D15 AN EXEMPLAR IN SUSTAINABILITY

OBJECTIVE

D15/a To include within Cambridge East, projects which are an exemplar in terms of the use of the earth's resources, including energy, water and materials.

POLICY CE/33 An Exemplar in Sustainability

Cambridge East will include within the development exemplar projects in sustainable development, including energy efficient measures. This will involve building a proportion of the development using cutting edge technologies that fully address sustainability issues and minimise any environmental impact by pushing at the boundaries of the proven technology available at the time each exemplar project comes forward. This requirement could be met, in part, by providing an increased level of sustainability across the development as a whole materially above current requirements. Exemplar projects should be phased throughout the course of the development of Cambridge East so that new technologies coming forward can be incorporated.

Exemplar Projects

- D15.1 A major development of the scale of Cambridge East offers considerable potential for an innovative approach to development. The Area Action Plan requires the provision of exemplar projects to be incorporated in the development at Cambridge East to make the development of this major urban extension as sustainable as possible.
- D15.2 This requirement would be achieved by a proportion of the development being built using cutting edge methods and materials and pushing at the boundaries of technology. In view of the scale of the development at Cambridge East and the long timescale of the development, opportunities should be taken to respond to new technologies coming forward and becoming viable over the course of development. As such, and to maximise the opportunities to showcase examples of excellence, the provision of exemplar projects should be phased over the period of development, rather than in a single one-off development.
- D15.3 It would also be possible to offer the benefits of increased sustainability to a wider number of properties. The policy provides for the requirement to be met in part by an increased level of sustainability above current requirements could be provided across the whole development. This would need to be at a level that was materially higher than could reasonably be required of the development. This must be in addition to the provision of exemplar projects.

Materials

D15.4 Where practicable, the use of sustainable building methods and verifiably sustainable, locally sourced materials, including recycled materials and include a Travel Plan to address the needs of labour during construction should be achieved at Cambridge East (see Natural Environment chapter). In an exemplar project, making these matters integral to the development would contribute towards exemplar projects.

Water Conservation

D15.5 Policy CE/26 in the Land Drainage and Water chapter seeks at least a 25% reduction in the use of piped water compared to the average water consumption for development which does not have water conservation measures whilst managing the recycling of water to ensure no adverse impact on the water environment and biodiversity. Within Cambridge East there will be exemplar projects in sustainable development in response to the Structure Plan policy. Improvements upon the standards for water conservation would contribute towards such exemplar projects.