for car and cycle parking that are set out in separate annexes, the former detailed extensively for a wide range of Use Classes. The policy also states the intention to adopt more stringent standards for new development at sites that are well-served by public transport.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	+	+	+	In general the policy prevents over-provision of parking (though not specifically to meet this objective), and more stringent standards in central sites will contribute to making the best use of limited brownfield land stock.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	(+)	(+)	(+)	Support is implicit rather than explicit.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	

2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Implicitly supportive if it limits the amount of space given over to parking areas, whether for housing or amenities.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	+	+	+	As above.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+(+)	Implicit support for sustainable transport objectives although the main benefits would be delivered by other policies (eg. TR/1).
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling				
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	?	?	?	More tenuous benefit than 4.1. Depends on whether it really does encourage more people to walk or cycle.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+	+	Controls on parking space clearly give more flexibility in designing space in new developments.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+	+	+	Impact may need to be monitored. The rural nature of the district means more people will be reliant on private cars, and parking for amenities, retail areas, etc. Maximum standards should provide flexibility to adjust to local circumstances.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	?	?	?	Could be beneficial if it supports more efficient use of land stock and enables more provision of this type of housing.
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	

7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	?	?	?	As for 6.1, in terms of parking at employment sites.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	?	?	?	As for 6.1
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> The policy proposes car and cycling parking / provisioning standards that are consistent with those in PPG3 and PPG13. However those are national standards that apply generally as a target in support of sustainable transport policy, and it will be important to ensure that parking provision still meets local requirements. In particular, as the county is predominantly rural, many people will continue to rely on their cars to visit shops, amenities, etc. in the short-term, and it may be necessary to monitor the effect of these standards to ensure they are not counter-productive, discouraging people from visiting rural centres because of perceived parking difficulties. This concern applies also to parking at employment sites but is perhaps less important.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> Ensure monitoring plan evaluates impact – this would probably have to be achieved through surveys of shoppers, commuters and residents.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> Principal issue is addressed in the summary above.				

### TR/3 – Mitigating travel impact

Requires developers to take measures to mitigate any predicted impact on travel patterns. Development likely to have significant transport impacts will need to be supported by a Transport Assessment and a Travel Plan as appropriate.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	+	+(+)	++	Travel Plans are implicitly assumed to optimise transport provision or arrangements for some of those living or working at the new development, and it is also assumed mitigation would involve a greater level of provision and use of public transport than might otherwise occur. Assumed to grow over time as supporting documents mentioned by the plan are mandatory.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	

2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	?	?	?	Depends on proximity of designated sites to new development.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Policy supports objective by preventing traffic congestion.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	+	+	+	As above.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+(+)	++	As for 1.2.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+	+	+	Assumed to be beneficial if mitigation measures and/or Travel Plans result in more people walking or cycling.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+	+	+	Overall objective of this policy is optimising the mode and capacity of transport infrastructure, however mitigation will prevent congestion arising from new development which clearly affects accessibility of a wide range of other facilities.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+(+)	++	Supportive if it helps to ensure access for the less mobile but also benefits all travellers if it helps to reduce congestion.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	

6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	+	+	+	Should contribute to non-car access. It is not evident what effect the requirements to produce both a transport assessment and a travel plan will have on developers' willingness to bring forward new land uses, however we must assume the impact is likely to be negligible given the buoyancy of the sub-regional economy.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	+	+(+)	++	Makes clear the possibility using Section 46 agreements to secure private sector funding for transport improvements that are necessitated by new development.
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+	+	As for 7.1.
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> An essential policy to anticipate and where necessary mitigate the impact on the district's heavily used transport network (and particularly the road system) in advance of new development. It is particularly important to understand the transport impacts given the scale of new development that will occur across the district during the life of the plan, although parallel development in different areas may make the assessment of these effects more complex. Mitigation will be needed on a site-by-site basis and therefore directly proportional to trip generation and size of site, so this should be applied on an equitable basis to all scales of development.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> Since the additional planning documents will take time and money to develop, should the policy set a size threshold below which the requirement is not mandatory so that those planning to develop smaller sites are not penalised?				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> Principal synergistic impact should be beneficial because it not only prevents traffic problems in the locality of the development, but also more broadly across the district.				

