

APPENDIX F

South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council

North East Cambridge Area Action Plan

Sustainability Appraisal

Draft Report

Prepared by LUC

June 2020

DRAFT

South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council

North East Cambridge Area Action Plan

Sustainability Appraisal

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Chapter 1 – Introduction

1.1 This Sustainability Appraisal Report has been prepared by LUC on behalf of Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council as part of the Sustainability Appraisal of the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan (NEC AAP).

1.2 This report relates to the Regulation 18 Draft Area Action Plan (AAP) and should be read in conjunction with that document.

1.3 LUC was appointed to carry out the SA work in August 2019, following earlier SA work on the AAP undertaken by Environ and Ramboll.

The Area Action Plan

1.4 The AAP site, at the north eastern fringe of Cambridge, contains one of the last substantial brownfield sites in the City. The area in question is located between the A14, Chesterton and Kings Hedges wards and is bounded by the Cambridge – Kings Lynn Railway line. It also incorporates the Cambridge Science Park to the west of Milton Road as the intensification of uses in this area is supported by the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan.

1.5 Policy 15 of the adopted Cambridge City Council Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the South Cambridgeshire District Council Local Plan allocate the 'Cambridge Northern Fringe East' for redevelopment, to be established through the AAP.

1.6 As the site straddles the administrative boundaries of Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council the Councils are taking a coordinated approach to development through providing a joint AAP for the site. The AAP seeks the wider regeneration of this part of Cambridge with the creation of a revitalised, employment focussed area centred on the new transport interchange created by Cambridge North Station.

1.7 This document sets out the results of the SA of the Draft Area Action Plan. The Councils have previously prepared Issues and Options consultation documents in 2014 and 2019 which formed an important early stage in developing the AAP and set out the blueprint for a comprehensive and co-ordinated regeneration of the area. The 2019 Issues and Options document identified key issues, challenges and opportunities facing the area and set out different options the Councils could take to address these. The consultation on this Issues and Options document took place in February and March 2019 and assisted in the preparation of the Draft AAP.

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

1.8 Sustainability Appraisal is a statutory requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It is designed to ensure that the plan preparation process maximises the contribution that a plan makes to sustainable development and minimises any potential adverse impacts. The SA process involves appraising the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the policies and proposals within a plan from the outset of its development.

1.9 SEA is also a statutory assessment process, required under the SEA Directive¹, transposed in the UK by the SEA Regulations, the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SI 2004/1633), as amended by The Environmental

¹ SEA Directive 2001/42/EC

Assessments and Miscellaneous Planning (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 (SI 2018/1232). The SEA Regulations require the formal assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment and which set the framework for future consent of projects requiring Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)². The purpose of SEA, as defined in Article 1 of the SEA Directive is “to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans with a view to promoting sustainable development”.

1.10 SEA and SA are separate processes but have similar aims and objectives. Simply put, SEA focuses on the likely environmental effects of a plan whilst SA includes a wider range of considerations, extending to social and economic impacts. National Planning Practice Guidance³ shows how it is possible to satisfy both requirements by undertaking a joint SA/SEA process, and to present an SA report that incorporates the requirements of the SEA Regulations. The SA/SEA of the AAP is being undertaken using this integrated approach and throughout this report the abbreviation ‘SA’ should therefore be taken to refer to ‘SA incorporating the requirements of SEA’.

Health Impact Assessment

1.11 As well as incorporating SEA, the SA also incorporates Health Impact Assessment (HIA) which aims to ensure that health related issues are integrated into the plan making process. HIA of the AAP will be carried out and integrated into the SA and will make recommendations for how the health related impacts of the AAP can be optimised as it is taken forward. More detail on how HIA has been incorporated into the assessment can be found in Chapter 2.

Structure of this report

1.12 This report is the SA report (incorporating HIA) for the Regulation 18 Draft North East Cambridge Area Action Plan. Table 1.1 below signposts how the requirements of the SEA regulations have been met within this report.

Table 1.1: Requirements of the SEA Regulations and where these have been addressed in this SA Report

SEA Regulations Requirements	Where covered in this SA Report
Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated (Reg.12). The information to be given is (Schedule 2):	
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes	Chapter 3
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without	Chapter 3

² Under EU Directives 85/337/EEC and 97/11/EC concerning EIA.

³ <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>

SEA Regulations Requirements	Where covered in this SA Report
implementation of the plan or programme	
c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected	Chapter 3
d) Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.	Chapter 3 and Appendix C
e) The environmental protection, objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental, considerations have been taken into account during its preparation	Chapter 3 and Appendix B
f) The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. (Footnote: These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects)	Chapter 4 and Chapter 5
g) The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme;	Chapter 4 and 6
h) An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;	Chapter 2 provides information about how the assessment was undertaken and difficulties encountered. Appendix D outlines why the Council selected the preferred approach in light of the alternatives for each set of options.
i) A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Reg. 17;	Chapter 6
j) A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	A separate non-technical summary document has been prepared to accompany the SA

SEA Regulations Requirements	Where covered in this SA Report
	report.
<p>The report shall include the information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment (Reg. 12(3))</p>	<p>Addressed throughout this SA report.</p>
<p>Consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report (Reg. 12(5)) 	<p>Consultation on the SA Scoping Report was undertaken between 15th August and 19th September 2014.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> authorities with environmental responsibility and the public, shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme (Reg. 13) 	<p>Consultation is being undertaken in relation to the draft AAP between July and September 2020. The consultation document is accompanied by this SA report. Consultation was previously undertaken between February and March 2019 on the AAP Issues and Options.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country (Reg. 14). 	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Taking the environmental report and the results on the consultations into account in decision-making (Reg. 16).</p>	
<p>Provision of information on the decision: When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Reg. 14 must be informed and the following made available to those so informed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the plan or programme as adopted a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report, the opinions expressed and the results of consultations entered into have been taken into account, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and 	<p>To be addressed after the AAP is adopted.</p>

SEA Regulations Requirements	Where covered in this SA Report
Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Reg. 17)	To be addressed after the AAP is adopted.
Quality assurance: environmental reports should be of a sufficient standard to meet the requirements of the SEA Regulations.	This report has been produced in line with current guidance and good practice for SEA/SA and this table demonstrates where the requirements of the SEA Regulations have been met.

Habitats Regulations Assessment

1.13 The requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of development plans was confirmed by the amendments to the Habitats Regulations published for England and Wales in July 2007 and updated in 2010 and again in 2012 and 2017⁴. The Regulations translate Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) and 79/409/EEC (Birds Directive) into UK law. Since the UK left the EU on the 31st January 2020, the Regulations are replaced by The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/1012), as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/579). The purpose of HRA is to assess the impacts of a land-use plan against the conservation objectives of a European Site and to ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of that site.

1.14 The HRA will be undertaken separately but the findings will be taken into account in the SA where relevant (for example to inform judgements about the likely effects of potential development on biodiversity).

Structure of this report

1.15 This section has introduced the SA process for the North East Cambridge AAP. The remainder of the report is structured into the following sections:

- Chapter 2: Methodology describes the approach that is being taken to the SA of the AAP.
- Chapter 3: Sustainability Context for Development in North East Cambridge describes the relationship between the AAP and other relevant plans, policies and programmes; summarises the social, economic and environmental characteristics of the district and identifies the key sustainability issues.

⁴ *The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017* (Statutory Instrument 2017 No. 1012) consolidate the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 with subsequent amendments.

- Chapter 4: Sustainability Appraisal Findings for the Draft North East Cambridge Area Action Plan and Reasonable Alternatives summarises the SA findings for the AAP policies and reasonable alternative policy options that have been identified.
- Chapter 5: Cumulative effects of the Draft AAP summarises the expected cumulative effects of the current consultation document.
- Chapter 6: Monitoring and Recommendations describes the approach that should be taken to monitoring the likely significant effects of the AAP and proposes monitoring indicators.
- Chapter 7: Conclusions summarises the key findings from the SA of the Draft AAP and describes the next steps to be undertaken.

1.16 The main body of the report is supported by a number of appendices, as follows:

- Appendix A presents the consultation comments received in relation to the SA scoping report, the SA of the 2014 Issues and Options and the SA of the 2019 Issues and Options, and explains how they have been addressed.
- Appendix B presents the updated review of relevant plans, policies and programmes.
- Appendix C presents the updated baseline information for Greater Cambridge.
- Appendix D sets out the reasonable alternatives considered by the Councils for each policy and outlines why the proposed approach was taken forward and why alternatives were not selected.

Chapter 2 – Methodology

2.1 In addition to complying with legal requirements, the approach being taken to the SA of the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan is based on current best practice and the guidance on SA/ SEA set out in the national Planning Practice Guidance, which involves carrying out SA as an integral part of the plan-making process. Table 2.1 below set out the main stages of the plan-making process and shows how these correspond to the SA process.

Table 2.1 Corresponding stages in plan making and SA

Area Action Plan Step 1: Evidence gathering and engagement
SA stages and tasks
<p>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives 2 Collecting baseline information 3 Identifying sustainability issues and problems 4 Developing the SA framework 5 Consulting on the scope of the SA
Area Action Plan Step 2: Production
SA stages and tasks
<p>Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Testing the local objectives against the SA framework 2 Developing the Plan options 3 Evaluating the effects of the Plan 4 Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects 5 Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects in implementing the Plan
<p>Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Preparing the SA Report
<p>Stage D: Seek representations on the Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal Report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Public participation on Plan and the SA Report 2 Appraising significant changes
Area Action Plan Step 3: Examination
SA stages and tasks
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Appraising significant changes resulting from representations
Area Action Plan Step 4 and 5: Adoption and Monitoring

SA stages and tasks
1 Making decisions and providing information
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Plan
1 Finalising the aims and methods for monitoring
2 Responding to adverse effects

2.2 Prior to August 2019, the SA work on the AAP was undertaken by Environ, and then Ramboll. LUC was appointed in August 2019 to continue with the SA, and our approach builds on the earlier SA work. The sections below describe the approach that has been taken to the SA of the North East Cambridge AAP to date and provides information on the subsequent stages of the process.

SA Stage A: Scoping

2.3 The SA process began in 2014 with the production of a scoping report for the North East Cambridge AAP which was, at this earlier stage, referred to as the Cambridge Northern Fringe East Area Action Plan. The SA scoping report was prepared by Environ on behalf of Cambridge City Council and South Cambridge District Council.

2.4 The Scoping stage of the SA involves understanding the social, economic and environmental baseline for the plan area as well as the sustainability policy context and key sustainability issues. The Scoping Report presented the outputs of the following tasks:

- Policies, plans and programmes of relevance to the AAP were identified and the relationships between them and the AAP and the SA were considered, enabling any potential synergies to be exploited and any potential inconsistencies and incompatibilities to be identified and addressed.
- Baseline information was collected on environmental, social and economic issues in the area covered by the AAP. This baseline information provides the basis for predicting and monitoring the likely effects of options for policies and site allocations and helps to identify alternative ways of dealing with any adverse effects identified.
- Key sustainability issues for the AAP area were identified.
- A Sustainability Appraisal framework was presented, setting out the SA objectives against which options would be appraised. The SA framework provides a way in which the sustainability impacts of implementing a plan can be described, analysed and compared. It comprises a series of sustainability objectives and associated sub-questions that can be used to ‘interrogate’ options and draft policies during the plan-making process. These SA objectives define the long-term aspirations of the Councils with regard to social, economic and environmental considerations. During the SA, the performances of the plan options are assessed against these SA objectives and sub-questions.

2.5 Public and stakeholder participation is an important part of the SA and wider plan-making processes. It helps to ensure that the SA report is robust and has due regard for all appropriate information that will support the plan’s contribution to sustainable development. The SA Scoping Report was published between the 15th August 2014 and the 19th September 2014 for a five week consultation period. The three statutory consultees (Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England) were consulted along with a wide range of others.

The consultation responses received were listed in Table 1.1 of the Scoping Report, including how they had been addressed.

2.6 Appendix A lists the comments that were received during the scoping consultation and describes how each one was addressed during the preparation of the updated Scoping Report (post consultation) and fed through to the 2014 SA of Issues and Options (as described above this table was originally presented as Table 1.1 of the Scoping Report). These changes have been carried forward in this SA report.

2.7 As well as changes that have been made to address consultation comments, some parts of the Scoping Report (namely the review of plans, policies and programmes and the baseline information) have been subject to an update as part of the preparation of this SA Report in order to ensure that they reflect the current situation in Greater Cambridge. Updated versions of the review of plans, policies and programmes and the baseline information are presented in Appendix B and Appendix C respectively.

2.8 Table 2.2 presents the SA framework for the AAP which includes 16 SA objectives along with their associated sub-questions. The table also shows how all of the 'SEA topics' (as listed in Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations) have been addressed by the SA objectives, reflecting the fact that an integrated approach is being taken to the SA and SEA of the AAP.

Health Impact Assessment

2.9 Health Impact Assessment (HIA) aims to ensure that health-related issues are integrated into the plan-making process and has been integrated into this SA. Whilst the topic of health is directly addressed by SA objective 9, other SA objectives also address health issues. As 'human health' is one of the SEA topics, Table 2.2 demonstrates which SA objectives will help address the health issues, directly or indirectly. Furthermore, in order to demonstrate how various HIA topics are addressed by the SA framework, it is useful to refer to guidance on HIA. The NHS London Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool provides such guidance, and identifies the topics that should be covered by HIA. Table 2.3 shows how the SA Framework addresses these.

Table 2.2 SA Framework for the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan

SA Objectives	Sub - questions	Relevant topics(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
<p>1 Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it use land that has been previously developed? • Will it use land efficiently? • Will it minimise the degradation / loss of soils due to new development? • Will it avoid the sterilisation of economic mineral reserves? • Will it promote resource efficiency and recycling? 	<p>Soils Material Assets Human Health</p>

SA Objectives	Sub - questions	Relevant topics(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
<p>2 Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it maintain and improve air quality around the AAP and along the routes to the City including the A14? • Will it ensure that dust pollution does not affect sensitive receptors? • Will it minimise and where possible improve on unacceptable levels of noise pollution and vibration? • Will it minimise odour impacts? • Will it remediate contaminated land? 	<p>Air Soil Human Health</p>
<p>3 Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it ensure that groundwater is protected? • Will it enhance surface water features including the quality of water entering the first public drain and the River Cam? 	<p>Water Human Health</p>
<p>4 Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it conserve protected species (including Jersey Cudweed) and protect sites designated for nature conservation interest (including Local Nature Reserves and Wildlife Sites), and geodiversity? 	<p>Biodiversity Flora & Fauna Human Health</p>
<p>5 Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it deliver net gains in biodiversity? • Will it reduce habitat fragmentation, maintain and enhance connectivity between existing green and blue infrastructure and enhance key native habitats? • Will it help deliver habitat restoration (helping to achieve Biodiversity Action Plan 	<p>Biodiversity Flora & Fauna Human Health</p>

SA Objectives	Sub - questions	Relevant topics(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
	<p>targets)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve access to wildlife and Green Spaces through delivery of, and access to green infrastructure? 	
<p>6 Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it maintain and enhance the distinctiveness of landscape character, and the character of the Cambridge Green Belt? • Will it maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of townscape character? • Will it ensure the scale of development is sensitive to the existing key landmark buildings and low lying topography of the City? • Will it conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings through appropriate design and scale of development? • Will it lead to developments built to a high standard of design and good place making that reflects local character? 	<p>Landscape Cultural heritage Human Health</p>
<p>7 Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it ensure deployment of energy efficient and renewable energy technologies? • Will it minimise contributions to climate change through sustainable construction practices? 	<p>Climatic factors</p>
<p>8 Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it protect and enhance existing natural flood risk management infrastructure? • Will it ensure that suitable sustainable drainage measures are incorporated into 	<p>Climatic factors</p>

SA Objectives	Sub - questions	Relevant topics(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
	<p>development in order to manage surface water run-off?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it provide green and blue infrastructure which will help reduce climate change impact locally? • Does it include measures to adapt to climate change in ways that do not increase greenhouse gas emissions including giving consideration to the layout and massing of new development? 	
<p>9 Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it promote good health and encourage healthy lifestyles? • Will it help address levels of deprivation in north and east Cambridge? • Will it reduce inequalities in health in the north and east of Cambridge? 	<p>Population Human health</p>
<p>10 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it increase the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space? • Will it protect and enhance community, leisure and open space provision, particularly in East Chesterton Ward? • Will it maintain and enhance open spaces and green space within the urban area and the Green Belt setting? 	<p>Human health</p>
<p>11 Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it support the provision of a range of housing types to meet identified needs? 	<p>Human health Population</p>
<p>12 Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve relations between people from different backgrounds or social groups and contribute to community 	<p>Population</p>

SA Objectives	Sub - questions	Relevant topics(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
income	diversity? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it ensure equal access for all? 	
13 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it provide accessibility to and improve quality of key local services and facilities including health, education and leisure (shops, post offices, pubs etc.)? • Will it improve access to jobs and training for all? • Will it encourage and enable engagement in community activities? 	Material assets Human health
14 Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it maintain and enhance competitiveness, and capitalise on Cambridge's position as one of the UK's most competitive cities? • Will it provide high quality employment land in appropriate, accessible locations to meet the needs of businesses and the workforce? • Will it protect the shopping hierarchy, supporting the vitality and viability of Cambridge, district and local centres? • Will it provide appropriate office space? • Will it minimise the loss of industrial floorspace? 	Material assets Human Health
15 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve the level of investment in key community services and infrastructure, including communications, infrastructure and broadband? • Will it improve access to education and training for all, and support provision of skilled 	Population Human Health

SA Objectives	Sub - questions	Relevant topics(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
	employees to the economy?	
16 Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it enable shorter journeys, improve modal choice and integration of transport modes to encourage or facilitate the use of modes such as walking, cycling and public transport? • Will it encourage cycling for journeys over one mile? • Will it discourage and reduce the use of the private car and ensure greater access to frequent public transport? • Will it support movement of freight by means other than road? • Will it promote infrastructure for zero emissions vehicles? • Will it make the transport network safer for all users, both motorised and non-motorised? 	Material assets Human Health Climatic factors Air

Table 2.3 Integration of HIA topics in this SA

HIA topic	Relevant SA Objective
Housing quality and design	SA objective 11: Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing
Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure	SA objective 13: Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)
Access to open space and nature	SA objective 10: Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space
Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity	SA objective 2: Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution
Accessibility and active travel	SA objective 13: Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities) SA objective 16: Reduce the need to travel and promote more

HIA topic	Relevant SA Objective
	sustainable transport choices
Crime reduction and community safety	Indirectly through: SA objective 9: Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing, and reduce inequalities SA objective 12: Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income SA objective 13: Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities) SA objective 15: Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and other infrastructure
Access to healthy food	Not directly relevant to the SA of the AAP, although the promotion of local food production could be addressed
Access to work and training	SA objective 13: Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities) SA objective 14: Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy SA objective 15: Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and other infrastructure
Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhoods	SA objective 9: Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing, and reduce inequalities SA objective 11: Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing SA objective 12: Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income SA objective 13: Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)
Minimising the use of resources	SA objective 1: Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves
Climate change	SA objective 7: Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions) SA objective 8: Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects
Environmental quality	SA objective 2: Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution SA objective 3: Protect and where possible enhance the

HIA topic	Relevant SA Objective
	<p>quality of the water environment</p> <p>SA objective 4: Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species</p> <p>SA objective 5: Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces</p> <p>SA objective 6: Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character</p> <p>SA objective 10: Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space</p>

SA Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects

2.10 Developing options for a plan is an iterative process, usually involving a number of consultations with the public and stakeholders. Consultation responses and the SA can help to identify where there may be other ‘reasonable alternatives’ to the options being considered for a plan.

