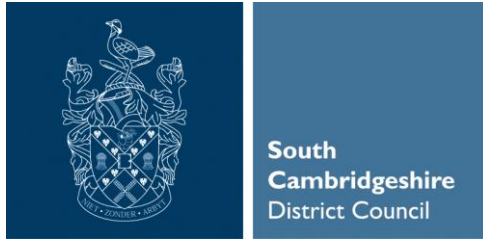


Appendix D/2

Cambridge Southern Fringe Policy Area Action Plan Assessment Background Tables

Special Council Meeting 9th May



**SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK:**

**CAMBRIDGE SOUTHERN FRINGE
AREA ACTION PLAN**

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

**SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK:
CAMBRIDGE SOUTHERN FRINGE
AREA ACTION PLAN**

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

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- DELIVERING THE CAMBRIDGE SOUTHERN FRINGE54
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 - CSF/23 – Countryside enhancement strategy
 - CSF/24 – Making use of existing buildings and resources on site
 - CSF/25 – Management of services, facilities, landscape and infrastructure
 - CSF/26 – Timing / order of service provision

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.

VISION & DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

CSF/1 – The vision for the Cambridge Southern Fringe

Provides a general statement defining the developments and what the Council wishes to achieve.

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	~	(–)	–	Appears to take a small amount of agricultural land to the west and south of the PBI site (see Mitigation comments in the summary at the end of the assessment). Unlike Northstowe and Cambs East development is not based on Structure Plan requirements, unlike that within the City boundary. Finding more of South Cambridgeshire's housing requirements on the edge of Cambridge rather than in its villages will reduce the length of journeys to work in Cambridge and this supports sustainability of the site. The western extension of the Green Belt will see agricultural land (pasture?) given over to a country park. It is assumed this land is no longer required for agriculture, though the change in use is not irreversible.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	(–)	–	Will increase energy and resource consumption in absolute terms, offset by (a) opportunities to encourage sustainable commuting by new residents and (b) other plan policies on energy and water conservation. Marked as a relatively minor impact given the scale of development compared to Northstowe and Cambridge East.
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	~	~	~	

2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	(+)	+	+(+)	Makes provision for access to new Green Belt.
3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	~	~	~	Overall neutral although policy text acknowledges the need to protect the setting of Hobson's Brook.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	~	~	~	Addressed in part, but policy CSF/2 is a more comprehensive statement of the plan's effect on this objective.
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	~	~	~	Effect not evident from policy text – see policy CSF/11.
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	~	~	~	Not addressed explicitly – see other policies.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	(+)	+	+(+)	Makes provision for access to new Green Belt. See also policy CSF/2.
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	~	~	~	Not stated – see policy CSF/7.
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	~	~	~	Not stated – see policy CSF/6.
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: A very general statement of the Council's intentions, and many of the associated issues are evaluated more fully in the assessment of other policies. Note that development at Northstowe and Cambridge East is predicated on achieving house building targets specified by ODPM, and taking forwards proposals in the adopted Structure and Local Plans. As finding more of South Cambridgeshire's housing requirements on the edge of Cambridge rather than in its villages will reduce the length of journeys to work in Cambridge, loss of agricultural land must be balanced against its sustainability as a location for additional housing growth.			
Summary of mitigation proposals: The current proposals map for the western sector shows Trumpington West extending onto what is currently agricultural land although this appears to be part of the Monsanto facility itself. As such it is not clear whether this land is brownfield or greenfield, and it would be helpful if the maps and/or text could clarify this point.			
Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.			

CSF/2 – Development and countryside improvement principles

Provides a general but comprehensive statement of the broad principles of the development covering landscaping, biodiversity, access, housing, employment, etc.

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	~	(-)	-	See comments for policy CSF/1.
1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy	~	(-)	-	As above.
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	+	+	+	Positive, assuming landscaping will use locally characteristic features and species.
2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access the countryside and wild places	~	+	++	Creation of new Green Belt and country park on the west of the development and improvement of access through the area south of Addenbrookes.

3.1 Avoid damage to designated historic sites and their settings	+	+	+	Intrinsically supportive because landscaping west and south of Trumpington aims to protect key areas (eg. Gog Magog Downs) from visual intrusion by new development.
3.2 Maintain diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape	+	++	+++	Components of this policy state a range of landscaping and other design tactics to limit the visual impact of new development while linking the urban extension into the existing settlement of Trumpington.
3.3. Create places and spaces that look good and work well	+	+(+)	++	As above, thought qualified slightly as the design brief for the development is not currently available.
4.1 Reduce emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants	?	?	?	Supportive in principle as broad design will encourage residents to use park & ride, walking or cycling for a range of different trip purposes. However development will add to noise and light impacts in an otherwise quiet area and these issues will need to be addressed in the design guide. We also assume the site is currently under bio-agricultural use and it may be appropriate to require a contaminated land survey before development consent is granted. Development will also result in short-term construction impacts that will need appropriate mitigation (see policy CSF/22).
4.2 Minimise waste production and support recycling	~	(-)	-	As for 1.1, etc.
4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to flooding and other climate change impacts	~	~	~	
5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	+	+(+)	++	Positive contribution by providing facilities in western and southern parts of the area, and improving public access.
5.2 Reduce and prevent crime and the fear of crime	~	~	~	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+(+)	++	Provided both in west and south.
6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities	+	+	+	Provides for local employment and increased services in Trumpington (coordinated with Cambridge City Council) and easy access to park & ride facilities for commuting and other purposes.

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	~	(+)	+	Modest growth compared to other AAPs, but will add to housing stock, including affordable homes.
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.
7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and infrastructure	~	+	++	In combination with development within the city boundary, the AAP provides for infrastructure, services, etc. not just housing.
7.3. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	~	~	~	It is assumed that extension of retail and other facilities at Trumpington (lies in Cambridge City) will not conflict with the district retail hierarchy (see Core Strategy policies CS/3 to CS/6.
Summary of assessment: Clearly a broad overarching statement of the scope of the development that is consistent with the agenda for sustainable development in many areas.				
Summary of mitigation proposals: It is not certain what additional clarity is delivered by separating policies CSF/1 and CSF/2 since the latter provides the amplification that is missing in the former. However this is a minor issue only. Also, the site's current use may justify a contaminated land survey prior to granting development consent.				
Secondary, cumulative or synergistic effects: None identified.				