#### TR/4 – Cycling and walking provision

Establishes the Council's commitment to improving the provision of cycling infrastructure, secure parking facilities, etc. to encourage modal shift, and equivalent measures to encourage walking where this is currently impeded by concerns about crime and physical safety. The policy defines priorities as facilities for local commuting and shopping first, then safer routes to schools, then leisure activity.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	

1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	+	+	+	Promotes reduced use of private cars. Rate of modal shift cannot be predicted at present so the rating (no change) is assumed to be conservative.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	+	+	+	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+	+	+	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	+	+	+	Aims to encourage recreational cycling and walking and therefore this should support other policies designed to encourage access to the countryside.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	+	+	+	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	(+)	(+)	(+)	Longer-term benefit if it results in settlement layout in which the road network has less impact – should contribute to improved satisfaction with one's immediate environment.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+	As for 1.2.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+	++	+++	Clear benefit which should grow so long as infrastructure provision does result in modal shift.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	



5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+	+	Incorporates measures to secure and improve access to rights of way which supports this objective even if the land itself does not count towards open space provisioning targets.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+	+(+)	++	Supports the objective of improving accessibility of amenities and work using non-car modes. Rate of growth is speculative.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+(+)	++	A range of benefits including general safety measures for cyclists and pedestrians, and needs of less mobile can be catered for in improvements for pedestrian access.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Little to say other than this is another policy supporting sustainable transport objectives and integrating them with urban design both in new settlements, and also with existing infrastructure such as the National Cycle Network. We understand the broad definition of the first priority reflects the central location of schools as well as local employment, retail and amenities and therefore the policy supports a wide range of potential movement within a community and between adjacent ones.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> Possibly make it clear that infrastructure should be designed to facilitate use by the less mobile – eg. access to footbridges by ramps rather than steps.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> None identified.				

### TR/5 – Rail freight

Encourages development of freight interchange facilities at locations that meet the requirements of other plan policies.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives  
 [abridged in some cases]

Assessment  
 Short Med. Long

Comments / Proposed Mitigation

1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	+	+	+	Rail movements generate emissions but these are assumed to be lower than those from road transport.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	(+)	(+)	(+)	Beneficial if it can reduce HGV movements, though the impact depends on how many sites are close to and affected by main roads.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Again, supportive if HGV movements are reduced.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+	As for 1.2.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	(+)	(+)	(+)	Although it is not a criterion for the objective, there are potential benefits from reduced emissions on air quality and therefore respiratory problems, etc.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	

6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	?	?	?	Impact is entirely speculative without specific plans, although interchanges would act as nodes for employment growth.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	?	?	?	As for 7.1.
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Another policy on which there is little to add as there is a single north-south rail link capable of carrying large-scale freight movements, nevertheless its objectives are consistent with guidance in PPG13. <sup>1</sup>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> None.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> Scale of rail infrastructure suggests there might only be scope for a single facility, though this could have some benefit if it can supplant HGV movements, but recognising that it would also focus them on a particular site.				

### TR/6 – Eastern Rapid Transit

The policy states the Council's intention to seek developer contributions for a rapid transit service linking the new urban extension at Cambridge East with the city centre.

**Sustainability Appraisal Objectives**  
 [abridged in some cases]

**Assessment**  
 Short Med. Long

**Comments / Proposed Mitigation**

<sup>1</sup> We are aware that there is a spur east from Cambridge to Newmarket, however this is single-track and assumed to be unsuitable for large rail shipments.

1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	Policy is primarily concerned with financing the link, although the assessment also assumes the link will not take additional land from a development that is almost entirely brownfield.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	+	+	+	Investment in public transport infrastructure and contributes to reducing traffic congestion in Cambridge.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Beneficial if it can reduce congestion or prevent it worsening once Cambridge East is being redeveloped.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	Any benefits subsumed by comments for 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+	As for 1.2.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+	+	+	Potential air quality benefits if it reduces congestion.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	

6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	++	++	++	Obvious benefits for accessing Cambridge city centre, and will also help to support establishment of the district centre in Cambridge East by making amenities there more accessible for residents in other parts of the city.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+	+	Expands public transport infrastructure and therefore benefits those unable to afford or use a car.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	++	++	++	Improves access to work using non-car modes.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	+	+	+	Seeks private sector investment in public infrastructure.
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+(+)	++	Impact difficult to judge at this stage but any reduction in congestion should have at least indirect benefits to the local economy.
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> The policy primarily seeks finance for transport infrastructure from developers, but the assessment highlights the broader benefits that the link would bring, and these are more likely to occur if financial contributions mean the project goes ahead.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> None.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> Traffic congestion improvements may spread into other parts of the city. More importantly the link will support the establishment of the district centre at Cambridge East by making it readily accessible from the city centre.				