2.11 Regulation 12 (2) of the SEA Regulations requires that:

“The (environmental or SA) report must identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of –

- a. Implementing the plan or programme; and
- b. Reasonable alternatives, taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme.”

2.12 Any alternatives considered for the AAP need to be ‘reasonable’. This implies that alternatives that are not reasonable do not need to be subject to appraisal. Examples of unreasonable alternatives could include policy options that do not meet the objectives of the plan or national policy (e.g. the National Planning Policy Framework) or site options that are unavailable or undeliverable.

2.13 The SA findings are not the only factors taken into account when determining a preferred option to take forward in a plan. Indeed, there will often be an equal number of positive or negative effects identified for each option, such that it is not possible to ‘rank’ them based on sustainability performance in order to select a preferred option. Factors such as public opinion, deliverability and conformity with national policy will also be taken into account by plan-makers when selecting preferred options for their plan.

2.14 The first North East Cambridge Area Action Plan Issues and Options Report (at this stage it was called the Cambridge Northern Fringe East Area Action Plan) was produced for consultation between December 2014 and February 2015 and set out four potential options for the redevelopment of the area. An Interim SA Report was produced which accompanied this. Following the consultation Cambridge City Council members considered the cost and challenge of relocating the Water Recycling Centre as unfeasible and therefore work on the AAP was paused to consider the way forward. Between then and the beginning of 2019 there was a significant number of developments that both affected and informed the preparation of the AAP.

In light of the developments the Councils felt it necessary to assess a new set of development options, as well as including the Science Park to the west and updating the name of the AAP to North East Cambridge. Therefore a second Issues and Options document was prepared and was consulted on accompanied by another Interim SA report between the 11th February and the 25th March 2019. The Interim SA Report 2014 included an appraisal of:

- The AAP Vision, Development principles and Development Objectives.
- The Spatial Redevelopment Options (plus a do nothing committed development option which was based on existing site users and committed developments).
- Proposed policy approaches.

2.15 The Interim SA Report (2019) included an appraisal of:

- The AAP vision and objective
- The spatial approach (in this case the indicative concept plan) and where options have been provided
- Policy approaches

2.16 The options considered and assessed at the Issues and Options stages, along with the consultation responses received have evolved and fed into the proposed policies and reasonable alternatives that are set out in the Draft AAP which is assessed in this SA report. It is noted that many policy approaches that were assessed in 2014 and 2019 were done so at a very high level, just noting key objectives that would be impacted. The policies presented in the Draft AAP have now been worked up in much more detail, therefore more detailed assessments have been presented in this SA report. The vision for the AAP remains the same. The strategic objectives include the same key messages but have been re-arranged and expanded with sub-objectives.

2.17 The Draft AAP will be assessed in terms of the vision, objectives preferred policies and reasonable alternative options.

SA Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report

2.18 This SA report describes the process that has been undertaken to date in carrying out the SA of the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan (AAP). It sets out the findings of the appraisal of the draft policies and reasonable alternatives to these, highlighting any likely significant effects (both positive and negative, and taking into account the likely secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long term and permanent and temporary effects). It also describes the reasons for selecting or rejecting certain options during the preparation of the AAP to date.

Stage D: Consultation on the Area Action Plan and this SA Report

2.19 Cambridge City Council and South Cambridge District Council are inviting comments on the Draft AAP and this SA report. Both documents are being published on the Councils' website for consultation between 20th July and 25th September 2020 .

2.20 Appendix A presents the consultation comments that were received in relation to the SA Scoping Report, and the 2014, and 2019 Interim SA Reports accompanying the Issues and Options, and explains how each one has been addressed in the SA work undertaken since then.

SA Stage E: Monitoring implementation of the Area Action Plan

2.21 Recommendations for monitoring the likely significant social, environmental and economic effects of implementing the AAP are set out in Chapter 6.

Appraisal methodology

2.22 Reasonable alternative options and policies for the AAP have been appraised against the SA objectives in the SA framework (see Table 2.2), with scores being attributed to each option or policy to indicate its likely effects on each SA objective as follows:

++	The option or policy is likely to have a significant positive effect on the SA objectives.
++/-	The option or policy is likely to have a mixture of significant positive and minor negative effects on the SA objectives.
+	The option or policy is likely to have a minor positive effect on the SA objectives.
0	The option or policy is likely to have negligible or no effect on the SA objectives.
?	It is uncertain what effect the option or policy will have on the SA objectives.
-	The option or policy is likely to have a minor negative effect on the SA objectives.
-/+	The option or policy is likely to have a mixture of minor positive and significant negative effects on the SA objectives.
--	The option or policy is likely to have a significant negative effect on the SA objectives.
+/-	The option or policy is likely to have a mixture of positive and negative effects on the SA objectives.

2.23 Where a potential positive or negative effect is uncertain, a question mark has been added to the relevant score (e.g. +? or -?) and the score has been colour coded as per the potential positive, negligible or negative effect (e.g. green, yellow, red etc.).

2.24 The likely effects of options and policies need to be determined and their significance assessed, which inevitably requires a series of judgements to be made. The appraisal has attempted to differentiate between the most significant effects and other more minor effects through the use of the symbols shown above. The dividing line in making a decision about the significance of an effect is quite small. Where either (++) or (--) has been used to distinguish significant effects from minor effects (+ or -) this is because the effect of an option or policy on the SA objective in question is considered to be of such magnitude that it will have a noticeable measurable effect taking into account other factors that may influence the achievement of that objective. However, scores are relative to the scale of proposals under consideration.

Assumptions, uncertainty and difficulties encountered

2.25 It is a requirement of the SEA Regulations that consideration is given to any data limitations or other difficulties that are encountered during the SA process.

2.26 SA is a strategic process and therefore gives a relatively high-level assessment, highlighting key issues and where more detailed assessment may be required at the planning application stage. The PPG states that all reasonable alternatives should be considered in the same level of detail. SA assessments can only make judgements based on the available data provided by Local Authorities, however the data is not always up to date and some data has not been compiled. For example, it is not known if there is underground archaeology in the AAP area.

2.27 Various factors have led to uncertainties in many of the assessments. These uncertainties are discussed within the assessment justification text within the findings chapters and appendices. The majority of these uncertainties relate to the fact that the exact nature, design and, in some cases location, of development depends on the proposals that come forward once the AAP is adopted, and therefore cannot be known at this stage.

Chapter 3 – Sustainability Context for Development in North East Cambridge

Review of plans, policies and programmes

3.1 The AAP is not prepared in isolation, being greatly influenced by other plans, policies and programmes and by broader sustainability objectives. It needs to be consistent with international and national guidance and strategic planning policies and should contribute to the goals of a wide range of other programmes and strategies, such as those relating to social policy, culture and the historic environment. It must also conform to environmental protection legislation and the sustainability objectives established at an international, national and regional level.

3.2 One of the first steps in undertaking SA is to identify and review other relevant plans and programmes that could influence the AAP. The requirement to undertake a plan and programme review and identify the environmental and wider sustainability objectives relevant to the plan being assessed is set out in the SEA Regulations. An ‘Environmental Report’ required under the SEA Regulations should include: “An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes” to determine “the environmental protection objectives, established at international (European) community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme...and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation” (Schedule 2 (a), (e)).

3.3 The review of relevant plans and programmes aims to identify the relationships between the AAP and these other documents i.e. how the AAP could be affected by the other plans’ and programmes’ aims, objectives and/or targets, or how it could contribute to the achievement of their sustainability objectives. The review also ensures that the relevant environmental protection and sustainability objectives are integrated into the SA. Additionally, reviewing plans and programmes can provide appropriate information on the baseline for the plan area and help identify the key sustainability issues.

3.4 The SA Scoping Report included a review of plans and programmes, consistent with the requirements of the SEA Directive, and which informed the development of the SA Framework. This review has been updated as part of the preparation of this SA Report to take into account consultation responses to the Scoping Report.

Key international plans, policies and programmes

3.5 At the international level, there are a number of European Directives that have shaped Sustainability Appraisal, planning and environmental, social and economic regulation, including Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the ‘SEA Directive’). The UK left the European Union on the 31st January 2020. Since the UK’s exit from the EU, UK legislation that transposes EU Regulations and Directives continues to apply. In addition, most EU law continues to apply to the UK throughout the transition period. In addition to most EU law remaining in place, there are multiple international policies, treaties and agreements that will also carry over such as the Paris Agreement, European Convention on Human Rights and Kyoto Protocol.

Key national plans, policies and programmes

3.6 The most significant national policy context for the Local Plan is the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which was originally published in 2012 and revised in 2018 and updated once again in 2019⁵. The NPPF sets out information about the purposes of local plan-making, stating that:

"Succinct and up-to-date plans should provide a positive vision for the future of each area; a framework for addressing housing needs and other economic, social and environmental priorities; and a platform for local people to shape their surroundings."

3.7 The NPPF sets out information about the purposes of local plan-making, stating that plans should:

- "Be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development;
- Be prepared positively, in a way that is aspirational but deliverable;
- Be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement between plan-makers and communities, local organisations, businesses, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees;
- Contain policies that are clearly written and unambiguous, so it is evident how a decision maker should react to development proposals;
- Be accessible through the use of digital tools to assist public involvement and policy presentation; and
- Serve a clear purpose, avoiding unnecessary duplication of policies that apply to a particular area (including policies in this Framework, where relevant)."

3.8 The NPPF requires local planning authorities to set out the strategic priorities for the area in the Local Plan. This should include strategic policies to deliver:

- "Housing (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development;
- Infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, Flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
- Community facilities (such as health, education and cultural infrastructure); and
- Conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure, and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation."

3.9 The NPPF also promotes well-designed places and development, as well as protection and enhancing beneficial use of the Green Belt.

⁵ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (February 2019) National Planning Policy Framework. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779764/NPPF_Feb_2019_web.pdf

3.10 Non-strategic policies should be used by local planning authorities and communities to set out more detailed policies for specific areas, neighbourhoods or types of development, including qualitative aspects such as design of places, landscapes, and development.

3.11 The NPPF also states that:

"Local plans and spatial development strategies should be informed throughout their preparation by a sustainability appraisal that meets the relevant legal requirements. This should demonstrate how the plan has addressed relevant economic, social and environmental objectives (including opportunities for net gains). Significant adverse impacts on these objectives should be avoided and, wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered)."

Key local plans

3.12 Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council are currently working on a Greater Cambridge Joint Local Plan. However, until the Joint Local Plan is adopted each local authority's individual adopted Local Plans remain in place:

- Cambridge City Local Plan sets out the City's approach to planning for a compact city through focusing new development in accessible locations, reusing previously developed land and completing the delivery of planned new urban neighbourhoods, and small Green Belt releases where exceptional circumstances exist.
- South Cambridgeshire District Council's Local Plan aims to bring together the economy, social and natural environments to ensure a sustainable future for the District over the period to 2031 and beyond.

Baseline information

3.13 Baseline information provides the context for assessing the sustainability of proposals in the AAP and it provides the basis for identifying trends, predicting the likely effects of the plan and monitoring its outcomes.

3.14 Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations requires data to be gathered on biodiversity, population, human health, flora, fauna, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape. As an integrated SA and SEA is being carried out, baseline information relating to other sustainability topics has also been included, for example, information about housing, education, transport, energy, waste and economic growth. This information can be found in Appendix C.

Key sustainability issues

3.15 Identification of the key sustainability issues and consideration of how these issues might develop over time if the AAP is not prepared, help meet the requirements of Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations to provide information on:

"the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan; and any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan."

3.16 A set of key sustainability issues for the AAP area was identified during the Scoping stage of the SA and was presented in the Scoping Report prepared by Environ and the interim

SA report prepared by Ramboll. LUC's updated review of plans and programmes presented in Appendix B and of the baseline information presented in Appendix C, builds on the earlier SA work, and has identified a number of objectives and issues relevant to the AAP and the scope of the SA across the following topic areas:

- Biodiversity, Green and Blue Infrastructure.
- Population and Community.
- Health and Wellbeing.
- Transport and Accessibility.
- Land Use, Geology and Soil.
- Water.
- Air Quality.
- Climate Change.
- Material Assets.
- Cultural Heritage.
- Landscape.

3.17 These objectives and issues are summarised in Appendix C together with the key sources of relevant information and implications for the SA Framework.

3.18 Appendix C also describes the likely evolution of each key sustainability issue if the AAP were not to be adopted.

Chapter 4 – Sustainability Appraisal Findings for the Draft North East Cambridge Area Action Plan and Reasonable Alternatives

Introduction

4.1 This section describes the findings of the SA in relation to the draft policies and their reasonable alternatives considered for the Draft North East Cambridge Area Action Plan. The likely effects of the policy options are summarised below in the order they are set out in the Draft AAP. Recommendations have been identified to help minimise negative impacts of the plan and maximise positive impacts. The Councils' response to these recommendations is recorded in Appendix E.

4.2 Most reasonable alternatives relate to a particular part of the policy. In this case, it has been assumed that the rest of the policy would remain the same as the preferred policy.

4.3 It is noted that all options necessitate the relocation of the wastewater treatment works (WwTW) and the AAP has been prepared with the assumption that the WwTW will be relocated. The relocated plant would be fully operational prior to the existing plant being decommissioned and therefore there would be no discontinuity in service. The new plant would also have increased capacity to serve Cambridge and also the Waterbeach catchment. The site of relocation has not yet been determined and the likely effects of the relocation itself would be assessed through the Development Consent Order (DCO) process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).

Outline of the contents of the Area Action Plan

4.4 The AAP seeks to redevelop the area of Cambridge between the A14 to the north and west, the Cambridge to King's Lynn railway line to the east and residential areas to the south. The area currently houses Cambridge Science Park, St John's Innovation Centre, Cambridge Business Park, a gold driving range, a wastewater treatment work, industrial uses and railway sidings.

4.5 The AAP seeks to retain and intensify most of the employment land, whilst taking advantage of the anticipated relocation of the wastewater treatment works to create a new community. This includes provision for 8,150 new homes and 28,000 new jobs, as well as new physical, social and environmental infrastructure.

4.6 The vision for the AAP is to create a 'socially and economically inclusive, thriving, and low carbon place for innovative living and working; inherently walkable where everything is on your doorstep'. The AAP includes the following chapters:

1. Comprehensive Development
2. Climate Change and Sustainability
3. Land Use
4. Connectivity
5. Environment, Health and Wellbeing
6. Built Form
7. Sub-Areas
8. Implementation, Infrastructure and Monitoring

Sustainability Appraisal Findings

Vision and Objectives

Vision

No reasonable alternatives identified.

