

**SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
RECORD OF EXECUTIVE / CHIEF OFFICER DECISION**

This form should be used to record key and other decisions made by individual Portfolio Holders and key decisions made by Chief Officers. The contact officer will ensure that the signed and completed form is given to Democratic Services as soon as reasonably practicable after the decision has been taken.

Unless permission has been obtained from the Chairman of Council and the Chairman of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee that this decision be treated as a matter of urgency under Rule 12.19 of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules, this decision will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of five working days after the publication of the decision, unless called in under Rule 7 of the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules or Rule 12 of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules.

<b>Portfolio</b>	Lead Cabinet member for Planning
<b>Subject Matter</b>	Minor changes to documents supporting the Greater Cambridge Issues & Options consultation following consultation with Statutory Consultees - the Sustainability Appraisal Issues and Options Report and Habitats Regulations Assessment Scoping Report
<b>Ward(s) Affected</b>	All Wards
<b>Date Taken</b>	Thursday, 19 December 2019
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Nancy Kimberley, Senior Planning Policy Officer 01223 457233 (nancy.imberley@scamb.gov.uk)
<b>Date Published</b>	Thursday, 19 December 2019
<b>Call-In Expiry</b>	Monday, 30 December 2019
<b>Key Decision?</b>	Yes Is likely to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area of the District comprising two or more wards.
<b>In Forward Plan?</b>	No
<b>Urgent?</b>	No

<b>Purpose / Background</b>
<p>This decision relates to specific delegations to the Cabinet Member for Planning agreed by Cabinet at its meeting held on 6 November 2019.</p> <p>The Local Plan is being prepared jointly for the Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council authority areas, the proposed content of, and the participation and communication strategy for the Issues &amp; Options consultation was considered by the following meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Local Plan Advisory Group 1 October 2019</li> <li>• South Cambridgeshire District Council Cabinet, 6 November 2019</li> <li>• South Cambridgeshire District Council Scrutiny &amp; Overview, 17 October 2019</li> <li>• Cambridge Planning &amp; Transport Scrutiny Committee, 7 November 2019</li> </ul> <p>Cabinet on 6 November- 'Approved the Local Plan Issues &amp; Options report text (at Appendix E), supporting documents (at Appendices F, G and H) and consultation process (at Section VIII and Appendix B, chapter 6)'. Cabinet also: 'Delegated authority to the Lead Cabinet Member for Planning, in liaison with Cambridge City Council Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Open Spaces, and in consultation with members of the Joint Local Planning Advisory Group, to consider and agree, as is consistent with this Council's corporate objectives, any material changes to the Local Plan Issues &amp; Options report text (at Appendix E) and supporting documents (at Appendices A, B (chapter 6), F, G and H) prior to the commencement of the consultation period, including any proposed by Cambridge City Council'.</p>

### Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Report

The supporting documents referred to above include the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and Non-Technical Summary (NTS) (Appendix F). The SA Scoping Report was sent to the Statutory Consultees Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency for their comments. Comments were received from all three bodies and the Scoping Report has been updated in line with these comments by consultants Land Use Consultants who are carrying out the SA for the Councils.

Many of the changes are additional information and details about relevant studies. Comments from the Environment Agency lead to a small change to SA Objective 10 (changed as follows: To achieve sustainable water resource management and ~~promote~~ enhance the quality of Greater Cambridge's waters). Also an additional appraisal question was added about ensuring there is sufficient water to serve new growth without negatively impacting on the environment and the appraisal question relating to waste water treatment was strengthened to refer to environmental capacity and climate change.

A new table has been added to the SA Scoping Report (Appendix 2 of that document) which sets out a summary of the comments from statutory consultees and how they have been addressed in the Scoping Report. The revised Scoping Report is appended to this decision as Appendix 1. Appendix 2 of that document should be referred to and it may be necessary to look back at the previous version of the report to see the changes by going to this link

<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/s48097/Appendix%20F%20part%202%20-%20SA%20Scoping%20Full%20Report-red.pdf>

The purpose of this decision is to approve these amendments.

### SA of the Issues and Options Report

The supporting documents referred to above also include the Sustainability Appraisal of the Issues and Options Report and Non-Technical Summary (Appendix G).

As a result of the amendments to the Scoping Report, particularly in relation to SA Objective 10 and other comments made by the Environment Agency, some minor changes were made to the SA of the Issues and Options Report. These mainly relate to the issue of water resources and the fact that the Councils are going to commission an Integrated Water Management Study as evidence base for the Greater Cambridge Local Plan, which will also inform the future SA.

These amendments are shown in a tracked changes version of the document which is appended to this decision as Appendix 2. In particular see page 14, paragraphs 3.9, 3.27 3.79 and 3.91.

The purpose of this decision is to approve these amendments.

### Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Scoping Report

The supporting documents referred to above also include the HRA Scoping Report (Appendix H).

Natural England provided comments on the HRA Scoping Report which have been used by Land Use Consultants to update this document and will be taken into account in the subsequent formal HRA stages for the Local Plan. This information has resulted in some changes to the issues that may be of relevance to some of the designated sites.

Natural England's comments are set out in Appendix 1 of the HRA Scoping Report in Appendix 1. The amendments to the HRA Scoping Report itself are shown in a tracked

changes version of the document which is appended to this decision as Appendix 3.

The purpose of this decision is to approve these amendments.

Note:

To ensure an aligned agreement on these documents between Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, the Cambridge City Council Executive Councillor for Planning Policy & Open Spaces is also taking an out of cycle decision on them at the same time.

#### **Declaration(s) of Interest**

**Record below any relevant interest declared by any executive Member consulted or by an officer present in relation to the decision.**

None

#### **Dispensation(s)**

**In respect of any conflict(s) of interest declared above, record below any dispensation(s) granted by the Council's Standards Committee.**

None

#### **Consultation**

**Record below all parties consulted in relation to the decision.**

Lead Cabinet Member for Planning at South Cambridgeshire District Council and Executive Councillor for Planning Policy & Open Spaces at Cambridge City Council (following consultation with Chair and Spokesperson of Cambridge Planning & Transport Scrutiny Committee).

#### **Other Options Considered and Reasons for Rejection**

Option 1: To not include the information provided by the Statutory Consultees at this stage of the plan making process.

Reason for rejection: consulting with the Statutory Consultees is part of the SA and HRA process and the additional information they have provided is useful to feed into these baseline documents and will inform the subsequent stages of plan making and SA / HRA appraisal.

<b>Final decision</b>	<b>Reason(s)</b>
To confirm the proposed content of the supporting documents for the Issues and Options consultation including the SA Scoping Report and NTS, SA of the Issues and Options Report and NTS, and Scoping Report of the HRA as set out in the documents appended to this decision.	The documents have been amended following comments received from the Statutory Consultees, Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency.

<b>Signed</b>	<b>Name (CAPITALS)</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
Portfolio Holder	Signed copy available upon request from Democratic Services (democratic.services@scams.gov.uk)		
Chief Officer			

#### **Further Information**

*Cambridge Planning & Transport Scrutiny Committee meeting papers, 7th November 2019*  
<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=475&MId=3769&Ver=4>

*South Cambridgeshire Cabinet meeting papers, 6th November 2019*  
<https://scams.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=293&MId=7536&Ver=4>

*South Cambridgeshire Scrutiny & Overview meeting papers, 17th October 2019*  
<https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=417&MId=7655&Ver=4>

*Joint Local Planning Advisory Group meeting papers, 1st October 2019*  
<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=492&Year=0>