### TR/7 – Aviation-related development proposals

Proposes a range of development criteria and controls that would permit development or expansion of aviation-related activities (including those of small flying clubs) to limit environmental, landscape and transport impacts.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives  
 [abridged in some cases]

Assessment  
 Short Med. Long

Comments / Proposed Mitigation

1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	Assumed to be neutral, and development would be blocked by other policies in the plan.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+	+	+	Implied by the policy wording.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	+	+	+	As above.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	+	+	+	As for 2.1 / 2.2.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+	+	+	Planning controls to prevent noise impacts and maintain rights of way, contributing indirectly.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	

6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment: An overarching policy intended to place development controls on aviation-related developments over a potentially wide scale, ranging from larger airfields such as the current Cambridge airport, to small sites used by flying and gliding clubs.</b>			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>			

## SERVICES & FACILITIES POLICIES

### ***SF/1 – Protection of village services and facilities***

**Establishes measures to prevent undesirable loss of key village services and amenities.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Marking assumes loss of amenity would implicitly affect village character.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supports 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	



4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+++	+++	+++	The principal objective of this policy in a rural context.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	++	++	++	Aims to prevent loss of services that would affect a community if residents have to travel to gain the same amenity elsewhere.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	+	+	+	Implicitly supportive, especially for halls, shops, pubs, etc.
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	+	+	+	Supports rural diversification.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	?	?	?	More concerned with maintaining infrastructure rather than growing it.
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	++	++	Intended to support the vitality of the rural economy.
<b>Summary of assessment: Clearly a key policy in terms of preserving a basic level of amenity even in group and infill villages.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>				

### **SF/2 – Retail hierarchy**

Identifies a hierarchy which identifies priorities for new development of retailing reflecting the size, accessibility and sustainability of the settlements, and which is consistent with the broader settlement hierarchy established in policies ST/2 to ST/5.

**Sustainability Appraisal Objectives**  
 [abridged in some cases]

**Assessment**  
 Short Med. Long

**Comments / Proposed Mitigation**

1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	(+)	(+)	(+)	Indirectly supportive in that it is consistent with the settlement hierarchy and the underlying aim of directing development to the most sustainable locations.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	Helps to create or maintain a critical mass of retail activity in the most suitable locations.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+(+)	++	Aims to steer development to the most accessible locations that are best served by public transport. Assumed to grow over time as Northstowe and Cambridge East centres are established.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	–	–	–	Increase in waste arisings in absolute terms.
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+	+	+	Shortening distances between homes and retailing should help to encourage more trips on foot or by cycle.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	

5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+++	+++	+++	Clearly the principal objective of this policy.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+	+	Implicitly supportive as it integrates the retail and settlement hierarchies and aims to reduce travel times for shopping.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	(+)	(+)	(+)	A spatial policy and therefore does not actually increase employment on its own.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	+	+	+	Aims for coherence between retailing and settlement hierarchies.
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	++	++	Clearly supportive.
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> A key sustainability policy that builds a coherent hierarchy for all facets of development when the links between this policy and those on settlement and housing are taken together. Any concern that this prioritises larger settlements at the expense of smaller ones must be offset by recognising it provides scope to link retail strategy with provision of public transport to shorten trips and encourage more of them to be made using modes other than the private car.				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> None.				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> One concern is the need to coordinate this policy with equivalent policies for Cambridge city, which remains the sub-region's principal retail centre. It is not clear how the sequential test works across authority boundaries, and how the need to sustain Cambridge can be balanced against the need to build district centres at Northstowe and Cambridge East. Equally there is a concern about the tension between this policy, SF/3 and SF/1 if focusing development priorities on larger centres affects the catchment and viability of shops in smaller settlements. This problem exists regardless of whether new retail development is located in central Cambridge or around its periphery.				