Table 4.1 Vision

SA objective	A
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	++
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	++
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++

SA objective	A
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	++
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++

4.7 The vision focuses on creating a socially and economically inclusive place, which is expected to help reduce inequalities and improve the number and range of jobs available, leading to significant positive effects for SA objectives 12 (equality), 14 (economy) and 15 (infrastructure). Significant positive effects are also expected for SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 13 (services and facilities) and 16 (sustainable travel), as the vision sets out that the AAP area should be low-carbon and walkable, including having all necessary local services and facilities on the doorstep, thereby reducing the need to travel by car.

4.8 Minor positive effects are expected with regards to SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 9 (health and wellbeing) and 11 (housing), as encouraging active travel will help to minimise emissions of air pollutants from vehicle transport, improve health of residents and workers, and a socially inclusive place is expected to provide a variety of housing, including affordable housing.

Recommendations

4.9 The vision focuses on social and economic factors, with minimising carbon as the only environmental factor mentioned. Whilst environmental enhancement, such as green and blue infrastructure, biodiversity and water quality, is mentioned in the 'how vision will be delivered' text, it is recommended this is incorporated into the vision itself.

Strategic Objectives

The Strategic Objectives are as follows:

1. NEC will deliver a low environmental impact urban district, addressing both the climate and biodiversity emergencies.
2. NEC will be placemaking led to create urban living within an innovation district.
3. NEC will help meet the strategic needs of Cambridge and the sub-region.
4. NEC will be a new healthy and safe neighbourhood.

No reasonable alternatives to the strategic objectives were identified.

Table 4.2 Strategic Objectives

SA objective	1	2	3	4
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	++	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	0	+/-	+

SA objective	1	2	3	4
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	+	0	0	++
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	++	0	0	++
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	++	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++	+	+/-	+
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	0?	0	++
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	0?	0	++
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	++	++	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+	++	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	++	+	+	+
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	++	++	+
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	+	+	+
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	+	+/-	++

1. NEC will deliver a low environmental impact urban district, addressing both the climate and biodiversity emergencies

4.10 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 13 (services and facilities) and 16 (sustainable travel), as the vision sets out that the AAP area should be low-carbon and walkable, including having all necessary local services and facilities on the doorstep, thereby reducing the need to travel by car. This is also likely to result in minor positive effects for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution). Significant positive effects are also expected for SA objective 5 (biodiversity) and minor positive effects for SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as this objective seeks to address the biodiversity emergency.

4.11 This objective promotes provision of green infrastructure, which may help to enhance townscape character and attract inward investment, resulting in minor positive effects for SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 14 (economy). This GI enhancement may include new open space and help integrate climate change resilience, both of which will benefit human health, resulting in minor positive effects for SA objectives 8 (climate change resilience), 9 (health and wellbeing) and 10 (open space). Together, these factors will help address equalities, by opening up more opportunities without having to rely on access to a car or ability to drive, and will support investment in people, places and communities, resulting in minor positive effects for SA objectives 12 (equality) and 15 (infrastructure).

2. NEC will be placemaking led to create urban living within an innovation district

4.12 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) and 6 (landscape and townscape), as this objective seeks to make best and most effective use of land and promotes placemaking and well-designed places, including buildings with their own identity.

4.13 Significant positive effects are identified with regards to SA objectives 11 (housing) and 14 (economy), as this objective states that a range of new homes will be provided, as well as a range of employment space that is adaptable to changing needs over time.

4.14 Minor positive effects are expected for SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as providing mixed use development and collaborative spaces, supported by cafes, leisure and cultural facilities, will help to reduce the need to travel by car, therefore minimising greenhouse gas emissions. Minor positive effects are also expected for SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure), as this objective is expected to lead to investment in and provision of local services and facilities, through mixed use development and integrating cultural and leisure uses with collaborative spaces. These objectives will also be supported by promoting links to educational and business uses. Encouraging links between business and education could also help to open up more opportunities to local people and address inequalities, therefore supporting SA objective 12 (equality).

4.15 Whilst effects for SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing) and 10 (open space) are expected to be negligible, there is some uncertainty, as the 'well-designed spaces' referred to could include open space and spaces for leisure and recreation. However, these SA objectives are more likely to be addressed by other Strategic Objectives of the AAP.

3. NEC will help meet the strategic needs of Cambridge and the sub-region

4.16 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 11 (housing), as this objective looks to ensure NEC helps make a significant contribution to the housing needs of Greater Cambridge area and the wider Cambridge-Milton Keynes-Oxford Growth Corridor. Significant

positive effects are also expected for SA objective 12 (equality), as it promotes social justice and equality. This will also be supported by provision of community and communications infrastructure, which provide opportunities for support and socialisation for the less mobile and those at risk of isolation, such as the elderly and stay at home parents. Supporting provision of community facilities and other infrastructure when people need it, and high quality communications infrastructure is also expected to have minor positive effects in relation to SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure).

4.17 Significant positive effects are also expected for SA objective 14 (economy), as this objective seeks to build on NEC's importance in the wider economy, whilst layering and unlocking investment in infrastructure may help ensure efficient economic growth.

4.18 Mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel). This is because the objective seeks to create a self-sustaining place, which will minimise the need to travel, e.g. to access services and supports reliable, high quality communications, which will allow more online collaboration and working from home. However, continuing to build on the strategic importance of NEC, particularly in relation to the wider Cambridge-Milton Keynes-Oxford Growth Corridor, may necessitate increased travel and vehicle movements to and from the site.

4. NEC will be a new healthy and safe neighbourhood

4.19 Promoting active travel is likely to lead to a reduction in travel by car, which will have minor positive effects on SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), and significant positive effects for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel). Significant positive effects are also expected for SA objectives 4 (protected habitats and species) and 5 (biodiversity), as this objective seeks to conserve and enhance the natural environment.

4.20 Significant positive effects are also expected for SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing) and 10 (open space), as this objective directly addresses human health and wellbeing, including provision of access to open space, sports and recreational facilities. Improved accessibility to these facilities will also have minor positive effects on SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure). Minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 14 (economy), because improved health outcomes will result in a more productive workforce, therefore supporting the local economy.

Recommendations

4.21 Whilst the objectives address many topics, they do not address water quality and quantity, therefore it is recommended this is explicitly referred to in the sub-objectives for Strategic Objective 1.

4.22 The objectives refer to minimising climate change mitigation but only touch lightly on climate change adaptation. It is recommended that the sub-objective to Strategic Objective 1 '...embed the challenge of climate change resilience' is strengthened by rewording to 'ensure the NEC is resilient to the effects of climate change'. Similarly, the importance of climate change adaptation could be recognised in other objectives, for example with regards to ensuring the economy is resilient to this and minimising the effects of climate change on people's health.

Spatial Framework

This section presents the results of the spatial framework itself, considered on its own merits. The assessment of the AAP policies follows.

Options

- A. Preferred Option – Draft Spatial Framework
- B. Alternative option – 6.8ha additional green space provision within NEC (therefore excluding Chesterton Fen)
- C. Alternative option – Industrial areas and relocated aggregates railhead adjacent to the A14
- D. Alternative option – Densification of industrial uses in current locations (Cowley and Nuffield road)
- E. Alternative option – Residential development (c. 1000 units) within Cambridge Science Park clustered around the proposed Local Centre
- F. Alternative option - Concept plan from 2019 Issues and Options document

The Councils have confirmed that options B to E take the Draft Spatial Framework as the starting point and are variations on that.

Table 4.3 Spatial Framework

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F ⁶
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	++	++	++	++	++	++
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	--/+	--/+	++/--	++/--	--/+	--/+
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	+	+	+	+	+	+
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	-?	-?	--?	-?	-?	-?
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+/-?	++/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	++	++	++	++	++	++
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+	+	+	+	+	+
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	++	++	++	++	++	++
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	++	++	++	++	++	+
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	+++?	++	++	++	++
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+	+	+	+	+

⁶ Note that some of these assessment results have changed since the Interim SA Report (February 2019), in order to ensure that all options are assessed on a consistent basis

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F ⁶
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	++	++	++	++	++	+
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++?	++/-?	++?	++?	++?	++?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	++	++	++	++	++	+
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++/-	++/-	++/-	++/-	++/-	++/-

A. Draft Spatial Framework

4.23 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as the Draft Spatial Framework aims to redevelop NEC to create a new community on largely previously developed land.

4.24 Mixed minor positive and significant negative effects are identified for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), as the Draft Spatial Framework encourages sustainable modes of travel, but also has potential to generate substantial amounts of traffic, including through the AQMA on the A14 Corridor. Mixed minor positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) to reflect the likely traffic to be generated but the emphasis on sustainable modes. A mixed significant positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel).

4.25 Significant positive effects are identified against SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as the Draft Spatial Framework seeks to regenerate and improve this gateway to Cambridge and proposes to deliver a mix of uses where people working in the area have more opportunities to live nearby, and those living and working in the area have access to the right mix of services and facilities. The Framework also includes green infrastructure routes within the site and links to the wider countryside, as well as provision of new public green space, off-site at Chesterton Fen. Provision of new employment opportunities should help to address some issues related to deprivation in the area. With regards to the historic environment (relevant to SA objective 6), there are no designated heritage assets within NEC. The Riverside and Stourbridge Common Conservation Area and the Fen Ditton Conservation Area, and associated historic assets, are located to the southeast and east of the site. Given that the site is previously developed and already set in a relatively urban context, development is anticipated to have a limited effect on these assets. Development of the eastern part of NEC could result in a more urbanised appearance of the site, due to the increased height and density of development, compared to the existing wastewater treatment works and disused land at Chesterton sidings. However, the presence of the railway line, industrial uses to the west and caravan park to the east mean that this effect will be limited, and therefore negligible effects are expected on the historic environment.

4.26 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 10 (open space), as the Draft Spatial Framework includes provision of a substantial area of new public green space at Chesterton Fen, retains and enhances the GI network within the site and includes a new link across the A14 to Milton Country Park.

4.27 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 11 (housing) and 14 (economy), as the Draft Spatial Framework identifies a large area of land for housing development, which is expected to include affordable housing, and a substantial amount of employment development, which is expected to provide for a range of jobs. The effects for SA objective 14 are uncertain, as it is unclear whether there will be a net loss of industrial floorspace.

4.28 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure), as the Draft Spatial Framework includes provision for a new district centre and two new local centres, as well as two new schools and a 'civic hub / key social infrastructure cluster'.

4.29 A minor negative effect with uncertainty is recorded against SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as it is not clear whether the Milton Road Hedgerows City Wildlife Site will be conserved. In addition, the Bramblefields Local Nature Reserve is adjacent to the AAP area and could be affected by change of use in the surrounding area, although this is uncertain until more detailed proposals are put forward.

4.30 With regards to SA objective 5 (biodiversity), mixed minor positive and minor negative effects with uncertainty are expected. The positive effects are likely to arise as the Draft Spatial Framework looks to retain most existing biodiversity assets, including priority habitats, such as woodland, particularly to the north of the existing WwTW, and includes new green infrastructure. However, negative effects may arise as a result of development of Chesterton Sidings and the surrounding area. This area currently consists of young trees and open mosaic habitats on previously developed land, a priority habitat, which would largely be lost to development. In addition, there is uncertainty as to how improving access to Chesterton Fen could affect the priority habitats at this site (primarily coastal and floodplain grazing marsh).

4.31 Minor positive effects are expected against the majority of remaining SA objectives, as the Draft Spatial Framework encourages sustainable modes of travel and improved biodiversity links through an enhanced green infrastructure network, and includes enhancements to the First Drain. The Concept Plan also provides for a mix of development, including new housing development, a new mixed use District centre and two mixed use local centres providing employment opportunities, which will help to provide opportunities for local people and support the local economy.

B. 6.8ha additional green space provision within NEC

4.32 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as this option aims to redevelop NEC to create a new community on largely previously developed land.

4.33 Mixed minor positive and significant negative effects are identified for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), as this option encourages sustainable modes of travel, but also has potential to generate substantial amounts of traffic, including through the AQMA on the A14 Corridor. Mixed minor positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) to reflect the likely traffic to be generated but the emphasis on sustainable modes. A mixed significant positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel).

4.34 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 5 (biodiversity), as provision of green space within the AAP area itself will provide greater opportunity for habitat creation and for people to access nature and greenspace. This option provides more scope to enhance the Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) identified within the AAP area, although locating this greenspace at Chesterton Fen could also contribute towards the BOAs in that area. However, in being more within the urban area, these habitats may be subject to more physical, light and noise disturbance than if the green space was located at Chesterton Fen. More people are likely to benefit from this green space as it will be on the doorstep of their home or workplace and they are more likely to travel through it on a daily basis.

4.35 All options are expected to have significant positive effects on SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as the Draft Spatial Framework seeks to regenerate and improve this gateway to Cambridge and proposes to deliver a mix of uses where people working in the area have more opportunities to live nearby, and those living and working in the area have access to the right mix of services and facilities. The Framework also includes green infrastructure routes within the site and links to the wider countryside, as well as provision of new public green space, off-site at Chesterton Fen. Provision of new employment opportunities should help to address some issues related to deprivation in the area. This option has potential to provide further benefits for these objectives as provision of green space within the AAP area itself may provide a more attractive townscape and will provide greater opportunity for people to access nature and greenspace.

4.36 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 10 (open space), as the Draft Spatial Framework includes provision of a substantial area of new public green space at Chesterton Fen, retains and enhances the GI network within the site and includes a new link across the A14 to Milton Country Park.

4.37 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 11 (housing), as this option identifies a large area of land for housing development, which is expected to include affordable housing. However, in providing a greater level of greenspace within the AAP area it is possible that this option will lead to a lesser amount of housing provision, therefore the effect is uncertain.

4.38 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure), as the Draft Spatial Framework includes provision for a new district centre and two new local centres, as well as two new schools and a 'civic hub / key social infrastructure cluster'.

4.39 Whilst all options but Option F are expected to have significant positive effects on SA objectives 10 (open space) and 13 (services and facilities), this option may bring further benefits, for these objectives as provision of green space within the AAP area itself will provide greater opportunity for people to access nature and greenspace.

4.40 Mixed significant positive and minor uncertain effects are identified for SA objective 14 (economy), as this option provides for a substantial amount of employment development, which is expected to provide for a range of jobs, but provision of more greenspace onsite may lead to a loss in existing employment floorspace. The effects for SA objective 14 are uncertain, as it is unclear whether there will be a net loss of employment floorspace.

4.41 A minor negative effect with uncertainty is recorded against SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as it is not clear whether the Milton Road Hedgerows City Wildlife Site will be conserved. In addition, the Bramblefields Local Nature Reserve is adjacent to the AAP area and could be affected by change of use in the surrounding area, although this is uncertain until more detailed proposals are put forward.

4.42 Minor positive effects are expected against the majority of remaining SA objectives, as the Draft Spatial Framework encourages sustainable modes of travel and improved biodiversity links through an enhanced green infrastructure network, and includes enhancements to the First Drain. The Concept Plan also provides for a mix of development, including new housing development, a new mixed-use District centre and two mixed use local centres providing employment opportunities, which will help to provide opportunities for local people and support the local economy.

C. Industrial areas and relocated aggregates railhead adjacent to the A14

4.43 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as this option aims to redevelop NEC to create a new community on largely previously developed land.

4.44 Mixed significant positive and significant negative effects are identified for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), as this option encourages sustainable modes of travel, but also has potential to generate substantial amounts of traffic, including through the AQMA on the A14 Corridor. This option may bring further benefits for SA objective 2 compared to other options, as locating industrial uses and the aggregates railhead adjacent to the A14 may help to concentrate noisy uses in one part of the site, and the effects of this noise may be lessened by the fact the A14 is already a source of noise. A mixed minor positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) to reflect the likely traffic to be generated but the emphasis on sustainable modes. A mixed significant positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel).

4.45 Significant positive effects are identified against SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as this option seeks to regenerate and improve this gateway to Cambridge and proposes to deliver a mix of uses where people working in the area have more opportunities to live nearby, and those living and working in the area have access to the right mix of services and facilities. The Framework also includes green infrastructure routes within the site and links to the wider countryside, as well as provision of new public green space, off-site at Chesterton Fen. Provision of new employment opportunities should help to address some issues related to deprivation in the area.

4.46 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 10 (open space), as the Draft Spatial Framework includes provision of a substantial area of new public green space at Chesterton Fen, retains and enhances the GI network within the site and includes a new link across the A14 to Milton Country Park.

4.47 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 11 (housing) and 14 (economy), as this option identifies a large area of land for housing development, which is expected to include affordable housing and a substantial amount of employment development, which is expected to provide for a range of jobs. The effects for SA objective 14 are uncertain, as it is unclear whether there will be a net loss of industrial floorspace.

4.48 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure), as the Draft Spatial Framework includes provision for a new district centre and two new local centres, as well as two new schools and a 'civic hub / key social infrastructure cluster'.

4.49 A significant negative effect with uncertainty is recorded against SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as this option is expected to involve relocating industrial land uses and the aggregates railhead either adjacent to the Milton Road Hedgerows City Wildlife Site, therefore increasing disturbance at this site, or it could lead to loss of this feature. In

addition, the Bramblefields Local Nature Reserve is adjacent to the AAP area and could be affected by change of use in the surrounding area, although this is uncertain until more detailed proposals are put forward.

