

Appendix A/2

Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Policy Assessment Background Tables

Special Council Meeting 9th May



**South
Cambridgeshire
District Council**



**SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK:
CORE STRATEGY AND
DEVELOPMENT CONTROL POLICIES
DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT**

**ANNEX TO DRAFT FINAL
SUSTAINABILITY REPORT:
DETAILED POLICY ASSESSMENTS**

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SUSTAINABILITY REPORT:
DRAFT POLICY ASSESSMENTS

Issue No.	Status	Date	Prepared By	Reviewed By	Approved for Issue
1	Draft	26/04/05	PK & AW	AW	

MARCH 2005

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INTRODUCTION

This document is the Annex to the Draft Environmental / Sustainability Report on the Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan (AAP). It contains the detailed assessments of draft policies which the Council proposes to include in the AAP. It has been assessed using the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Framework defined in the Council's Scoping Report, to determine how successfully the policies – individually and collectively – achieve agreed economic, social and environmental development objectives for the District.

Each policy is assessed in terms of the nature of its impact (positive / negative / neutral / cannot be determined without further data); its relative magnitude (ie. significance); and its duration over time. The symbols used in the assessments are explained below.

Symbol	Likely effect against the SA Objective
+++	Strong and significant beneficial impact
++	Potentially significant beneficial impact
+	Policy supports this objective although it may have only a minor beneficial impact
~	Policy has no impact or effect is neutral insofar as the benefits and drawbacks appear equal and neither is considered significant
?	Uncertain or insufficient information on which to determine base the assessment at this stage
□_	Policy appears to conflict with the objective and may result in adverse impacts
□_ _	Potentially significant adverse impact
_ _ _	Strong and significant adverse impact

Brackets are used primarily to show slow change in the impact – eg. in the sequence: + / +(+) / ++. However in a small number of cases they are used as follows (+++) to indicate a likely impact which must be qualified because of lack of information at present.

Each policy is assessed against the 22 objectives in the SA Framework. Each table is followed by a summary of the principal issues identified in the assessments, and a summary outlining proposed mitigation measures and likely cumulative (and other) impacts.

When reviewing this document we recommend you begin with these summaries and consult the detailed markings to obtain more information on comments or issues which may be of specific interest.

STRATEGY POLICIES

ST/1 – Housing provision

Provision will be made for 20,000 new homes in the period 1999-2016, including 4400 on the edge of Cambridge, 6000 at Northstowe, and 9600 in Rural Centres and other villages.

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	+	++	+++	Some short-term loss of Green Belt land which is compensated by later re-designation. Otherwise the land taken for new housing development is almost entirely brownfield.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	(-)	(—)	(—)	Expansion will increase resource consumption, however this is inevitable if housing expansion is imperative. It is therefore essential that other policies maximise use of sustainable and energy-efficient construction and design. Impact expands over time with settlement growth.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	(-)	(—)	(—)	As above in absolute terms. Incorporation of water efficient systems is required by policy NE/15.
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	~	(+)	(++)	Not addressed directly, but the underlying strategy is to protect existing settlements where such facilities might be concentrated. Some of development areas have heritage associations but the corresponding AAPs protect key features.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	Not addressed specifically by this part of the core strategy.

3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	+	++	++(+)	Policy aims for coherent expansion through infill at the edge of Cambridge and within smaller centres, though delivery of this benefit depends on detailed design, as it will at Northstowe.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	(-)	(-)	(---)	As for 1.2 and 1.3. However concentration of development in the existing locations will help to reduce growth in emissions from additional traffic (for example) provided other policies to promote sustainable forms of transport are successful.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	(-)	(---)	(---)	As for 1.2 and 1.3.
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	~	~	~	Not addressed directly through this part of the overall strategy.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	As for 5.3.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+(+)	++	Implicitly addressed through additional housing provision provided it meets local needs (see below).
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+	++	+++	Strongly positive provided housing policy and use of developer contributions (if necessary) ensures stock meets needs and the affordable housing stock grows.
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	?	?	?	Policy addresses housing provision only, however it prioritises growth in existing centres (Northstowe excepted) implying new housing and employment would be fairly close by.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	+	++	+++	See below.