### **SF/3 – Applications for new retail development**

**Requires the use of a sequential test to justify applications to develop new retail sites away from the centre of the largest settlements. It also aims to prevent out-of-town developments and to steer new retailing to sites which offer good travel choice.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	++	++	++	Clearly aims to prevent land loss at the edge of settlements.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	(–)	(–)	(–)	New development clearly adds to energy consumption in absolute terms, although the policy can offset this by reducing trip lengths and encouraging use of public transport.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	–	–	–	As above, but without the transport benefits.
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	++	++	++	Aims to maintain or build the coherence of settlement centres as retailing areas, providing convenience and comparison shopping insofar as this is compatible with the size of the settlement.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	(+)	(+)	(+)	Supports 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	++	++(+)	Reduction in emissions as shoppers are encouraged to swap cars for other forms of transport, although the rate of change / growth is speculative.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	–	–	–	Results in net increase in waste in absolute terms.

4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	?	?	?	Potential benefits if more people shop on foot or by cycle.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	++	++(+)	+++	The principal objective of this policy.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	?	?	?	Implies some constraint on new retail development may occur if there is a shortage of suitable land, but other policies will assist, and the sequential test can then be used to support applications for other sites, though clearly these will be less sustainable.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	+	+	+	Aims to support coherent growth in retailing and the rest of the supporting urban infrastructure.
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+	+	As above.
<b>Summary of assessment: Clearly sustainable and supportive of SF/1 and SF/2.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None, although there is a slight concern that the policy text appears to treat Northstowe as a special case with provision for other centres mentioned only in the supporting text.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: See comment for SF/2.</b>				

#### **SF/4 – Retail development on land allocated for other uses**

**Prevents reallocation of land allocated to housing specifically, and potentially to other uses, except where this would not compromise achieving Structure Plan targets. Some latitude is available for reallocation to support mixed land-use developments that conform to policies SF/2 and SF/3.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	(++)	(++)	(++)	Might be argued this adds to development pressure for retail land but it is clearly consistent with other SF/ and SP/ policies and such expansion is prevented by other plan policies such as GB/1.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supportive.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	(+)	(+)	(+)	As for 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	

5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	?	?	?	Depends on local circumstances but the policy provides for contingencies where this are consistent with other policies.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+	+	+	Supportive if it optimises the supply of land for retailing with that for other uses.
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	?	?	?	Aims to control location of development in support of other policies without compromising its effect on the economy.
<b>Summary of assessment: Little to comment on – clearly sustainable and consistent with other services and facilities policies.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified. The contingency provides flexibility to allow reallocation in appropriate locations and which could help to reduce development pressures at other locations.</b>				

### **SF/5 – Retailing in villages**

Limits the scale and scope of retailing development in villages to that consistent with local requirements and setting.

#### **Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]**

	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	Any increase in activity assumed to be confined within the village framework.

1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	See 4.1.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	++	++	++	Supportive, particularly in smaller settlements.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	(+)	(+)	(+)	Excessive growth could generate additional trips by people from outside the settlement, increasing emission levels, and therefore the policy controls this.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+	+	+	Implicitly supportive with some constraints on the scale of development, however these are offset by character impact considerations.



6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	Does not preclude appropriate level of development, so is neutral at worst.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	Impact on local economy of settlement assumed to be negligible.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	(+)	(+)	(+)	Prevents excessive expansion but does not preclude growth,
<b>Summary of assessment: Clearly sustainable and supports maintaining village character.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: It would be helpful to reword the second clause to improve clarity as it appears to begin with a double negative.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>				

### **SF/6 – Retailing in the countryside**

Limits retailing to activities consistent with rural activities including, but not restricted to, agriculture. Some latitude is given to allow sale of convenience goods

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	Not obvious this outcome is intended by the policy, and it is addressed by EM/10 separately.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	

2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Prevents inappropriate development.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supportive if it prevents development that might generate significant additional traffic in tranquil areas.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~	
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	Objective is concerned primarily with services in settlements although the final clause of the policy provides for additional retailing where it would have no adverse impacts on established shops while improving amenity.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+	+	Supports farm diversification.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	

7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	+	+	+	Intrinsically supportive. The final contingent clause can also be seen as a way of enabling farm shops to widen their range, which can provide local people with ready access to convenience goods as well as providing revenue to supplement sales of their primary goods.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+	+	Implicitly supports farm diversification.
<b>Summary of assessment: Clearly sustainable.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None, but see below.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: The Council will need to monitor the growth of such ventures to ensure there is no cumulative effect of increased rural traffic.</b>				