4.50 Minor positive effects are expected against the majority of remaining SA objectives, as the Draft Spatial Framework encourages sustainable modes of travel and improved biodiversity links through an enhanced green infrastructure network, and includes enhancements to the First Drain. The Concept Plan also provides for a mix of development, including new housing development, a new mixed use District centre and two mixed use local centres providing employment opportunities, which will help to provide opportunities for local people and support the local economy.

D. Densification of industrial uses in current locations

4.51 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as this option aims to redevelop NEC to create a new community on largely previously developed land.

4.52 Mixed significant positive and significant negative effects are identified for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), as this option encourages sustainable modes of travel, but also has potential to generate substantial amounts of traffic, including through the AQMA on the A14 Corridor. This option may bring further benefits for SA objective 2 compared to other options, it will concentrate industrial uses, which are more likely to be noisy, in one part of the site. A mixed minor positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) to reflect the likely traffic to be generated but the emphasis on sustainable modes. A mixed significant positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel).

4.53 Significant positive effects are identified against SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as this option seeks to regenerate and improve this gateway to Cambridge and proposes to deliver a mix of uses where people working in the area have more opportunities to live nearby, and those living and working in the area have access to the right mix of services and facilities. The Framework also includes green infrastructure routes within the site and links to the wider countryside, as well as provision of new public green space, off-site at Chesterton Fen. Provision of new employment opportunities should help to address some issues related to deprivation in the area.

4.54 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 10 (open space), as the Draft Spatial Framework includes provision of a substantial area of new public green space at Chesterton Fen, retains and enhances the GI network within the site and includes a new link across the A14 to Milton Country Park.

4.55 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 11 (housing) and 14 (economy), as this option identifies a large area of land for housing development, which is expected to include affordable housing and a substantial amount of employment development, which is expected to provide for a range of jobs. The effects for SA objective 14 are uncertain, as it is unclear whether there will be a net loss of industrial floorspace.

4.56 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure), as the Draft Spatial Framework includes provision for a new district centre and two new local centres, as well as two new schools and a 'civic hub / key social infrastructure cluster'.

4.57 A minor negative effect with uncertainty is recorded against SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as it is not clear whether the Milton Road Hedgerows City Wildlife Site will be conserved. In addition, the Bramblefields Local Nature Reserve is adjacent to the AAP area and could be affected by change of use in the surrounding area, although this is uncertain until more detailed proposals are put forward.

4.58 Minor positive effects are expected against the majority of remaining SA objectives, as the Draft Spatial Framework encourages sustainable modes of travel and improved biodiversity links through an enhanced green infrastructure network, and includes enhancements to the First Drain. The Concept Plan also provides for a mix of development, including new housing development, a new mixed use District centre and two mixed use local centres providing employment opportunities, which will help to provide opportunities for local people and support the local economy.

E. Residential development within Cambridge Science Park clustered around the proposed Local Centre

4.59 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as this option aims to redevelop NEC to create a new community on largely previously developed land.

4.60 Mixed minor positive and significant negative effects are identified for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), as this option encourages sustainable modes of travel, but also has potential to generate substantial amounts of traffic, including through the AQMA on the A14 Corridor. A mixed minor positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) to reflect the likely traffic to be generated but the emphasis on sustainable modes. A mixed significant positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel).

4.61 Significant positive effects are identified against SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as the Draft Spatial Framework seeks to regenerate and improve this gateway to Cambridge and proposes to deliver a mix of uses where people working in the area have more opportunities to live nearby, and those living and working in the area have access to the right mix of services and facilities. The Framework also includes green infrastructure routes within the site and links to the wider countryside, as well as provision of new public green space, off-site at Chesterton Fen. Provision of new employment opportunities should help to address some issues related to deprivation in the area.

4.62 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 10 (open space), as the Draft Spatial Framework includes provision of a substantial area of new public green space at Chesterton Fen, retains and enhances the GI network within the site and includes a new link across the A14 to Milton Country Park.

4.63 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 11 (housing) and 14 (economy), as this option identifies a large area of land for housing development, which is expected to include affordable housing and a substantial amount of employment development, which is expected to provide for a range of jobs. The effects for SA objective 14 are uncertain, as it is unclear whether there will be a net loss of industrial floorspace.

4.64 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure), as the Draft Spatial Framework includes provision for a new district centre and two new local centres, as well as two new schools and a 'civic hub / key social infrastructure cluster'. Whilst all options are expected to have significant positive effects on SA objective 13 (services and facilities), this option may bring further benefits as it provides the

opportunity for people to live closer to where they work, whilst still having access to local facilities.

4.65 A minor negative effect with uncertainty is recorded against SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as it is not clear whether the Milton Road Hedgerows City Wildlife Site will be conserved. In addition, the Bramblefields Local Nature Reserve is adjacent to the AAP area and could be affected by change of use in the surrounding area, although this is uncertain until more detailed proposals are put forward.

4.66 Minor positive effects are expected against the majority of remaining SA objectives, as the Draft Spatial Framework encourages sustainable modes of travel and improved biodiversity links through an enhanced green infrastructure network, and includes enhancements to the First Drain. The Concept Plan also provides for a mix of development, including new housing development, a new mixed use District centre and two mixed use local centres providing employment opportunities, which will help to provide opportunities for local people and support the local economy.

4.67 Whilst all options are expected to have minor positive effects on SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), this option may bring further benefits as it provides the opportunity for people to live closer to where they work, whilst still having access to local facilities.

F. Concept plan from 2019 Issues and Options document

4.68 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as the concept plan aims to redevelop NEC to create a new community on largely previously developed land.

4.69 Mixed minor positive and significant negative effects are identified for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), as the concept plan encourages sustainable modes of travel, but also has potential to generate substantial amounts of traffic, including through the AQMA on the A14 Corridor. A mixed minor positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) to reflect the likely traffic to be generated but the emphasis on sustainable modes. A mixed significant positive and minor negative effects have been identified for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel).

4.70 Significant positive effects are identified against SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as the indicative concept plan seeks to improve this gateway to Cambridge and proposes to deliver a mix of uses where people working in the area have more opportunities to live nearby, and those living and working in the area have access to the right mix of services and facilities. The Plan also proposes green infrastructure routes within the site and to the wider countryside, and proposes to improve the First Public drain contributing to improved townscape character for future users of the site. Provision of new employment opportunities should help to address some issues related to deprivation in the area.

4.71 A minor negative effect with uncertainty is recorded against SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as it is not clear whether the Milton Road Hedgerows City Wildlife Site will be conserved. In addition, the Bramblefields Local Nature Reserve is adjacent to the AAP area and could be affected by change of use in the surrounding area, although this is uncertain until more detailed proposals are put forward.

4.72 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 11 (housing) and 14 (economy), as the concept plan identifies a large area of land for housing development, which is expected to include affordable housing and a substantial amount of employment development, which is

expected to provide for a range of jobs. The effects for SA objective 14 are uncertain, as it is unclear whether there will be a net loss of industrial floorspace.

4.73 Minor positive effects are expected against the majority of remaining SA objectives, as it encourages sustainable modes of travel and improved biodiversity links through the green infrastructure network, and proposes a sustainable water management network. The Concept Plan also provides for a mix of development, including new housing development, a new mixed use District centre and two mixed use local centres providing employment opportunities, which will help to provide opportunities for local people, provide access to a range of services and support the local economy. With regards to SA objectives 5 (biodiversity), 9 (health and wellbeing) and it is noted that the Indicative Concept Plan does not include a new link across the A14 to Milton Country Park, whereas the Draft Spatial Framework does.

Recommendations

4.75 Many effects will depend on the exact design of development, which will be in accordance with other AAP policies. Design-based recommendations are therefore included for the relevant policies and are not repeated here.

Archaeological surveys should also be carried out prior to redevelopment of any part of the site.

4.76 It is recommended that the effects of proposed development on the AQMA along the A14 Corridor should be subject to assessment, including through traffic and air quality modelling, and mitigated as appropriate. In addition, it is recommended soft landscaping is used along the A14 and alongside the railway (and any other significant sources of noise) to buffer the site from noise and air pollution. A construction environmental management plan should also be produced to avoid, minimise and mitigate environmental pollution in the construction phase. Furthermore, developers should be encouraged to register with The Considerate Constructors Scheme which includes guidelines for considering the impact on neighbours, and for protecting and enhancing the environment.

4.77 Opportunities to improve habitat corridors through BOAs should also be realised as far as possible. Furthermore the recommendations set out in the Biodiversity Assessment⁷ should be included in the AAP.

4.78 New and enhanced active travel routes (walking and cycling) should be fully segregated from each other and vehicular traffic to ensure a safe environment for all. Ideally, active travel links should be prioritised over roads and should be suitable for all users, including wheelchair users. Proposed interventions set out in the Transport Study⁸ should also be included.

4.79 In terms of equalities, affordable housing provision should include a mix of type and tenure to meet local demand. Furthermore, a large proportion of employment opportunities should be available for local people.

Chapter 1 – Comprehensive Development

Policy 1: Overarching Principles

A. Preferred Policy – Overarching Principles

⁷ MKA Ecology Ltd (2019) North East Cambridge Area Action Plan Biodiversity Assessment

⁸ Mott MacDonald (2019) North East Cambridge Area Action Plan Transport Evidence Base

- B. Alternative option – Retain the existing Local Plan policies for allocated sites within North East Cambridge
- C. Alternative option – Enable sites to come forward for development contrary to the spatial framework for North East Cambridge
- D. Alternative option – Enable piecemeal and uncoordinated development of sites within North East Cambridge

Table 4.4 Policy 1: Overarching principles

SA objective	A	B	C	D
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+	?	?	?
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	++/-?	0?	++/-?	++/-?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	+	+	+	+
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	++	+	++	++
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+?	0?	+?	+?
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++	+/-?	++/-?	++/-?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+?	0	+?	+?
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	++	0	++?	++?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	+?	++?	++?
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	0	+	+
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport,	+	+/-?	+?	+?

SA objective	A	B	C	D
education, training, leisure opportunities)				
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	+?	++?	++?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	++	+/-?	++/-?	++/-?
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	+/-?	++/-?	++/-?

A. Preferred policy

4.80 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 5 (biodiversity) and minor positive effects for SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as the policy states that the NEC must enhance biodiversity in the area.

4.81 Significant positive effects are expected with regards to SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as the overarching principles include a modal shift in transport and the requirement for NEC to make a significant positive contribution to support the transition to a zero-carbon society. Significant positive effects are also expected for SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), as the policy requires interventions to deliver community health and wellbeing standards set out in the vision and ambition for the area, as well as encouraging community spirit and involvement in decision-making. Health benefits will also arise from promoting active travel, lower levels of car use and biodiversity enhancements.

4.82 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 11 (housing), 14 (economy) and 15 (infrastructure) as the policy makes provision for 8,150 new homes and 28,000 new jobs in the NEC, along with new physical, social and environmental infrastructure to meet the needs of NEC and the surrounding communities.

4.83 Minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as redevelopment of NEC is likely to help make best use of the land, most of which is previously developed. Mixed significant positive and minor negative uncertain effects are also expected for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), as a modal shift in transport is likely to minimise emissions of air pollutants, but parts of the site are likely to be contaminated and will need to be investigated and likely remediated prior to redevelopment.

4.84 Minor positive effects are identified for SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 8 (climate change resilience), as the creation of a distinct, well-designed city district could help to define and enhance the local townscape within NEC and provide some resilience to climate change, through environmental enhancements, such as green infrastructure. Minor positive effects are also identified for SA objectives 12 (equality) and 13 (services and facilities) as the policy requires local residents, community groups and organisation to be involved in shaping NEC and states that new social infrastructure will be provided to support NEC.

B. Alternative option – Retain the existing Local Plan policies for allocated sites within North East Cambridge

4.85 This option would rely on Policy 15 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan, which allocate the AAP area for mixed-use development.

4.86 Minor positive uncertain effects are expected for SA objectives 11 (housing) and 14 (economy), as the site would still be allocated for housing and employment but the quanta of development to come forward would not be specified. In addition, existing policy does not assume the WwTW will be relocated, therefore the quanta of development able to be accommodated would be much lower without this. Minor positive effects are also recorded for SA objectives 4 (protected habitats and species) and 5 (biodiversity), as the existing policy requires ecological mitigation, compensation and enhancement.

4.87 Mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 13 (services and facilities) and 16 (sustainable travel), as this option would include a new transport interchange as the site, along with pedestrian and cycling links. However, as there would be more uncertainty regarding the location of development within NEC, it would be difficult to plan for provision of local services, facilities and infrastructure in the right places, which could result in people travelling by car to access these.

C. Alternative option – Enable sites to come forward for development contrary to the spatial framework for North East Cambridge

4.88 This option performs similarly to the preferred policy, with the following exceptions.

Significant effects are still expected for SA objectives 11 (housing) and 14 (economy), but there is some uncertainty associated with these, as this option may result in development coming forward in sub-optimal locations. The significant positive effects identified for SA objective 15 (infrastructure) are mixed with minor negative effects, as this option may hinder creation of a cohesive community.

4.89 Uncertain effects are recorded for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as effects depends on where development comes forward under this option.

4.90 Mixed significant positive and minor negative uncertain effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel). This is because, whilst the policy would still require development to make a significant positive contribution to support the transition to a zero-carbon society, allowing sites to come forwards outside of the spatial framework would make it difficult to plan for provision of local services, facilities and infrastructure in the right places, which could result in people travelling by car to access these. The positive effects on SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing) and 13 (services and facilities) now have associated uncertainty for the same reason, i.e. they may not be easily accessible to residents and workers in NEC.

D. Alternative option – Enable piecemeal and uncoordinated development of sites within North East Cambridge

4.91 This option is expected to have the same effects as alternative option C, as it will also result in development coming forward in locations that are currently unknown, outside of the spatial framework.

Recommendations

4.92 This policy reiterates the vision and much of what is set out in the Strategic Objectives but could be enhanced by specifically referring to the Strategic Objectives and requiring the measures set out in the objectives and sub-objectives to be brought forward.

Policy 2: Comprehensive and Coordinated Development

A. Preferred policy – Comprehensive and Coordinated Development

No reasonable alternatives identified.

Table 4.5 Policy 2: Comprehensive and Coordinated Development

SA objective	A
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0?
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0?
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	++
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	++
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0

SA objective	A
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++

A. Preferred policy

4.93 Significant positive effects are expected with regards to SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), 10 (open space) and 16 (sustainable travel), as the policy requires development to secure a modal shift to more sustainable modes of transport, including walking and cycling, and also requires provision of connected open space and green links, which will provide new recreational resources.

4.94 Minor positive effects are recorded for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 5 (biodiversity) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), as provision of walking and cycling routes may encourage active transport, leading to a reduction in car use and associated emissions and the policy requires biodiversity net gain. Minor positive effects are also expected for SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape), as the policy requires proposals to be landscape- and design-led, and to contribute to creation of place and to integrate with the character of the surrounding area. Minor positive effects are identified for SA objective 8 (climate change resilience) as the policy requires masterplans to 'respond to the impacts of climate change' but doesn't detail what this should include. Minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 15 (infrastructure), as the policy requires masterplans to set aside land for infrastructure provision and connect and contribute to communications grids.

4.95 Negligible uncertain effects are recorded for SA objectives 3 (water) and 4 (protected habitats and species), as the policy refers to successfully mitigating 'environmental constraints' but does not set out what these are or what mitigation would be considered appropriate.

Recommendations

4.96 The policy could be strengthened to address the uncertainties highlighted in the assessment above. For example, with regards to responding to the impacts of climate change, the policy could specify the need to include SuDS, green infrastructure and consider layouts that allow for temperature regulation. With regards to mitigating environmental constraints, the policy should refer to the mitigation hierarchy and be more specific about whether this relates to air, water, biodiversity, noise or landscape issues etc.

4.97 The policy refers to biodiversity net gain but could be strengthened by specifying how this should be measured, e.g. through the DEFRA metric.

Chapter 2 – Climate change and sustainability

Policy 3: Designing for the climate emergency

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Designing for the climate emergency
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.6 Policy 3: Designing for the climate emergency

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	++	+
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	+	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++	+
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	++	+
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability	+	0

SA objective	A	B
of the local economy		
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+	0

A. Designing for the climate emergency

4.98 Significant positive effects are expected in relation to SA objective 3 (water) as the policy sets out that the principles of sustainable design and construction must be clearly integrated into the design of NEC. All development proposals shall be accompanied by a Sustainability Statement which will outline water management and adaptation to climate change. Furthermore, development must be designed to maximise resource efficiency and identify, source and use environmentally and socially responsible materials, the development must include high levels of water efficiency to reduce water stress.

4.99 Significant positive effects are also expected against SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 8 (climate change resilience) as this policy outlines how development in NEC will need to support the transition to a net zero carbon society. Consideration must be given to carbon emissions associated with operational energy and construction, including materials and wider emissions such as those associated with transport. Development must also be supported by decentralised renewable and low carbon energy combined with smart approaches to energy infrastructure including energy storage. The policy also outlines that the district must ensure it builds resilience to climate change through green infrastructure and considering the wide range of climate risks. Therefore, building resilience to and reducing the area's vulnerability to climate change is addressed through this policy.