7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	++	+++	Implicitly supportive if meeting housing needs underpins further growth in the sub-regional economy while also ensuring the needs of key workers and similar groups are better catered for.
Summary of assessment: In absolute terms the proposed growth in housing is unsustainable as it will increase <i>resource consumption, increase waste, etc.</i> , although the selection of sites clearly limits the <i>loss of undeveloped land</i> . However, we understand that an SA of housing growth sites was undertaken as part of the Cambridgeshire Structure Plan process, and this established that the chosen locations are the most sustainable in other respects, given the imperative of expanding the housing stock. Moreover expansion of the housing stock will redress current imbalances between demand and supply, supporting expansion of the economies of the district and the wider sub-region. This policy therefore illustrates the trade-off that must be made between the absolute and relative aspects of sustainability.				
Summary of mitigation proposals: Effective policies and criteria of all levels of design to minimise the impact on resource consumption are essential but are addressed elsewhere in the strategy.				
Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: The principal secondary effect is likely to be the impact on development on this scale on resource supplies, especially water, if these are to be met from local sources. Development will concentrate additional traffic in areas that may already be subject to some intermittent congestion, but this impact needs to be balanced against the adverse effects of more dispersed development which would still add to traffic and emission levels.				

ST/2 – Reusing previously developed land and buildings				
Sets a target that 37% of new dwellings should be built on previously developed land in the period 1999 to 2016.				
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	+	~	–	The primary objective of this policy although the target is well below the ODPM's national target, reflecting local land supply conditions and targets established in the Cambs Structure Plan. Impacts on this objective (and others) are assumed to decline as the supply of brownfield land in suitable and/or appropriate sites is progressively reduced and this would necessitate expansion onto greenfield sites.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	+	+	~	Supportive in principle because it ensures land likely to be close to existing services and amenities is re-used as soon as possible.

1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	(+)	(+)	~	Implicitly supportive as the designations are mutually inconsistent.
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	~	~	~	More likely to depend on design criteria, and is also affected by the ease with which new development can be integrated with the surrounding, established land uses. It could be argued that is more feasible for new greenfield development, although clearly this conflicts with many other objectives.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+	An implicit objective which underlies PPS1, PPG3, PPS6 and PPG13.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	(-)	(-)	(-)	Likely to increase waste in absolute terms, but this is offset by other potential benefits.
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	(+)	(+)	~	Positive benefit if land is available close to amenities, etc., encouraging non-car access.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+	+	Potential increase as brownfield development would presumably include open space whereas the derelict land would be privately owned.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+++	++	+	A likely consequence given PPS1 prioritises use of such sites for mixed land-use developments, transport interchanges, etc.

6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	(+)	(+)	~	Can have a positive impact particularly if central land is allocated for affordable housing, including that for the elderly and less mobile, improving their access to central services and facilities.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	+(+)	+	Any redevelopment for housing enables the Council to apply policies DP/1 and HG/3 to pursue this objective.
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	+	+	~	Supportive in principle as it encourages planned development of housing and employment in close proximity where possible.
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: Policy clearly supports guidance on sustainable communities and the need to take available opportunities to integrate mixed land use and maximise efficient use of the land stock. The target is almost half the national target, though this is 'saved' from the Structure Plan and is understood to reflect the very limited stock of such land in the district at present.				
Summary of mitigation proposals: None.				
Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: While the target reflects local brownfield land shortages, once combined with the house building targets imposed by government and Structure Plan targets, there is a clear and substantial absolute negative sustainability impact on demand for undeveloped land.				

ST/3 – Rural Centres

Identifies five of the districts larger settlements which already have established services and amenities and good sub-regional transport links, and which will be the focus of development in addition to Northstowe and urban infill / extension around Cambridge.

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	+	+(+)	++	Taken with other policies on development outside Cambridge, this policy aims to direct and contain it within the existing larger settlements, helping to prevent creep onto the Green Belt and agricultural land.

1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	(+)	(+)	(++)	Implicitly supportive because services are concentrated in the more accessible centres, and this should reduce the number of trips and support promotion of sustainable forms of 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	(+)	(+)	(++)	Supportive if it prevents development creeping beyond existing settlements, however infilling and growth within the Centres should not lead to a loss of open space for wildlife.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	~	~	
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	?	?	?	Focusing growth on these settlements could create local development pressure which must be addressed through design criteria and development control processes.
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	+	+(+)	++	Centres will have range of services in a more accessible location than smaller settlements, reducing number and lengths of trips and encouraging alternative forms of transport.
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	(+)	(+)	(+)	Proximity of people to amenities could encourage more 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	(-)	(-)	(-)	Development pressure within Centres could have adverse impact without development controls. It is not clear what scope there is for compensatory provision at the edge of these centres.