### **SF/7 – Public art and new development**

States the objective that public art will be provided as an integral part of new development, and that the Council will seek developer contributions in appropriate circumstances to part-fund provision.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	

2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	+	+(+)	Clearly an attempt to improve appearance and distinctiveness.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	+	+(+)	As above.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+	+	Artworks assumed to be primarily open air.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	

7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment: Sustainable in a supportive way.</b>			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>			

<b>SF/8 – Telecommunications</b>				
<b>Controls the provision of telecommunications masts to limit their visual impacts and implicitly to address public health concerns. A contingency allows approval to be given if no suitable alternative site can be found.</b>				
<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	?	?	?	Controls limit visual impact rather than potential land take.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	(+)	(+)	(+)	Depends on location but implicitly supportive – see below also.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	++(+)	++(+)	++(+)	The primary objective of this policy. Impact is assumed to drop as the supply of suitable sites falls, and with increased mast sharing.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	(+)	(+)	(+)	Given public opposition to masts, controls must be seen as supporting this objective.

4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	?	?	?	Public health concerns, and the lack of conclusive proof about radiation effects, mean that this policy will need to give residents the belief that siting decisions will take account of their concerns.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+	+	Supportive, depending on location.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	?	?	?	Difficult to see a relationship as this infrastructure is used by a nationwide market and not provided solely for local resident.
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	?	?	?	Impact of poor mobile telecoms coverage and/or capacity on local industry is difficult to judge.
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> Although sustainable in principle, the policy leaves some issues unanswered. The supporting text specifically to broadband services, although local access to these services are primarily carried in terrestrial cables. However the text appears to focus on mobile telecomm services whereas such structures are also needed for other high-capacity communications links that are part of the national infrastructure. It is not clear how the issue of environmental impact would be reconciled against issues of overriding national or commercial interest given their obvious importance.				

**Summary of mitigation proposals: See above.**

**Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:** Any increased requirement for masts would appear to be intrinsically cumulative. These masts support a mobile service and therefore expanding capacity in one radio cell is likely to lead to demand for additional capacity in adjacent cells to provide unbroken service.

### **SF/9 – Underground pipes, wires, fibres and cables**

**Aims to prevent damage to ecological assets, particularly by linear features constructed at or below ground-level.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	+	+	+	Aims to limit disturbance, though this is likely to be permanent.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	++	++	++	Stated as an explicit aim.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	++	++	++	As above.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	++	++	++	As above.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	?	?	?	Addressed in part by concerns about the impact of HV power lines.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+	Subsumed by the requirement to prevent “unacceptable environmental impacts”.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	

4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	?	?	?	Impact not clear.
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	?	?	?	Main focus is ecological and environmental impacts, and issues of human health and HV overhead lines is not addressed (though it is covered by other planning criteria).
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	(+)	(+)	(+)	Depends on location but aims to prevent lasting impact.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	Does not preclude infrastructure provision, but aims to control its impact.
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment: Little to comment on – clearly intended to limit prevent damage by linear structures.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>				



<b>SF/10 – Lord’s Bridge Radio Telescope</b>				
<b>Prevents development that would adversely affect operation of facilities at the Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory.</b>				
<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	~	~	~	

5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	~	~	~
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment: A very specific policy which cannot be assessed as it applies controls to a specific site to protect an internationally important asset which itself has no significant environmental impacts.</b>			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>			

### **SF/11 – Protection of existing recreation areas**

Limits the scope to redevelop recreational land for other uses unless there are superior compensating benefits or provision of an equivalent amount of new recreational space elsewhere.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	Recreational space is not strictly undeveloped land so the effect is assumed to be neutral.

1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	+	+	+	Some spaces for informal recreation may be in more open countryside, so this policy is protective and supportive.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	++	++	++	Recreational space is a component of a broader definition of open space (though not necessarily part of provisioning obligations) so this policy is supportive.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	+++	+++	+++	A joint primary objective of this policy.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	(+)	(+)	(+)	Retaining local space should mean resource is accessible to residents on foot and cycle.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+++	+++	+++	A joint primary objective of this policy.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	?	?	?	Policy addresses only the provision of land, and its character would need to be protected by other policies.
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+++	+++	+++	A joint primary objective of this policy.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+	+	+	Supports provision of accessible leisure facilities even if these are informal.