4.100 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 4 (protected habitats and species), 5 (biodiversity), 6 (landscape and townscape), 9 (health and wellbeing), 10 (open space), 12 (equality), 14 (economy) and 16 (sustainable travel) as this policy aims to reduce carbon emissions, which will likely have a positive effect on air pollution due to disincentivising use of private vehicles, incorporate green infrastructure, which could include green spaces around the development which increases health and wellbeing, access to green space and wildlife habitats, and consider transport, mobility and access. In addition, the incorporation of green infrastructure could improve the public realm thereby enhancing the townscape of the area. All of which will improve the adaptability of the local economy to a net zero carbon society.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.101 This option would rely on Policy 28: Carbon reduction, community energy networks, sustainable design and construction and water use of the Cambridge Local Plan and policies CC/1, CC/3, CC/4 and CC/6 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan, which relate to mitigation and adaptation to climate change; renewable and low carbon energy; water efficiency and construction methods, respectively.

4.102 Minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 3, as both the existing Cambridge Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan promote efficient use of water resources.

Minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 7, as these policies seek to reduce greenhouse gas emissions compared to a business as usual approach, but do not reflect the strong drive of the preferred policy towards zero carbon.

Recommendations

No recommendations.

Policy 4: Energy and associated infrastructure

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Energy and associated infrastructure
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.7 Policy 4: Energy and associated infrastructure

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++?	++
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0

SA objective	A	B
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Energy and associated infrastructure

4.103 Significant positive effects are expected against SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) as this policy outlines how development will be delivered in line with the Site Wide Energy and Infrastructure Study and Energy Masterplan, which is currently being developed. The aim of the study and masterplan is to support the energy demands of the development and the transition to net zero carbon, considering energy use in buildings and transportation thereby reducing the development's contribution to climate change. Development of the energy masterplan will help to identify opportunities for decentralised energy including district energy systems.

4.104 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution) as the promotion of innovative smart energy that reduces carbon emissions will also help to reduce air pollution resulting from burning of fossil fuels.

4.105 Uncertainty is attached to each positive effect as it is not clear what the outcomes of the Site Wide Energy and Infrastructure Study and Energy Masterplan will require.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.106 This option would rely primarily on policies 28, 29 and 85 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policies CC/1, CC/2, CC/3 and TI/8 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. These policies promote renewable and low carbon energy generation, as well as carbon reduction, therefore having similar effect on SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) as the preferred option.

Recommendations

4.107 It is recommended that additional text is added to promote local energy communities and local collaboration to encourage community ownership of any decentralised energy network opportunities that may arise from the Energy Masterplan. This will add significant positive effects for the longevity and vitality of the local economy and reduce inequalities.

4.108 It is also recommended that the policy clearly states the key outcomes required as a result of implementing the energy masterplan, in terms of achieving net zero carbon emissions and energy efficiency.

Policy 5: Water Efficiency

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Water Efficiency
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.8 Policy 5: Water Efficiency

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	++	++?
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+	+
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0

SA objective	A	B
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Water Efficiency

4.109 Significant positive effects are also expected against SA objective 3 (water) as this policy states that all new residential development must achieve, as a minimum, water efficiency equivalent to 110 litres/person/day. Also, proposals for non-residential development must achieve 5 BREEAM credits for water use. Consideration should also be given to community scale approaches to water, taking an integrated approach to water management.

4.110 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objective 8 (climate change resilience) as improving water efficiency will help adapt to lower water availability, which is likely to occur as a result of climate change.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.111 This option would rely on Policy 28: Carbon reduction, community energy networks, sustainable design and construction and water use of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policy CC/4: Water efficiency of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. These policies also require water use to be limited to 110 litres/person/per day and between 2 and full BREEAM credits for water use for non-residential development. As such, similar effects are expected to the preferred policy, but the effect for SA objective 3 (water) is uncertain, as there would be different requirements with regards to non-residential water use across the site.

Recommendations

No recommendations.

Chapter 3 – Land Use

Policy 6: Business

Policy options

- G. Preferred policy – Policy 6: Business
- H. Alternative option – Only locate additional B1 floorspace within the existing employment sites (Cambridge Science Park, St Johns Innovation Park, Cambridge Business Park).
- I. Alternative option – New B1 floorspace to be solely focused on science and technology premises.
- J. Alternative option – No provision to SME/start-up/incubation units within NEC.
- K. Alternative option – Prescribing upper net additional floorspace figures for B1a, B1b and B1c separately rather than combined.
- L. Alternative option – The loss of B1 floorspace from Cowley Road and Nuffield Road Industrial Estates
- M. Alternative option – No net additional B1 floorspace within NEC.

Table 4.9 Policy 6: Business

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	++	++	++	++	++	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	-?	-?	-?	-?	-?	-?	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+	+	+	+	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+	+	+	+	+/-	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	++?	++	++	++	++	++
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+	++?	++?	+	+	+
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	++	++	+++?	+++?	++	+++/-	++

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	++	++	++?	++	++/-	+
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	++	++	++	++	++	++

A. Policy 6: Business

4.112 The preferred policy is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy) because it proposes the development of up to 252,000m² new employment floorspace, in addition to intensifying existing employment floorspace on site. This will improve access to training for all and support the provision of skilled employees to the economy. A significant positive effect is also expected against SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) because the intensification of existing employment floorspace makes efficient use of land.

4.113 A significant positive effect is also expected against SA objective 16 (sustainable travel) because the preferred policy states that development proposals will need to demonstrate how they will support the use of sustainable modes of travel, in addition to a reduction in private car use. The preferred policy also references the AAP vision, which is to create a mixed-use city district where employees have good accessibility on foot and cycle to local services and facilities. Furthermore, the location of residential and employment development in close proximity is expected to reduce the need to travel. For these reasons, a minor positive effects is expected for SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions).

4.114 A significant positive effect is also expected against SA objective 11 (housing) because the preferred policy makes provision for residential development, particularly at the Nuffield Road Industrial Estate where only residential development is proposed.

4.115 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), 12 (equality) and 15 (infrastructure) because the creation of employment opportunities will have a positive effect on people's wellbeing and help reduce inequality. The creation of a mix of employment opportunities will address different people's employment needs at the same time as ensuring equal access for all. The effect against SA objective 15 (infrastructure) is recorded as uncertain because the actual effect will depend on the training opportunities available as a result of development.

4.116 A minor positive effect is expected against SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape) because development proposals must demonstrate how they will support a quality public realm and physical environment. A minor positive effect is also expected against SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) because the promotion of sustainable modes of transport will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, minimising impacts on climate change.

4.117 A mixed minor positive and minor negative effect is identified against SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution) because although the use of sustainable modes of travel are encouraged, certain B1 uses may be more polluting than others (e.g. industrial processes) and some land may be contaminated from its previous use, particularly at the Anglian Water site. Minor negative uncertain effects are expected for SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as

the Anglian water site is adjacent to the Milton Road Hedgerows City Wildlife Site, which could be damaged, disturbed or lost to redevelopment of the area.

B. Only locate additional B1 floorspace within the existing employment sites (Cambridge Science Park, St Johns Innovation Park, Cambridge Business Park).

4.118 This alternative option is expected to have the same effects as the preferred policy, with the exception of SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) and 11 (housing). A minor positive effect is expected against SA objective 11 (housing) because this alternative option seeks to locate additional B1 floorspace at the Cambridge Business Park, where new homes are expected as part of development. The effect is recorded as uncertain because it is unknown whether the increase in B1 floorspace will result in there being less space for residential development. The significant positive effect expected against SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) is not uncertain like the preferred policy because it doesn't include the Anglian Water site.

C. New B1 floorspace to be solely focuses on science and technology premises.

4.119 Alternative option C is expected to have the same effects as the preferred policy, with the exception of SA objectives 12 (equality) and 13 (services and facilities). Uncertainty is added to the minor positive and significant positive effects expected against SA objectives 12 (equality) and 13 (services and facilities), respectively, because focusing on science and technology premises means that there may not be as large a range of employment and training opportunities available.

4.120 It is noted that this alternative option would reduce the amount of pollution generated because industrial floorspace would be replaced by science and technology floorspace. However, the effect remains the same because although sustainable modes of travel are encouraged, the amount of development proposed could result in an overall increase in people travelling to the site via private car.

D. No provision to SME/start-up/incubation units within NEC.

4.121 Alternative option D is expected to have the same effects as the preferred policy, with the exception of SA objectives 12 (equality), 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy). Uncertainty is added to the positive effects expected against SA objectives 12 (equality), 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy) because discouraging the development of SMEs/start-up/incubation units means that there may not be as large a range of employment and training opportunities available to all. Indeed, SME/start-up/incubation units play an important role in Cambridge's position as one of the UK's most competitive cities.

4.122 A mixed minor positive and minor negative effect is expected against SA objective 12 (equality) because SMEs/start-up/incubation units will not be supported in NEC.

E. Prescribing upper net additional floorspace figures for B1a, B1b and B1c separately rather than combined.

4.123 Alternative option E is expected to have the same effects as the preferred policy.

F. The loss of B1 floorspace from Cowley Road and Nuffield Road Industrial Estates.

4.124 Alternative option F is expected to have a significant positive effect against SA objective 11 (housing) because it makes provision for residential development, particularly at the Nuffield Road Industrial Estate where only residential development is proposed. It is not clear from this

option but the loss of B1 floorspace at Nuffield Road Industrial Estate could create more space for housing. A significant positive effect is also expected against SA objective 16 (sustainable travel) because the preferred policy states that development proposals will need to demonstrate how they will support the use of sustainable modes of travel, in addition to a reduction in private car use.

4.125 Mixed significant positive and minor negative effects are expected against SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy) because although the policy will provide large-scale employment development, the loss of B1 floorspace at Cowley Road and Nuffield Road Industrial Estates will have an adverse effect on availability of employment space.

4.126 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 12 (equality) and 15 (infrastructure) because despite the loss of B1 floorspace, there will still be a large amount of employment floorspace available, and a range of employment opportunities.

4.127 A mixed minor positive and minor negative effect is expected against SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing) because although employment opportunities will still be available to a large number of people, the loss of B1 floorspace could result in a loss of certain types of employment, with adverse effects on people's health and wellbeing who may be made redundant or have less job security/opportunity.

G. No net additional B1 floorspace within NEC.

4.128 This alternative option is expected to have the same effects as the preferred policy, with the exception of SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), 4 (protected habitats and species), 6 (landscape and townscape) and 14 (economy). Negligible effects are expected against SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), 4 (protected habitats and species) and 6 (landscape and townscape), and minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 14 (economy), because this option proposes no net additional B1 floorspace within NEC.

Recommendations

4.129 It is recommended that the policy cross-refers to the requirement of Policy 25b (Environmental Protection) to prevent risks to adverse effects on health as a result of land contamination.

Policy 7: Industry

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 7: Industry
- B. Alternative option – Increase overall industrial floorspace by intensifying current industrial sites – Nuffield Road and Cowley Road.
- C. Alternative option – Remove industrial floorspace from NEC AAP as it is incompatible with residential uses.
- D. Alternative option – Ensure 50% of industrial workspace is affordable.
- E. Alternative option – Include B1c uses as acceptable uses in industrial areas.
- F. Alternative option – Set a minimum plot ratio for new developments to achieve.
- G. Alternative option – Mixed use is not acceptable for industrial uses.
- H. Alternative option – Mixed use acceptable only with B1 office space.

Table 4.10 Policy 7: Industry

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	++	++	-?	++	++	++	++	++
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	-	0?	0	-	-	-	-	-
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	-?	-?	+?	-?	-?	-?	-?	-?
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
change effects								
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+?	+?	+	+?	+?	+?	+?	+?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+?	+?	0	+?	+?	+?	+?	+?
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	++	--	++	++	++	+++?	++
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+?	+?	-	+?	+?	+?	+?	+?
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+

A. Preferred policy

4.130 The preferred policy is likely to have a significant positive effect on SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) and 14 (economy) because it proposes the redevelopment of existing premises to provide new industrial floorspace, whilst also ensuring there is no net loss of industrial floorspace. It seeks to make efficient use of land by intensifying existing B2 and B8 uses and identifies some additional sites for these uses. The preferred policy specifically states that B2 and B8 uses should be delivered through higher plot ratios.

4.131 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 12 (equality), 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure) because the intensification and creation of B2 and B8 uses would create job opportunities, which may help to reduce inequalities, at the same time as improving access to training and supporting the provision of skilled employees to the economy, depending on the range of jobs provided and the level of training they offer. A minor positive effect is also expected against SA objective 11 (housing) because although the preferred policy focuses on industrial development, it states that residential uses should be considered, provided residential amenity is protected.

4.132 Minor positive effects are also expected in relation to SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel) because the proximity of employment uses to residential dwellings may reduce the need for people to travel far to work. Minor negative effects are also expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) because industrial processes are likely to generate dust and air pollution, contributing towards poor air quality and greenhouse gas emissions.

4.133 Minor negative effects are expected against SA objectives 5 (biodiversity) and 6 (landscape and townscape) because the redevelopment of existing premises in the AAP area for industrial uses, as well as the intensification of existing B2 and B8 uses, may have an adverse effect on existing habitats and species in the area, particularly the open mosaic habitat at Chesterton Sidings, as well as the landscape/townscape, depending on the design of development.

4.134 A minor positive uncertain effect is expected against SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing) because although the intensification and creation of B2 and B8 uses would create a number of employment opportunities and would be required to design out Environmental Health concerns, which would help to maintain health and wellbeing.

B. Increase overall industrial floorspace by intensifying current industrial sites – Nuffield Road and Cowley Road

4.135 This alternative option proposes an increase in industrial floorspace through the intensification of both the Nuffield Road and Cowley Road sites. As the preferred policy sought to intensify all existing B2 and B8 uses across North East Cambridge, similar effects are recorded against this alternative option despite it only referring to Nuffield Road and Cowley Road. Negligible uncertain effects are now expected for SA objective 5 (biodiversity), as Chesterton Sidings is not expected to be developed under this option.

C. Remove industrial floorspace from NEC AAP as it is incompatible with residential uses

4.136 Significant negative effects from alternative option C are expected against SA objective 14 (economy) as the removal of industrial floorspace would hinder improvement of the local economy of the area and potentially lead to loss of jobs, as only residential development would be provided on site.

4.137 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape) because the removal of industrial floorspace could help to enhance the townscape, depending on the design of any new development at these sites. However, the effect is recorded as uncertain because the actual effect will depend on the final design, scale and layout of development. A minor positive effect is expected against SA objective 11 (housing) because the removal of industrial floorspace would have positive effects on residential amenity and the subsequent availability of housing, as new dwellings may be provided as an alternative to industrial floorspace.

4.138 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 9 (health and wellbeing) because the removal of industrial uses on site would reduce the amount of noise, air and dust pollution accumulated from development. This would have beneficial effects on residential amenity. The effect for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution) is mixed with a minor negative effect, as removing employment opportunities from the site will likely lead to additional use of private vehicles to and from the site.

4.139 Minor negative effects are expected against SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 13 (services and facilities), 15 (infrastructure) and 16 (sustainable travel) as removing employment opportunities from the site will likely lead to additional use of private vehicles to and from the site thereby increasing the need to travel and increasing the area's contribution to climate change. In addition, removing industrial floorspace could reduce access to training and job opportunities for all. A minor negative effect is expected against SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) because the removal of existing industrial floorspace may not make efficient use of land. The effect is recorded as uncertain because it depends on what alternative uses (e.g. housing) would be provided in place of the industrial floorspace.

D. Ensure 50% of industrial workspace is affordable

4.140 This policy is expected to have similar effects to the preferred option. Whilst it does not affect the SA scoring, additional positive effects would be expected for SA objective 14 (economy), as this option may help to diversify the local economy by supporting smaller businesses and/or supporting businesses that might otherwise not be able to afford to locate in the area.

E. Include B1c uses as acceptable uses in industrial areas

4.141 As the preferred policy seeks to intensify all existing B2 and B8 uses across North East Cambridge, which includes industrial processes, the same effects are recorded against this alternative option.

F. Set a minimum plot ratio for new developments to achieve

4.142 This alternative option proposes to set a minimum plot ratio for new developments to achieve. As the preferred policy seeks to intensify all existing B2 and B8 uses across North East Cambridge, the same effects are recorded against this alternative option. However, it could further add to the significant positive effects identified for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources).

G. Mixed use is not acceptable for industrial uses

4.143 This alternative option would prevent residential development on industrial sites, and also possibly office development. Although this may have a positive effect on residential amenity, it is not expected to result in a substantial difference in the amount of housing or employment land delivered, therefore the effects remain the largely same as the preferred policy. Uncertainty has

been added to the significant positive effect for SA objective 14 (economy), as this may result in less variety in the local economy, leading to a less vibrant and resilient economy.

H. Mixed use acceptable only with B1 office space

4.144 This alternative option proposes to allow mixed use only with B1 office space. Although this may reduce air pollution as general industrial processes would not be taking place, it may mean there would be an overall increase in the number of people travelling to the site via private car, as offices tend to accommodate more people per ha than industrial uses. This would generate greenhouse gas emissions and may have an adverse effect on air quality. Therefore, the same effects as the preferred policy are recorded against this alternative option.