6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+	++	++(+)	A clear priority for this policy.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+	+	Implicitly benefits residents of the Centres if development improves the range of services and amenities available locally (ie. rather than those in Cambridge or other centres).
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+	+	+	Aims for 'sustainable housing mix'.
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	(+)	(+)	(+)	Beneficial if it attracts additional amenities that support the community and encourage involvement.
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	Development primarily concerned with housing. In principle it should mean
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	+	+	+	
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	(+)	(+)	(+)	Potential benefit if it creates a critical mass of population to sustain services and amenities, and to attract new ones. However there is no clear evidence that building more houses will necessarily attract more amenities.
Summary of assessment: Policy is consistent with the underlying principles of PPS1, encouraging development to be focused on those centres which already have the greatest provision of services and amenities. This approach is consistent with other areas of policy, notably on sustainable transport, since it aims to create a critical mass of facilities in the most populous settlements, thereby bringing homes, work and services closer together for a sizeable proportion of the population.				
Summary of mitigation proposals: None.				
Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: The principal secondary effect is likely to be the impact on development on this scale on resource supplies, especially water, if these are to be met from local sources. Development will concentrate additional traffic in areas that may already be subject to some intermittent congestion, but this impact needs to be balanced against the adverse effects of more dispersed development which would still add to traffic and emission levels.				

ST/4 – Minor rural centres

Defines the next tier in the settlement hierarchy and establishing a broad threshold for the scale of development that would be permitted in these locations. The policy states the intention to use Section 46 agreements for infrastructure provision 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	~	~	~	Primarily addressed by ST/1.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	?	?	?	Aims to limit the scale development in smaller locations which have few amenities and where residents would therefore make additional trips. The absolute impact involves an increase in the use of other resources, and this must be taken into account when considering the scale of development across the district.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	—	—	—	Increase in demand in absolute terms as the policy implies expansion of the housing stock, although overall impact is less than that of Northstowe or Cambridge East provided the scale of development continues to be small.
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 since it controls the scale of development in smaller settlements, preventing them from sprawling.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	+	+(+)	++	Potential benefits subsumed under 3.2.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+	As for 1.2.

4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	–	–	–	As for 1.3.
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	(+)	(+)	(+)	Positive mark given because the policy is consistent with others relating to the settlement hierarchy, although in principle some services are less accessible because their provision is prioritised in the rural centres rather than in these settlements. However, allowing more housing growth in these centres does not guarantee there will also be improvement in amenities.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	?	?	?	Impact on the elderly and less mobile difficult to quantify though such centres are large enough to support some facilities.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	?	?	?	Ensures housing provision is spread to smaller settlements and not confined to the Rural Centres.
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 accessibility of local employment by means other than the car is 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	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supports the retail hierarchy by concentrating it in the larger centres where people can benefit from multi-function single trips.
Summary of assessment: Limits the scale of new development in smaller centres which will still support a limited range of services and amenities, and which implicitly supports the broader settlement and retail hierarchies.				
Summary of mitigation proposals: None.				

Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: In terms of natural resources attention is rightly focused on the impact of the major developments at Northstowe and Cambridge East. However these developments are necessitated by national housing policy and will make significant contributions to rebalancing housing stock with needs, even though the absolute impact on energy, water and other resources is apparent. Development in smaller centres, whether through infill or windfall, will contribute to housing targets, but only on an incremental scale, and the additional consumption of resources might be less easy to justify. It will be necessary to monitor the number of developments in these smaller settlements and to consider carefully their long-term cumulative impact on demand for natural resources locally.

ST/5 – Group villages

Identifies a larger number of medium-sized villages where new residential developments of up to 8 dwellings would be permitted.