6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+	+	Open space assumed to be accessible to all.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supportive.
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	
<b>Summary of assessment: A key component of good urban design and retention of the existing recreational space is essential in the light of the considerable housing development that will be occurring in the district.</b>				
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None.</b>				
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>				

### ***SF/12 – Outdoor playspace, informal open space and new developments***

**Defines requirements for the provision of various forms of recreational space within and proportional to the scale of new development. The policy also establishes the Council's intention to seek developer contributions for these facilities.**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	

2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	Space is within development therefore this objective is not addressed.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	++	++	++	All open space aims to provide coherent structure to the settlement and provisioning standards therefore clearly support this objective.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+++	+++	+++	A joint primary objective of this policy.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	?	?	?	Policy addresses only the provision of land, and security – particularly of childrens' playspace - would need to be protected by other policies.
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+++	+++	+++	A joint primary objective of this policy.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	++	++	+	Supports provision of accessible leisure facilities.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+	+	Open space assumed to be accessible to all.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supportive.

7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment: Clearly supports objectives of sustainable and inclusive communities.</b>			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals: None. Separately the Council has indicated that its approach to securing funding for these amenities from developer contributions will be detailed in a separate SPD.</b>			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.</b>			

### SF/13 – Open space standards

Specifies the minimum requirements for providing various forms of open space for informal and formal recreation, and designates the type of facilities to be provided, these requirements being consistent with government guidance and policy SF/12.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives [abridged in some cases]	Assessment			Comments / Proposed Mitigation
	Short	Med.	Long	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	Space is within development therefore this objective is not addressed.

3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	++	++	++	All open space aims to provide coherent structure to the settlement and provisioning standards therefore clearly support this objective.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+++	+++	+++	A joint primary objective of this policy.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	?	?	?	Policy addresses only the provision of land, and security – particularly of childrens' playspace - would need to be protected by other policies.
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+++	+++	+++	A joint primary objective of this policy.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	++	++	+	Supports provision of accessible leisure facilities.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+	+	Open space assumed to be accessible to all.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supportive.
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	

7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b>Summary of assessment:</b> As for SF/12, however the definition focuses on the basic infrastructure and the desirability of a suitable, secure location which is extensively overlooked is not mentioned. We understand that these issues will be addressed in a separate SPD to be issued subsequently.			
<b>Summary of mitigation proposals:</b> See above.			
<b>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</b> Playspace and other forms of open space are a further resource competing for limited land within a new development and this impact should not be overlooked. However other policies – notably DP/5 (cumulative development) are consistent, encouraging development in larger chunks to improve coherence and greater flexibility in integrating the need for this space with increased housing density.			

<b>SF/14 – The River Cam</b>				
<b>Limits the extension of marinas and moorings on the river.</b>				
<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objectives</b> <b>[abridged in some cases]</b>	<b>Assessment</b>			<b>Comments / Proposed Mitigation</b>
	<b>Short</b>	<b>Med.</b>	<b>Long</b>	
1.1 Minimise irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	~	~	~	
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	+	+	+	Depends on designation; subsumed by 3.2.
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	++	++	++	Protects the aquatic environment to a degree although it does not preclude extension.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	?	?	?	Not obvious that this policy would prevent people from enjoying the amenity of the Cam.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	?	?	?	Certain sections of the Cam within the district have important associations (eg. Byron's Pool) which should be protected from all forms of inappropriate adjacent development.



3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+	+	Clearly supportive.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	~	~	~	Not obviously relevant in terms of the decision-making criteria.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	Impact on such developments on flood risk assumed to be negligible, and the extension of marinas is assumed to be largely increased mooring space rather than other structures for which flood risk is a more important issue in terms of its threat to material assets.
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	(+)	(+)	(+)	
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+	+	Does not improve it but ensures the public waterway is not despoiled by excessive and/or inappropriate development.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	?	?	?	Does not preclude further provision of leisure facilities.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	~	~	~	
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	~	~	

7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~
<b><i>Summary of assessment:</i> Clearly intended to protect the quality of a key local asset without preventing continued use and carefully managed growth in facilities. It will be essential to afford thorough protection to stretches of the Cam within the district that have key heritage associations, although this would presumably be delivered through other policies.</b>			
<b><i>Summary of mitigation proposals:</i> None.</b>			
<b><i>Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects:</i> None identified.</b>			