Recommendations

4.145 No recommendations.

Policy 8a: Housing

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 8a: Housing
- B. Alternative option – Deliver more homes at a higher density in currently proposed sites.
- C. Alternative option – Deliver lower densities across the whole AAP area, including in sites where no new homes are required or designated.
- D. Alternative option – Require an equal proportion of 1, 2, 3 and 4+ bedroomed dwellings across residential sites in NEC.
- E. Alternative option – Require a majority of 3+ bedroom homes as to accommodate family growth.
- F. Alternative option – Enable all affordable component to be provided off site.
- G. Alternative option – Define truly affordable as social rent only.
- H. Alternative option – Provide higher percentage of affordable homes – 60%.
- I. Alternative option – Require a higher proportion (e.g. 10%) of all residential units to be self/custom finish.
- J. Alternative option – Require all non-flatted residential units at NEC to be self/custom finish.
- K. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.11 Policy 8a: Housing

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+	++	+/-?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0?
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	-?

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
environmental pollution											
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0	0	0?	0	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	-?	-?	?	-?	-?	-?	-?	-?	-?	-?	0?
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0?
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+?	+	+	+	+?	+	+	+	+	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	+	+/-?	+	+	+/-?	+	+	+	+	-?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+?	+	+?	+?	+	+	+	+	+	+?
10. Improve the quantity and quality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
of publicly accessible open space											
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	++	++/- ?	+/-	+/-	++/- ?	+/-?	+++?	++	++	+?
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	++	++	++/- ?	+/-	+/-	-- ?/+	+/-?	+++?	++	++	+?
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0	-?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+	+	+/-?	+	+	+/-?	+	+	+	+	-?

A. Preferred policy

4.146 The preferred option is likely to have a significant positive effect against SA objectives 11 (housing) and 12 (equality) because it provides for development of at least 8,151 net dwellings of different sizes and tenures to meet different needs, 40% of which are required to be affordable. The preferred policy also states appropriate provision should be made for specialist housing needs, such as for older people or those with disabilities. Additionally, a minor positive

effect is expected against SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing) because the preferred policy will help ensure everyone has a suitable home to live in, that meets their needs. Minor positive effects are expected against SA Objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) because the AAP area, including areas identified for additional housing, mainly comprises previously developed land.

4.147 A minor positive effect is also expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel) because the policy requires new dwellings to be energy-efficient and to not compromise the trip budget for the area, which will help minimise energy use. Furthermore, the location of 8,500 net dwellings in one place, alongside employment opportunities (and other infrastructure) will reduce the need to travel. The minor positive effect identified for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution) are mixed with a minor negative effect, as some areas identified for housing delivery could include contaminated land, particularly at the Anglian Water site and Chesterton Sidings. This effect is uncertain as development offers an opportunity to remediate any contaminated land.

4.148 Minor negative effects are expected in relation to SA objectives 4 (protected habitats and species) and 5 (biodiversity) because the policy includes development of a substantial amount of new homes in proximity to designated biodiversity sites, such as Bramblefields Local Natural Reserve and Milton Road Hedgerows City Wildlife Site. Some areas allocated for housing also have potential biodiversity value, including the open mosaic habitat at Chesterton Sidings.

4.149 A minor positive effect is expected in relation to SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape) because the preferred policy required creation of attractive neighbourhoods. Development of areas of the site, particularly disused land at Chesterton Sidings, is likely to lead to townscape improvements.

B. Deliver more homes at a higher density in currently proposed sites

4.150 This option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy, as much of the policy will stay the same. However, significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as this alternative would make more efficient use of land.

4.151 For this option, the minor positive effects expected for SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 9 (health and wellbeing) are uncertain, as higher densities may leave less space for green infrastructure and landscaping within the sites allocated for housing.

C. Deliver lower densities across the whole AAP area, including in sites where no new homes are required or designated

4.152 It is assumed that this option would result in the same amount and types of housing being delivered, just a different distribution, therefore it is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy, with the following exceptions.

4.153 There are now minor negative uncertain effects recorded alongside the positive effects identified SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 11 (housing), 12 (equality) and 16 (sustainable travel), as the extent of these effects depends on where new residential development is located. For example, whilst all development is likely to be close to existing employment development, it may be more difficult to locate new services and facilities appropriately, when development could take place outside of allocated sites. Similarly, if housing development is provided in areas where no new homes are required, people may feel they have to live in sub-optimal locations and therefore need to travel further for work or to see friends and relatives.

4.154 Allowing housing development to come forward outside allocated sites will make it more difficult to effectively plan for delivery of infrastructure, including local services and facilities, resulting in minor negative uncertain effects on SA objective 13 (services and facilities).

4.155 Uncertain effects are recorded against SA objectives 4 (protected habitats and species) and 5 (biodiversity) as whether or not any effects occur depends on where development takes place.

D. Require an equal proportion of 1, 2, 3 and 4+ bedroomed dwellings across residential sites in NEC

4.156 This option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy, as much of the policy will stay the same. However, mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected for SA objectives 11 (housing) and 12 (equality), as requiring an equal proportion of 1, 2, 3 and 4+ bedroom homes would not necessarily respond to the needs of local people. A minor positive uncertain effect is also recorded for SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), as not providing the right mix of housing could lead to people living in smaller homes than they need or a financial burden of buying and heating a larger home than they need.

E. Require a majority of 3+ bedroom homes as to accommodate family growth

4.157 This option is expected to have the same effects as option D, as it will not provide for a range of housing needs.

F. Enable all affordable component to be provided off site

4.158 It has been assumed that development will take place in those locations identified in the preferred policy, in addition to off-site provision of affordable housing. This option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred option, with the following exceptions.

4.159 Mixed minor positive and significant negative uncertain effects are identified for SA objective 12 (equality) as, whilst a range of housing and specialist housing will be provided, off-site provision of affordable housing could result in this being provided in sub-optimal locations, away from where the need has arisen. In addition, it treats those accessing affordable housing differently, and therefore treats households differently on the basis of income.

4.160 As with option C, there are now minor negative uncertain effects recorded alongside the positive effects identified SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 11 (housing) and 16 (sustainable travel), as it may result in some homes, namely affordable housing, being delivered in sub-optimal locations. For example, people may feel they have to live in sub-optimal locations and therefore need to travel further for work or to see friends and relatives, or access services and facilities.

4.161 In addition, the effects identified against SA objectives 3 (water) and 6 (landscape and townscape) are uncertain, as environmental effects are largely dependent on the location of development, which is not known for any off-site affordable housing provision.

G. Define truly affordable as social rent only

4.162 This option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy, as much of the policy will stay the same. However, this option is expected to have mixed minor positive and minor negative uncertain effects against SA objectives 11 (housing) and 12 (equality), as it will result in less variety of affordable housing options and therefore may not meet the full range of housing needs in terms of tenure.

H. Provide higher percentage of affordable homes – 60%

4.163 This option would have similar effects to the preferred policy. The significant positive effects associated with SA objectives 11 (housing) and 12 (equality) are uncertain, as it is not clear whether this option could lead to over-provision of affordable homes.

I. Require a higher proportion (e.g. 10%) of all residential units to be self/custom finish

4.164 This option would have similar effects to the preferred policy. Whilst effects against SA objective 12 (equality) would still be significant positive, this option may further contribute to improving equalities as self/custom finish can allow residents to ensure housing meets their needs.

J. Require all non-flatted residential units at NEC to be self/custom finish

4.165 This option would have similar effects to the preferred policy and option I. Whilst effects against SA objective 12 (equality) would still be significant positive, this option may further contribute to improving equalities as self/custom finish can allow residents to ensure housing meets their needs.

K. Rely on existing policy

4.166 Policy 15 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan make provision for housing development in this area, but neither states how much housing is to be provided. In addition, Policy 45 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policies H/9 and H/10 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan require a mix of housing, including affordable housing. However, requirements vary between the two Local Plans and they are based on the need for Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire as wholes, rather than NEC in particular. As such, minor positive uncertain effects are expected for SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), 11 (housing) and 12 (equality).

4.167 Minor negative uncertain effects are identified with regards to SA objective 13 (services and facilities), as it will be difficult to plan for provision of local services, facilities and other infrastructure if housing comes forward in a piecemeal and uncoordinated way in this area. Similarly, minor negative uncertain effects are recorded against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as a piecemeal approach to housing development could result in residents taking longer trips, potentially by car, to access everyday services and facilities, but this depends on the location of development.

4.168 Negligible uncertain effects are recorded against environmental SA objectives, as the AAP area is generally not particularly environmentally sensitive, but effects depend on the location and design of any development that does come forward.

Recommendations

4.169 Whilst the policy states that new dwellings should be accessible and adaptable, it could refer to relevant standards, including the requirement for all housing to meet at least Building Regulation requirement M4(2) 'accessible and adaptable dwellings' and an appropriate proportion of housing to meet Building Regulation requirement M4(3) 'wheelchair user dwellings'.

Policy 8b: Affordable housing

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 8b: Affordable housing
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.12 Policy 8b: Affordable housing

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+?
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	++
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	++	++
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0

SA objective	A	B
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.170 A significant positive effect is expected in relation to SA objectives 11 (housing) and 12 (equality) because this preferred policy has a target for 40% of NEC's new homes to be delivered as affordable housing, therefore helping to ensure that everyone has access to housing. The policy will help ensure that an appropriate mix of houses are provided to meet local need.

4.171 A minor positive effect is expected in relation to SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape) because the policy states that affordable housing design should not be visually distinguishable from market housing by its external appearance or the space standards adopted, and be well integrated and not confined to less prominent parts of the site as a whole or on any individual land.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.172 This option is expected to have the same effects as the preferred policy because the existing Local Plans for Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council each contain an affordable housing policy, which requires 40% affordable housing for developments of 11 dwellings or more for the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan and 15 or more for the Cambridge Local Plan. Uncertainty is given to the minor positive score for SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape), because only the Cambridge Local Plan requires affordable housing to be indistinguishable from, and integrated with, other residential development.

Recommendations

4.173 No recommendations.

Policy 8c: Housing for local workers

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 8c: Housing for local workers
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.13 Policy 8c: Housing for local workers

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	++	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+	0

A. Preferred policy

4.174 A significant positive effect is likely in relation to SA objectives 11 (housing) and 12 (equality) because this preferred policy ensures that homes are available to local workers. Furthermore, the policy states that development will still need to meet the 40% affordable housing target. Minor positive effects are expected in relation to SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel) because having workers located in close proximity to their workplace means that they can use sustainable modes of transport to travel to work (e.g. walking), instead of using the private car. This will help reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.175 Neither the Cambridge Local Plan nor the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan has an existing policy specifically on housing for local workers. As such, negligible effects are expected against all SA objectives for this option.

Recommendations

4.176 No recommendations.

Policy 8d: Built to rent

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 8d: Built to rent
- B. Alternative option – Will be promoted with no caveats
- C. Alternative option - Specify stronger limitations on build to rent

Table 4.14 Policy 8d: Built to rent

SA objective	A	B	C
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0	0

SA objective	A	B	C
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	++/-	+
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	++	++/-	+
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.177 The preferred policy is likely to have a significant positive effect on SA objectives 11 (housing) and 12 (equality) because Built to Rent proposals contribute to the range of housing types available through the provision of rental properties. This is likely to meet the needs of certain groups of people (e.g. students), whilst being undertaken in a controlled manner so as to not dominate the housing market.

C. Will be promoted with no caveats

4.178 This option is expected to result in mixed significant positive and minor negative effects on SA objectives 11 (housing) and 12, as it will have the same positive effects as the preferred policy, but may exclude certain groups of people as it would not include affordable rented properties. In addition, it may lead to a greater proportion of build to rent that there is need for locally, at the expense of other housing types and tenures.

D. Specify stronger limitations on build to rent

4.179 This alternative option is expected to have minor positive effects on SA objectives 11 (housing) and 12 (equality) because although it supports Built to Rent proposals, stronger limitations on Build to Rent could result in a lower number of rental properties available.

Recommendations

4.180 No recommendations.

Policy 8e: Custom finish

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 8e: Custom finish
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.15 Policy 8e: Custom finish

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+	+?
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+?
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure)	0	0

SA objective	A	B
opportunities		
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.181 A minor positive effect is expected against SA objective 11 (housing) because this preferred policy enables residents to take control of the design of their home so that it specifically meets their needs. As such, a minor positive effect is also expected against SA objective 12 (equality) because certain groups of people (e.g. those with disabilities) could ensure the internal layout of their properties specifically meets their needs.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.182 Policy H/9 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan requires plots for self- and custom-builders on sites of 20 or more dwellings, whereas the Cambridge Local Plan doesn't make any particular allowance for self- or custom-build or finish. The existing Policy H/9 allows for more flexibility as it is for self- and custom-build plots, whereas the preferred policy is for custom finish of a 'shell' dwelling. However, the preferred policy may appeal to some people more and is also more practical for high density, flatted development. This option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy, but with added uncertainty as this only applies to part of NEC. In addition, the preferred policy is likely to be more practical for high density development.

Recommendations

1.483 No recommendations.

Policy 8f: Short Term & Corporate Lets/Visitor Accommodation

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 8f: Short Term & Corporate Lets/Visitor Accommodation
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.16 Policy 8f: Short Term & Corporate Lets/Visitor Accommodation

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	?	?
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+/-	-?

SA objective	A	B
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	?	?
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+/-	-?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	-?
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	-?

A. Preferred policy

4.183 The preferred policy states that applications for purpose-built visitor accommodation will be permitted provided they minimise the need to travel by private vehicle and promote sustainable modes of transport. A significant positive effect is therefore expected against SA objective 16 (sustainable travel). A significant positive effect is also expected against SA objective 14 (economy) because the development of purpose-built visitor accommodation will help benefit the city's economy. A mixed minor positive and minor negative effect is expected

against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) because the promotion of sustainable modes of transport would reduce reliance on the private car, however, development of visitor accommodation could attract more people to the area via private car, despite the presence of sustainable transport modes. An uncertain effect is expected against SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape) because the development of visitor accommodation could have an adverse effect on the landscape/townscape in the area but will depend on the final design of the accommodation. An uncertain effect is also expected against SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) because the development of new purpose-built visitor accommodation could take place on developed or undeveloped land, but this is uncertain.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.184 The existing Local Plans for Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council contain policies for visitor accommodation. However, unlike the preferred policy, existing policies do not set out a requirement to meet identified needs. This could result in the provision of accommodation that serves a wider area, which could result in visitors travelling longer distances via the private car, with adverse effects on pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, a minor negative uncertain effect is expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel). Minor negative uncertain effects are also identified for SA objective 15 (infrastructure), as not including this policy could lead to a growth in AirBnb-type accommodation, which could have adverse effects on community cohesion. An uncertain effect is expected against SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape) because development of visitor accommodation could have an adverse effect on the landscape/townscape in the area. An uncertain effect is also expected against SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) because the development of visitor accommodation could take place on developed or undeveloped land, but this is uncertain.

Recommendations

4.185 With regard to landscape and townscape, the policy could require all visitor accommodation to be sympathetic to the character of the area.

Policy 9: Social and Community Infrastructure

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 9: Social and Community Infrastructure
- B. Alternative option – New development only provides for the needs of new residents, on-site and does not take advantage of opportunities to promote inclusivity and social cohesion with neighbouring communities.
- C. Alternative option – New social and community facilities are provided in less dense format, off-site in neighbouring locations
- D. Alternative option – No restriction on new social, community or sports uses either opening or closing.
- E. Alternative option – Secondary school expansion of Cambridge North Academy rather than providing secondary school on site.
- F. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.17 Policy 9: Social and Community Infrastructure

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0	-	0	-	?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0	-	0	-	?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	++	+	+	++/--	++	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+	+	+/-	+	+
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	++	+	+	++/--	++	+
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education,	++	+	+/-	++/--	++/-	++?

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F
training, leisure opportunities)						
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0	0	0	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	++	++/-	+	++/--	++	+?
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0	-	0	-	?

A. Policy 9: Social and Community Infrastructure

4.186 The preferred policy is likely to have a significant positive effect against SA objectives 12 (equality), 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure) because it promotes the development of new community, cultural and leisure facilities that encourage inclusivity and social cohesion. The policy states that proposals should provide high-quality, multi-functional spaces for different ages and abilities that allow for a range of different community uses to take place. This will have a positive effect on people's health and wellbeing and therefore a significant positive effect is recorded against SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing). The policy also encourages co-location of social facilities and identifies a need for 3 primary schools on site. Further to this, the policy safeguards a site for a potential secondary school development. A minor positive effect is expected against SA objective 10 (open space) because although the policy does not specifically state that publicly accessible open spaces will be provided, playing fields may be provided as part of the development of a leisure facility. Furthermore, the policy safeguards existing sports facilities on site, including a 3G AstroTurf pitch.

B. New development only provides for the needs of new residents, on-site and does not take advantage of opportunities to promote inclusivity and social cohesion with neighbouring communities.

4.187 Minor positive effects are expected in relation to SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), 12 (equality), 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure) because this option provides for the needs of new residents, at the same time as encouraging relations between groups of new people moving into an area. It is noted, however, that it would not take advantage of opportunities to promote relations with neighbouring and possibly existing communities.