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	?	?	?	Assumed to be supportive in conjunction with other policies to prevent sprawl onto the surrounding countryside.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	?	?	?	Small absolute impact on resource requirements, although the long-term cumulative effect across the district should not be overlooked.
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 should not result in excessive infill in smaller settlements which we assume will have a more rural and open character (the policy text refers to potentially low densities) and where wildlife may be established already.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	?	?	?	As for 2.2.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	

3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	+(+)	++	Addressed in requirement to retain sustainable housing balance and not introduce inappropriately high densities.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	+	+(+)	++	As above.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supportive in the broader context of the settlement hierarchy.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	?	?	?	As for 1.2.
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	?	?	?	As for 2.2.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	?	?	?	Does not improve accessibility but limits additional development in centres where there are limited facilities which might be over-stretched by further growth.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	Any issues subsumed by comments for 6.3.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	?	?	?	Might have adverse impact if limiting scale means development might fall below thresholds at which it is economic or attractive for developers to provide affordable housing in rural areas. However the final policy text recognises the need for mixed affordability (ie. tenure arrangements)
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 accessibility of local employment by means other than the car is 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	(+)	(+)	(+)	As for policy ST/3.
Summary of assessment: Another policy consistent with broad guidance on sustainable communities and with other plan policies on the settlement / retail hierarchies. One concern is that the limited scale of development may lie below the threshold for providing affordable housing and this may limit its availability in or next to the more rural areas of the district. .				
Summary of mitigation proposals: None.				
Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: As for ST/3.				

ST/6 – Infill villages				
Identifies a large number of small settlements in which service / amenity provision is minimal and imposes constraints on the scale of new development (and presumably on re-development) that would be permitted.				
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	(+)	(+)	(+)	Implicitly supportive as constraints apply within the village framework and sprawl is prevented by other plan policies.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	Effect assumed to be negligible due to the very small scale of development that is envisaged.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	As for 1.2.
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	?	?	?	Policy should not result in excessive infill in smaller settlements which we assume will have a more rural and open character (the policy text refers to potentially low densities) and where wildlife may be established already.
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	++	++	++	Clearly supportive with specific mention of the need to ensure development does not adversely affect settlement character.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	As above.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	~	~	~	Policy text acknowledges these centres have so few amenities that residents must find them elsewhere. However given their size the impact on emissions is assumed to be negligible, and the effect of the settlement / retail hierarchy concentrates amenities in larger locations where many can be visited with a single trip.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	~	~	As for 1.2 / 1.3.
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	?	?	?	Neutral impact individually, but over time infilling should not reduce open space within the village framework.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	~	~	~	As for 4.1.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	~	~	~	Effect assumed to be neutral as allowing more extensive growth does not guarantee new amenities would be provided.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	?	?	?	Similar concerns as for policy ST/4, although the text makes an exception which could support this objective.
6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	~	~	~	Unlikely to have an impact as the policy acknowledges these settlements have limited social facilities already.
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	~	~	~	As for policies ST/3 and ST/4.
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 policies ST/3 and ST/4.
Summary of assessment: Sustainable in that it prevents excessive and potentially intrusive development that would unbalance the layout of the smallest settlements. The policy effectively means that small settlements that are already under-served by services and amenities will stay that way, but this is consistent with the settlement and retail hierarchies that the ST/ policies are aiming to achieve.				
Summary of mitigation proposals: None.				
Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.				

ST/7 – Phasing of housing land				
Establishes role of Northstowe and other developments in delivering new housing in phases, but recognises the contribution of further development elsewhere on allocated land (and presumably through windfalls).				
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	~	~	~	Spatial issue addressed by other policies.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	?	?	?	Setting aside absolute impacts, phasing will help to ensure adequate provision of infrastructure in line with the growth in new housing.
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	?	?	?	As for 1.2.
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	(+)	(+)	(+)	In principal, and for the new settlements in particular, phasing aims to roll out housing and other elements in parallel.

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	(+)	(+)	(+)	As for 3.2.
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	(+)	(+)	(+)	As for 3.2 / 6.1.
Summary of assessment: This is largely a procedural policy stating the Council's intention to manage the phased growth of housing, particularly in the large planned developments, while acknowledging its duty to maintain an adequate supply of land in other locations. Benefits are largely indirect and come from the phasing of housing with provision of other infrastructure to ensure there is a viable settlement from the outset, though clearly this applies primarily to Northstowe and Cambridge East.				

Summary of mitigation proposals: None.

Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.

ST/8 – Plan, monitor, manage

Establishes the Council's intention to monitor growth in new development, in particular to ensure housing targets and build on brownfield land, and identifies various forms of corrective action that may be used.

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	~	~	~	
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	~	~	~
Summary of assessment: This policy is procedural, stating the Council's intention to monitor the progress of the LDF in key areas and take appropriate corrective action. It is clearly sustainable and consistent with the other areas of policy but cannot be reviewed in detail.			
Summary of mitigation proposals: None.			
Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.			