

DISTRICT CENTRE

CE/8 – The District Centre				
Policy deals with the location and make –up of the district centre of Cambridge East				
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	~	~	~	Covered elsewhere within the AAP.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	~	~	Whilst being mentioned elsewhere in the AAP, this policy (or its supporting text) might benefit from a statement on energy efficiency , particularly with respect to landmark buildings, as the district centre may well be perceived as setting the tone for the wider development
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	See 1.2
2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	~	~	~	
2.2 Maintain / enhance range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	~	~	~	Not anticipated to be highly significant within a district centre
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	++	++	++	The design of the district centre offers an excellent opportunity to implement the highest urban design principles

3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	See 3.3
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	?	?	?	See 1.2. Additionally, the policy recognises that the district centre should be developed with the private car as the least attractive form of public 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	?	?	?	Indirect health benefits will be experienced through other factors, such as minimising the use of private car. At this stage the policy starts to detail the importance of healthcare provision within the district centre.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	++	++	++	The design of the district centre offers an excellent opportunity to implement the highest urban design principles, which will help to design out crime
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	++	++	++	The design of the district centre offers an excellent opportunity to implement the highest urban design principles, in this case with reference to public space and communal areas. The policy recognises the importance of this.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	++	++	++	The policy recognises that a sustainable mix of services and facilities are required within the planned district centre.
6.2 Redress inequalities in age, gender, race, location, faith, disability, etc.	+	+	+	Through design principles, the policy will not be discriminatory in respect of those that will be able to use the district centre, either in terms of access, facilities or service provision.
6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+	+	+	The policy states that the district centre will have a proportion of high-density housing.

6.4 Encourage and enable active involvement of local people in the community	+	+	+	The policy actively proposes the provision of facilities for community events to be incorporated within the district centre design
7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to skills, potential and location	++	++	++	Inherent theme within the policy
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	++	++	++	Inherent theme within the policy
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	++	++	Inherent theme within the policy
Summary of assessment: The policy is inherently sustainable, though this is as a result of it largely being a statement of intent				
Summary of mitigation proposals: There is scope for energy/water efficiency to be incorporated into this policy, primarily due to the undoubted importance of the development of the district centre.				
Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified				

CE/9 – Local Centres

Defines the requirement for a number of such centres serving neighbourhoods, with housing typically no more than 400m from a convenience store, newsagent, primary school, limited small-scale employment, and some community facilities. The centres must also be well served by public transports through the quarter and connecting to other parts of the city. The policy also makes provision for a secondary school to be co-located with one of the centres, the location of which is not yet determined apart from one to be situated to the north of Newmarket Road, serving as the nucleus for the first phase of development.

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	~	~	~	Whilst being mentioned elsewhere in the AAP, this policy (or its supporting text) might benefit from a statement on energy efficiency, particularly with respect to primary schools, as the policy recognises that each local centre will be developed around

				a primary school
1.3 Limit water consumption to sustainable levels	~	~	~	See 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	+(+)	+(+)	+(+)	The policy recognises that the development of local centres is important to maintain distinctiveness between neighbourhoods. There is the potential risk though those neighbourhoods of such diversity will become isolated over time.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	++	++	++	The development of individual local centres will allow for each neighbourhood to be designed in a different manner, though not at the detriment of any other neighbourhood. This diversity will allow choice of where people would like to live and work
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	+	+	+	The policy states that access to local centres, or links from local centres to the district centre should be easily undertaken by sustainable methods of transport. This will reduce private car use within Cambridge East.
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	?	?	?	This will ultimately depend on administrative decisions
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	

5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	?	?	?	This will depend on the final design of the local centres, though this policy recognises the role that public transport will play in this.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	++	++	++	The design of the local centres offers an excellent opportunity to implement the highest urban design principles, which will help to design out crime
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	++	++	++	The design of the local centres offers an excellent opportunity to implement the highest urban design principles, in this case with reference to public space and communal areas. The policy recognises the importance of this.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	++	++	++	The policy recognises that a sustainable mix of services and facilities are required within the planned local centres.
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	?	?	?	Indirectly refers to housing provision in terms of the proximity of residential units to local 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	+	+	+	Development of distinct local centres will help distribute employment throughout Cambridge East.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	?	?	?	Ambiguous links, but could relate to the spatial distribution of people, places, communications and infrastructure in Cambridge East.

7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	++	++	The concept of local centres is inherently sustainable, and ensures that economic activity is proportionally distributed throughout the Cambridge East development
Summary of assessment: .The policy is inherently sustainable, though this is as a result of it largely being a statement of intent				
Summary of mitigation proposals: . There is scope for energy/water efficiency to be incorporated into this policy, primarily due to the undoubted importance of the development of the local centres.				
Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: . The cumulative effect of the development of district centres, will be dependant on the design standards and control mechanisms that are put into place to regulate economic activity.				