4.188 A minor positive effect is expected against SA objective 10 (open space) because it's assumed that new development would include the provision of open space. Furthermore, this alternative would still safeguard existing sports facilities on site, including a 3G AstroTurf pitch.

C. New social and community facilities are provided in less dense format, off-site in neighbouring locations

4.189 Minor positive effects are expected in relation to SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), 10 (open space), 12 (equality), 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure) because this option makes provision for community facilities and services. However, due to the fact these

spaces will be located off-site in neighbouring locations means that they may not be as easily accessible. Therefore, a minor negative effect is also recorded against SA objective 13 (services and facilities).

4.190 A minor negative effect is recorded against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel) because people may be more likely to drive to neighbouring areas in order to access community services and facilities, instead of using more sustainable methods of travel. This could have an adverse effect on air quality whilst also generating greenhouse gas emissions.

D. No restriction on new social, community or sports uses either opening or closing.

4.191 Mixed significant positive and significant negative effects are expected against SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure) because this option could result in an increase in the presence of community facilities and accessibility to them, which would benefit people's health and wellbeing. However, this option could also result in the closure of community services and facilities with adverse effects on community cohesion.

4.192 A mixed minor positive and minor negative effect is expected in relation to SA objective 10 (open space) because this option could result in an increase in open spaces, as well as a decrease through closures.

E. Secondary school expansion of Cambridge North Academy rather than providing secondary school on site.

4.193 This option is expected to have the same effects as the preferred policy with the exception of SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 13 (services and facilities) and 16 (sustainable travel). A significant negative effect is expected against SA objective 13 (services and facilities) because although the expansion of Cambridge North Academy would help meet residents' educational needs, its location is less accessible than a new secondary school within the AAP site, being 30 minutes' walk from NEC. This lack of accessibility could result in a minor negative effect against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel) because residents may be required to travel longer distances via the private car, which could have an adverse effect on air quality whilst also generating greenhouse gas emissions. It should be noted that 8,000 net additional dwellings would normally be expected to require secondary school provision either on site, or close to the site, but it is noted that the Education topic paper indicates that presently, development at NEC is not projected to generate sufficient numbers of pupils to warrant the need for a secondary school on-site, subject to monitoring.

F. Rely on existing policy

4.194 Both the Cambridge Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan include policies to help deliver community infrastructure, although these differ between the two plans. Policy TI/9 of the South Cambridge Local Plan and Policy 74 of the Cambridge Local Plan seek to ensure local education services are provided, particularly in areas of population growth, but in the absence of the preferred policy it is less certain these would be provided on the site. The existing Local Plans also require adequate provision of open space, health facilities and community facilities. However, they are less strong in protecting existing facilities. In addition, as with education facilities, without the preferred policy there would be greater uncertainty as to whether these would be provided within the site itself. As such, minor positive uncertain effects are expected for SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), 10 (open space), 12 (equality) and 15 (infrastructure) and significant positive uncertain effects are expected for SA objective 13

(services and facilities). Uncertain effects are recorded against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as it is not known whether residents and workers would have to travel further to access these facilities.

Recommendations

4.195 It is recommended that additional text is added to the policy minimising the impact of development of community, cultural and leisure facilities on climate change. This could be through the implementation of sustainable construction practices and/or renewable energy technologies. The policy could also specify the need for high quality development that is sympathetic to the surrounding landscape and townscape. With regard to sustainable transport, the policy could specify that all facilities must be located in close proximity to sustainable transport links (e.g. bus stops and cycle ways). Additionally, the policy could explicitly state whether open space is considered to fall within the definition of social and community infrastructure or not. It is also recommended that the words 'Where possible' are removed from the final paragraph, in order to strengthen the policy's commitment to affordable facilities provision.

4.196 It is noted that the policy safeguards land on the site to deliver a secondary school if needed. In many other parts of the country, developments of around 5,000 new homes would often require a secondary school to be provided. Therefore, as the NEC provides for over 8,000 homes, it is surprising that this is not the case for this site as well. It is therefore recommended that this evidence is checked to make sure it is robust.

Policy 10a: Retail

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Hierarchy of centres and retail capacity
- B. Alternative option - No restriction on the proportion of each centre, in terms of convenience, comparison and other centre uses.
- C. Alternative option - No minimum requirement for A1 convenience food store use.
- D. Alternative option - Allow a large (>800 sqm net), single convenience food store in the proposed District centre which may require ancillary car parking.
- E. Alternative option - No retail impact assessment requirement for any retail developments outside an NEC centre.
- F. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.18 Policy 10a: Retail

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	-?	-?	+?/-	+	+/-?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0	0	0

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+	+	+	+	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	-?	-?	+?/-	+	+/-?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	-?	+	+	+	-?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0	0	0	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	++	+	+	++	+++	+
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	++	++	++	+++	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	+	+	+	+	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+	-?	-?	-	+	+/-?

A. Preferred policy

4.197 The preferred policy is likely to have a significant positive effect against SA objective 14 (economy) because it sets out and protects the hierarchy of centres and retail capacity, supporting the vitality and viability of North East Cambridge. A significant positive effect is also expected against SA objective 13 (services and facilities) because the policy indicates the capacity of each centre to support convenience, comparison and other town centre uses, and encourages this provision. The policy also identifies private social and healthcare related facilities as a suitable ground floor use in centres.

4.198 A minor positive effect is expected against SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape) because the preferred policy states that all units should provide an active frontage such as a window display, which is in keeping with the character of the centre. This will have positive effects on the townscape.

4.199 A minor positive effect is also expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel) because the policy states that no single proposal, regardless of use, should be permitted that is large enough to generate a need for a car park. Therefore, use of the private car to these centres will be discouraged. 4.200 Additionally, the policy states that development will be supported provided it does not give rise to a detrimental effect, individually or cumulatively, on the character or amenity of the area through smell, litter, noise or car parking. Minor positive effects are expected for SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing) and 15 (infrastructure), as the policy restricts development of hot food takeaways and betting shops, which can have negative effects on physical and mental health if individuals become dependent on these, but supports investment in local communities by providing key services and facilities.

B. No restriction on the proportion of each centre, in terms of convenience, comparison and other centre uses

4.200 This option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy (A), with the exception of the following.

4.201 Potential minor negative uncertain effects are expected with regards to SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), as no restrictions on use types could lead to an over-concentration of hot food takeaways and betting shops. Reliance on these is associated with poor mental and physical health, as well as anti-social behaviour.

4.202 Minor positive uncertain effects are expected for SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and minor negative uncertain effects are recorded for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as this option may lead to less variety in services and facilities in the centres, which would mean that residents may have to travel further to meet their day to day needs, and may do so by car.

C. No minimum requirement for A1 convenience food store use

4.203 This option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy (A), with the exception of the following.

4.204 Minor positive uncertain effects are expected for SA objective 13 (services and facilities) and minor negative uncertain effects are recorded for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as this option may lead to the possibility of no food shopping provision in the centres, which would mean that residents would have to travel further to meet their day to day needs and may do so by car.

D. Allow a large (>800 sqm net), single convenience food store in the proposed District centre which may require ancillary car parking

4.205 This option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy (A), with the exception of the following.

4.206 Minor negative effects are recorded for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as this option would result in no food shopping provision in the centres, which would mean that residents would have to travel further to meet their day to day needs and may do so by car. A larger food store may also attract shoppers from outside the AAP area, who are more likely to drive to shop there. However, for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) this effect is mixed with a minor positive uncertain effect, as a single food store may lead to fewer delivery vehicles travelling through the area.

4.207 It is recognised that a larger store would be likely to provide a greater variety of products and serve a larger area. However, it is not likely to deter people from travelling to the nearby Tesco Superstore, on the other side of the A14, for bigger shopping trips.

E. No retail impact assessment requirement for any retail developments outside an NEC centre

4.208 This option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy (A), with the exception of the following.

4.209 Significant positive uncertain effects are expected in relation to SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy) as, whilst the positive effects identified for the preferred policy remain, not requiring an impact assessment could result in retail provision outside of centres out-competing provision within centres. This could then lead to less occupancy of retail units in centres, resulting in less variety of local retail and less viable local centres. Similarly, minor positive uncertain effects are recorded for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as retail uses outside of centres could draw people away from these and encourage them to travel further for their shopping needs. Furthermore, local centres are likely to be places that will be well served by sustainable transport infrastructure.

F. Rely on existing policy

4.210 Policy 15 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan allocate NEC for mixed uses, including retail, and both Local Plan have policies regarding providing supporting infrastructure and services and facilities for development, but there are no policies that go into detail about the quantum and location of development in NEC.

4.211 This option is expected to result in minor positive effects for SA objective 13, as some retail development would likely come forward. However, mixed minor positive and minor negative uncertain effects are expected in relation to SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as it would result in an ad-hoc approach to centre provision, which may result in over- or under-provision of certain uses in town centres. It could also lead to the development of larger shops, including those with ancillary car parks, which could draw people from further afield and thus encourage car use. Minor negative uncertain effects are recorded for SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), as a lack of restrictions on hot food takeaways and betting shops could result in over-concentration of these uses and associated negative impacts on health.

Recommendations

4.212 As required by the preferred policy, it is recommended that each of the centres includes some convenience food shopping, as this will reduce the need for residents to travel for day to day needs.

4.213 The policy could do more to recognise the positive role community facilities (D2), particularly meeting places, can play in local centres, as it would be beneficial for such uses to be located in areas where people can access easily and are likely to visit anyway.

Policy 10b: Markets

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 10b: Markets
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy (no additional provision on site).

Table 4.19 Policy 10b: Markets

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+/-?	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith,	0	0

SA objective	A	B
location and income		
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	++	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	-
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.214 Significant positive effects are also identified in relation to SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy) because the market will support a range of creative local businesses at the same time as providing an opportunity for trade between local businesses, on a weekly basis. Additionally, farmers markets and seasonal markets may operate throughout the year alongside other events in the space. All of these will increase the number of community events overall, which will increase interaction between people.

2.215 The preferred policy is likely to have mixed minor positive and minor negative uncertain effects for SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape), as it states that a distinctive sense of place will be created, but the market could result in visual clutter, particularly if stall structures are left standing on non-market days.

2.216 A minor positive effect is identified against SA objective 15 (infrastructure) because the policy seeks to invest in small, local business and optimise the use of public space in the square.

B. Rely on existing policy (no new provision on site)

2.217 This option is expected to have negligible or no effects on most objectives, as it would not lead to loss of or damage to any particular receptors and it is assumed that the AAP area would still provide a range of shops and services. Minor negative effects are expected with regards to SA objective 15 (infrastructure), as not providing for markets when it would be possible to do so could suggest a lack of investment in the community and small, local businesses.

Recommendations

2.218 It is recommended that the preferred policy is taken forward, but ensures that consideration is given to townscape and to ensure that the market prioritises local businesses and people.

Policy 11: Meanwhile uses

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 11: Meanwhile uses
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on extant policy

Table 4.20 Policy 11: Meanwhile uses

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities	0	0

SA objective	A	B
and other infrastructure		
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Policy 11: Meanwhile uses

4.219 The preferred policy is likely to have a minor positive effect on SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) and 6 (landscape and townscape) because the "meanwhile" use of land on sites where services are waiting to come forward, is an efficient use of this land. Likewise, "meanwhile" uses on currently unoccupied sites will be likely to improve the townscape overall.

4.220 A minor positive effect is also expected against SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy) because the "meanwhile" use of land whilst services are waiting to come forward, will provide residents with a range of local services and facilities, at the same time as maintaining North East Cambridge's economy. The policy states that "meanwhile" uses must demonstrate how they contribute to the vibrancy of the immediate area and must therefore have beneficial effects on the economy.

Rely on existing policy

4.221 This alternative option relies on existing planning policy in the Cambridge Local Plan and the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. Neither contain a policy on meanwhile uses, however it is noted that the Cambridge Local Plan contains a sentence in Policy 41 (Protection of business space) for sui generis uses that generate employment opportunities whilst marketing of a site takes place. As such, negligible effects are expected in relation to all SA objectives.

Recommendations

4.222 No recommendations.

Policy 12: Employment and Training

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 12: Employment and Training
- B. Alternative option – The AAP to propose an intensification of industrial/employment floorspace on the site as opposed to a mixed-use development.
- C. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy.

Table 4.21 Policy 12: Employment and Training

SA objective	A	B	C
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	++?	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	-	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the	0	0	0

SA objective	A	B	C
water environment			
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	-?	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	-	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	++	+	+
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	++	++
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	++	+	+
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0	0

A. Policy 12: Employment and Training

4.223 The preferred policy is likely to have a significant positive effect on SA objectives 13 (services and facilities), 14 (economy) and 15 because it seeks to increase opportunities for training and employment with developers contributing to a range of employment, skills and training initiatives. The policy specifically states that in the operational stage, developers should provide an Employment and Skills Plan (ESP) to demonstrate their commitment to responsibly delivering skills and training to new employees in new job roles within NEC. This is likely to

reduce the skills gap between people by providing residents with access to a range of employment opportunities, with positive effects on the local economy. This is likely to reduce inequality and have a positive effect on people's overall health and wellbeing. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected against SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing) and 12 (equality).

B. The APP to propose an intensification of industrial/employment floorspace on the site as opposed to a mixed-use development.

4.224 A significant positive but uncertain effect is expected against SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) because the intensification of industrial/employment floorspace within the AAP area will prevent the loss of any undeveloped land. However, it's unclear whether intensification refers to an increase in the density or small-scale extensions to what's already there. A significant positive effect is expected against SA objective 14 (economy) because the intensification of industrial/employment floorspace would result in an increase in working space, helping contribute towards development of the local economy. This alternative option is expected to have a minor positive effect against SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 because it would improve access to jobs and potentially training opportunities, but would not provide the services and facilities that would be provided in a mixed use development. .

4.225 A minor negative effect is expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 6 (landscape and townscape) because the intensification of industrial/employment floorspace could increase pollution levels and greenhouse gas emissions, whilst densification could have an adverse effect on landscape character. The effect against SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape) is recorded as uncertain because the actual effect will depend on the nature of development.

C. Rely on existing policy.

4.226 Policy 15 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan allocate NEC for mixed uses, including employment. In addition, policy 2 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policy E/1 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan seek to support the economy through provision of employment land, with a focus on growth of the Cambridge Cluster, therefore significant positive effects are expected for SA Objective 14 (economy). However, there is little further detail about employment and training provision in NEC. As such, there may be a lesser variety of employment and training provision, with less promotion of workplace training and less emphasis on providing opportunities for local people. Therefore minor positive effects are expected for SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure) and negligible effects are expected for other SA objectives.

Recommendations

4.227 In order to strengthen this policy, reference could be made to the specific groups that the employment, skills and training initiatives would be directed towards.

Policy 13: Aggregates/Waste

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 13: Aggregates/Waste
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy (CS23)
- C. Alternative option – Relocate to the east of Cambridge

Table 4.22 Policy 13: Aggregates/Waste

SA objective	A	B	C
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	?	0	?
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	?	+/-	?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	?	0	?
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	?	0	?
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	+	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+?	-	+?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0	0

SA objective	A	B	C
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0	?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	++	0

A. Policy 13: Aggregates/Waste

4.228 The preferred policy is likely to have a minor positive effect against SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing) because it states that proposals for residential uses should not be adjacent to an aggregates yard as it is unlikely that satisfactory design mitigation can be achieved to protect residential amenity. It goes on to state that any residential proposal in Cowley Road Industrial Estate and Chesterton Sidings as designated in the spatial framework, will need to demonstrate how it is buffered from the negative impacts of the aggregates railhead. The continued existence of an aggregates railhead at NEC is subject to it meeting all of the mitigation requirements for noise, odour and air quality, as identified in Policy 26 (Environmental Protection).

4.229 The policy is likely to have uncertain effects against SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), 2 (air quality and pollution), 5 (biodiversity) and 6 (landscape and townscape) because it proposes the relocation of the Veolia Waste Transfer Station off-site but does not indicate where it would be re-located to, presumably because this is not yet known and would be outside the AAP boundary. It therefore does not set out how impacts on air quality, biodiversity or the landscape would be mitigated and whether its relocation would be on greenfield land or not. Depending upon where the Waste Transfer Station is located to, there could also be off-site effects on SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), which is why uncertainty has been added to this score.

B. Rely on existing policy (CS23)

4.230 This alternative option refers to Policy CS23: Sustainable Transport of Minerals and Waste in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Development Plan. According to this policy, sustainable transport of minerals and waste by rail, water, conveyor, and pipelines will be encouraged. Therefore, a significant positive effect is likely against SA objective 16 (sustainable travel) and minor positive effects are likely against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions). The effects for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution) are mixed with minor negative effects, and minor negative effects are expected for SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing) as retention of the Waste Transfer Station may have negative effects on amenity, particularly residential amenity of the new development, such as through noise and odour issues.

C. Relocate to the east of Cambridge

4.231 This alternative option proposes the relocation of the aggregates railhead at NEC and the Veolia Waste Transfer Station to the east of Cambridge. As the above preferred policy also sought to relocate these facilities off-site, similar effects are recorded against this alternative option. However, uncertainty is recorded with regards to SA objective 14 (economy), as the

impacts of relocating the aggregates railhead on the economy of Cambridge depends on where it is located.

Recommendations

4.232 It is recommended that additional text is added to the policy on mitigating adverse effects on air quality, the landscape as a result of development, including the relocation of the Waste Transfer Station. This could include vehicle routeing, screening, consideration of topography and landscape character.

Chapter 4 – Connectivity

Policy 14: Sustainable Connectivity

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Sustainable Connectivity
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy
- C. Alternative option – Even higher sustainable mode share
- D. Alternative option – Different mode share targets
- E. Alternative option – Car free development

Table 4.23 Policy 14: Sustainable Connectivity

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	+/-	++	?	++
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	0	+	?	+

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++	+/-	++	?	++
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	++	+	++	?	++
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+	+	?	+
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+	+	+	?	+
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+	+	?	+
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	+	+	?	+
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	+/-	++	?	++

A. Sustainable Connectivity

4.233 Significant positive effects are expected in relation to SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 9 (health and wellbeing) and 16 (sustainable travel) as this policy aims to design the area around the principles of walkable neighbourhoods and healthy towns to reduce the need to travel and encourage active sustainable travel thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, this policy promotes good health and more sustainable travel choices and encourages healthy lifestyles through the inclusion of pedestrianised areas, comprehensive network of links and connections, and other travel options at mobility hubs. Improving links to the wider country and Rights of Way network encourages the immersion of the public with the countryside which also improves health and wellbeing.

4.234 Minor positive effects are also expected against SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure) as improving the integration and connectivity within the site, to the adjoining built up area within north Cambridge, as well as links to Cambridge city centre, employment areas, nearby villages and the wider countryside and Rights of Way network, increases and improves accessibility for those in the area to access employment options and services and facilities (e.g. health, education, training and leisure) more readily.

4.235 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 6 (landscape and townscape), 12 (equality) and 14 (economy) as this policy aims to encourage active sustainable travel and reduce the need to travel. This would reduce air pollution and improve inequalities in the area based on location or income and competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy. This policy would help many access additional services and jobs through the improved connectivity within the site, adjoining areas, city centre and countryside. Additionally, less traffic within the area could improve the public realm and townscape.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.236 Policy 15 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan state that development at NEC should be centred around a new transport interchange and should ensure high quality access linkages, including for pedestrians and cyclists. Policies HQ/1 and TI/2 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan, and policies 5, 59, 80 and 81 of the Cambridge Local Plan promote travel by sustainable transport, including walking and cycling and promote a shift away from car-based transport. However, existing policies do not place the same emphasis on walkable neighbourhoods and healthy towns, as well as recognising the importance of leisure routes, mobility as a service and micro-mobility. As such, effects are expected to be similar to the preferred option but no significant positive effects are considered likely. In addition, mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as measures in existing local plans place limited emphasis on reducing the need to travel, therefore a greater level of vehicle use is expected.

C. Even Higher Sustainable Mode Share

4.237 Alternative option C is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy, however, is expected to have additional significant positive effects against SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution). This is because an even higher sustainable mode share across the NEC area could improve air quality to a higher extent. Compared to the preferred policy, this alternative option would provide more significant positive effects.

D. Different Mode Share Targets

4.238 Alternative option D is expected to have an uncertain effect on almost all the SA objectives, as the option does not clarify how the mode share targets will be different and which modes are considered.

E. Car Free Development

4.239 This option is expected to have the same effects as option C as a car free development is similar to an even higher sustainable mode share.

Recommendations

4.240 It is recommended that additional text is added to require active travel to be tied in with the green infrastructure network thereby providing additional positive effects for access to green spaces and wildlife habitats. Also, by including all green spaces within the site and around within the wider connectivity figure could help to show potential connections that should be executed through the policy.

4.241 It is recommended that alternative options C and/or E are incorporated into the preferred policy, for example by requiring car free zones within NEC, as they are expected to have additional significant positive effects compared to the current preferred policy.

Policy 15: Connecting to the wider network

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Connecting to the wider network
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy
- C. Alternative option – Address some or all barriers and/or with a different solution

Table 4.24 Policy 15: Connecting to the wider network

SA objective	A	B	C
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+	0	+
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	0	+
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+	0	+
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	0	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++	+	++
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0

SA objective	A	B	C
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	-?	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	-?	+
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+	0	+
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	0	+
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	0	+
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	+?	++

A. Connecting to the Wider Network

4.242 Significant positive effects are expected in relation to SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel) as this policy aims to improve the wider connectivity between NEC with adjoining communities, the City Centre, nearby villages and the wider countryside and Rights of Way network, new and improved connections for non-motorised users will be provided across: A14, Cambridgeshire Guided Busway, Cambridge to King's Lynn Railway line and Milton Road. Therefore, this policy promotes more sustainable travel choices and ensures that these routes will be fully integrated with the existing network and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

4.243 Minor positive effects are identified for SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), as the policy encourages healthy lifestyles, as well as improved road safety, through the incorporation of increased capacity to accommodate existing and future user demands for pedestrians, cyclists of all abilities, bearing in mind the low car mode share.

4.244 This policy is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution) as it aims to improve air quality around the AAP, including along the A14. This policy sets out proposals for the improvement of links to and from the Jane Coston Bridge over the A14 and for a new busway and strategic cycle path from Landbeach and Waterbeach via Mere Way.

4.245 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure) as improving the wider connectivity between NEC with adjoining communities, the City Centre, nearby villages and the wider countryside and Rights of Way

network and developers will be required to contribute to new and improved connections for non-motorised users all of which increases and improves accessibility for those in the area to access employment options and services and facilities (e.g. health, education, training and leisure) more readily.

4.246 Minor positive effects are also expected against SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), 6 (landscape and townscape), 12 (equality) and 14 (economy) as this policy could improve inequalities in the area based on location or income and competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy since this policy would help many access additional services and jobs through the improved wider connectivity with adjoining areas, city centre and countryside. In addition, each area where new and improved connections for non-motorised users is expected utilise land that is previously developed and will therefore not affect mineral resources. The policy also states that new structures must be designed to a high-quality having regard for their surroundings which could have positive implications for the local townscape and landscape.

4.247 Minor positive effects with uncertainty are expected against SA objective 5 (biodiversity) as the policy states new structure should consider potential connectivity for biodiversity, and maximising connectivity could include improvements to greenways and access to open spaces which could have positive for local wildlife.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.248 Existing Local Plan policies relating to transport and travel, including Cambridge Local Plan policies 5, 80 and 81, and South Cambridgeshire policies HQ/1 and TI/2 promote a joined up transport network, including in terms of sustainable transport, but do not include the detail that the preferred policy includes with regards to crossing busy roads, the guided busway and the railway line. As such, they also do not consider potential for these to incorporate features such as biodiversity enhancements or accessibility for cyclists and wheelchair users. As such, mixed minor positive uncertain effects are expected against the SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel) as this approach would likely provide some level of connectivity to the wider network. However, this option may not fully meet the need for new and improved connections for non-motorised users across the area and neighbouring areas. Therefore, minor negative uncertain effects are expected with regards to SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing) and 12 (equality).

C. Address some or all barriers and/or with a different solution

4.249 Alternative option C is expected to have the same effects as the preferred policy, as both aim to address some or all the barriers hindering wider connectivity; Alternative option 2 would provide a different solution, but the outcome would be the same.

Recommendations

4.250 It is recommended that the policy requires active travel links to be tied in with the green infrastructure network thereby providing additional positive effects for access to green spaces and wildlife habitats.

Policy 16: Cycle Parking

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Cycle Parking
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.25 Policy 16: Cycle Parking

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	+
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	+
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	?
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+	+
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	+

SA objective	A	B
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	++

A. Cycle Parking

4.251 Significant positive effects are expected against SA objective and 16 (sustainable travel) as the policy aims to provide cycle parking infrastructure in excess of the minimum standards and in a manner that is convenient, flexible, safe, secure and integral to the public realm and thereby indirectly encourages the increased use of active modes of travel.

4.252 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure) as this policy could improve access to employment options and services and facilities (e.g. health, education, training and leisure) by providing much needed cycle infrastructure.

4.253 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 6 (landscape and townscape), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 9 (health and wellbeing), 12 (equality) and 14 (economy) as additional cycle parking within the area could encourage increased use of cycling as the primary mode of transport which would improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, vulnerability to climate change and inequalities through increased use of alternative modes of transport and improve health and wellbeing and the local economy, by enabling sustainable access to services and employment. It is included within the policy that at least 5-10% of cycling parking provision should be designed to accommodate non-standard cycles which would enable those with specially adapted bikes to travel by bike. In addition, the policy states that cycle parking infrastructure must be provided in a manner that is integral to the public realm thereby improving the townscape.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.254 In the absence of the preferred policy, Appendix L of the Cambridge Local Plan and Figure 11 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan sets out cycle parking standards that would apply to the area. This would lead to a substantial amount of cycle parking (albeit lower than the preferred policy) and the Cambridge Local Plan requires 20% provision to be for non-standard cycles, whereas the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan does not specify. Cycle parking infrastructure would still need to be provided in line with Policy HQ/1 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan and Policy 59 of the Cambridge Local Plan, as stated in the policy. As such, effects of this option are likely to be similar to the preferred option, but with uncertainty for SA objective 12 (equality) as the approach to provision for non-standard cycles may vary across the site.

Recommendations

4.255 It is recommended that cycle parking infrastructure be stationed throughout the area, but specifically in more deprived areas to encourage the use of active sustainable travel and allow for additional ways to access employment options, services and facilities.

Policy 17: Safeguarding for Cambridge Autonomous Metro & Public Transport

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Safeguarding for CAM & Public Transport
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.26 Policy 17: Safeguarding for CAM & Public Transport

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	+?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	+?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+?
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+	+
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+?

SA objective	A	B
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	++	+
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	+

A. Safeguarding for CAM and Public Transport

4.256 Significant positive effects are expected against SA objectives 15 (infrastructure) and 16 (sustainable travel) as the policy aims to create an integrated sustainable transport network that includes the Cambridge Autonomous Metro, quality transport interchange and mobility hub. The interchange aims to seamlessly link three rapid transit routes from the central core, the St Ives route and the proposed Waterbeach route and link to the railway network. Also, mobility hubs will be provided on key walking and cycling routes, main arrival points into NEC as well as within the identified centres, across the site to enable interchange between public transport and other mobility options within the site. Therefore, this policy aims to reconfigure the public transport and cycling and walking paths to provide improved travel options which supports investment in the community and other infrastructure and promoting more sustainable travel choices.

4.257 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 6 (landscape and townscape), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 9 (health and wellbeing), 12 (equality), 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy) as safeguarding public transport helps to minimise air pollution, reduce the effects of climate change help to minimise greenhouse gas emissions, reduce inequalities and improve access to employment options and services and facilities by improving access to and quality of public transport. The policy also aims to design the public realm to enable seamless interface between different options at the mobility hubs thereby enhancing the local townscape.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.258 Policy TI/1 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan safeguards land at Chesterton Sidings for development of a rail station and interchange facility but does not give further details of the development to come forward at this site. Neither of the existing local plans make reference to the Cambridge Autonomous Metro, although both include policies that promote sustainable transport. As such, similar effects are expected to the preferred policy, but with greater uncertainty and no significant positive effects, as this option is unlikely to result an interlinked, multi-modal transport hub, particularly of the scale and variety set out in the preferred policy.

Recommendations

No recommendations.

Policy 18: Last mile deliveries

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Last mile deliveries
- B. Alternative option – Only one consolidation hub
- C. Alternative option – No consolidation hubs

Table 4.27 Policy 18: Last mile deliveries

SA objective	A	B	C
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	++	+	-
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++	+	-
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+	0

SA objective	A	B	C
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	+	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+	+	0

A. Last mile Deliveries

4.259 Significant positive effects are expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) as the policy grants planning permission for delivery hubs up to 1,500sqm to enable the consolidation of deliveries to service the needs of local businesses, retailers, community uses and residents. Therefore, this policy could improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout the AAP area as the 'last-mile' delivery is encouraged to be by sustainable modes, including by cycle logistics solutions using cycles / cargo cycles and for bulkier items using electric vehicles.

4.260 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 14 (economy), 15 (infrastructure) and 16 (sustainable travel) as delivery hubs are likely to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve the local economy through innovative and flexible solutions and support appropriate investment in the community and other infrastructure.

B. Only One Consolidation Hub

4.261 Alternative B is expected to have very similar effects to the preferred policy, however as this option only proposes one consolidation hub rather than multiple, no significant positive effects have been identified.

C. No Consolidation Hubs

4.262 Alternative C represents a 'do nothing' approach as it would not provide any consolidation hubs for deliveries. Minor negative effects are expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) as this option would provide no consolidation hubs compared to the preferred policy. This could have negative implications for air quality and minimising effects on climate change since last mile deliveries are more likely to be undertaken by less sustainable modes of transport, and by a larger number of vehicles, which could exacerbate congestion in NEC.

Recommendations

4.263 It is recommended that this policy strengthens its wording to require, rather than encourage, use sustainable modes of transport as the 'last mile' delivery. This will provide additional positive effects for the SA objectives discussed above.

Policy 19: User hierarchy for streets

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – User hierarchy for streets
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

- C. Alternative option – Locate primary traffic route around the periphery of NEC with priority to walking and cycling
- D. Alternative option – Restrict all non-essential traffic from the site

Table 4.28 Policy 19: User hierarchy for streets

SA objective	A	B	C	D
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	++	+/-	++	++
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	0	+	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++	+/-	++	++
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+	+	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+	+	?
13. Improve the quality, range and	+	+	+	+

SA objective	A	B	C	D
accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)				
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+	+?	+?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	+/-	++	++

A. User hierarchy for streets

4.264 Significant positive effects are expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) as the policy aims to design the public realm to put people first. Streets should be designed around the road user hierarchy with priority given to active sustainable modes of travel. Therefore, this policy could minimise air quality throughout the AAP area and minimise greenhouse gas emissions by designing roads to be made for pedestrians and cyclists.

4.265 Significant positive effects are also expected against SA objective and 16 (sustainable travel) as the policy aims to design the NEC in accordance with the road user hierarchy thereby including high quality segregated paths and cycle paths for all non-vehicular users, including micro mobility, which will help improve road safety and the attractiveness of active modes of transport.

4.266 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape), 9 (health and wellbeing), 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy) as prioritising active sustainable modes of travel will improve health and wellbeing and improve the public realm through designing streets for people and around the road user hierarchy and ensuring low traffic speeds. In addition, the policy will allow for improved adaptability and accessibility of local employment opportunities and services and facilities. Minor positive effects are also expected for SA objective 12 (equality), because the policy states that secondary streets will provide access for people with mobility issues.

B. Status quo: Rely on existing policy

4.267 Policy 15 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan state that development at NEC should ensure high quality access linkages, including for pedestrians and cyclists. Policies HQ/1 and TI/2 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan, and policies 5, 59, 80 and 81 of the Cambridge Local Plan promote travel by sustainable transport, including walking and cycling and promote a shift away from car-based transport. However, existing policies do not place the same emphasis on prioritising walking and cycling and the user hierarchy. As such, effects are expected to be similar to the preferred option but no significant positive effects are considered likely. In addition, mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas

emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as measures in existing local plans place limited emphasis on reducing the need to travel, therefore a greater level of vehicle use is expected.

C. Locate primary traffic route around the periphery of NEC with priority to walking and cycling

4.268 Alternative C is expected to have similar effects as the preferred policy as it aims to locate the primary traffic route around the periphery of NEC with priority to walking and cycling within the heart of NEC, rather than including primary roads within the NEC. It is assumed there would be no difference in secondary streets from the preferred policy. However, it is likely that this option will have additional positive effects on the public realm and promotion of more sustainable active modes of transport as limiting the traffic route to the periphery of NEC would reduce traffic congestion and improve road safety for all road users. This option results in added uncertainty for SA objective 14 (economy), as this could disrupt deliveries to businesses within NEC.

D. Restrict all non-essential traffic from the site

4.269 Alternative D aims to restrict all non-essential traffic from the site, making it car free, utilising centralised refuse collection and consolidation hubs. While this option is expected to have similar effects against the SA objectives as the preferred policy, it is likely that this option will have a longer lasting positive effect by determining that the site is car free. Effects for SA objective 12 (equality) are uncertain for this option as it is uncertain whether access for those with mobility needs would be considered 'essential'. Similarly, this option results in added uncertainty for SA objective 14 (economy), as this could disrupt deliveries to businesses within NEC.

Recommendations

4.270 It is recommended that text be added that requires at least part of the site to be car free, which would provide additional benefits to resident health and well-being, air pollution and combating climate change. The user hierarchy could also be amended to include car sharing and electric vehicles at the same level as car share and taxis.

Policy 20: Managing Motorised Vehicles

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Managing Motorised Vehicles
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy
- C. Alternative option – Introduce a vehicular trip budget but no parking restraint
- D. Alternative option – Introduce parking budget but no trip budgets

Table 4.29 Policy 20: Managing Motorised Vehicles

SA objective	A	B	C	D
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	++/-	+/-?	+/-?	+/-
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	0	0?	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++/-	+/-?	+/-?	+/-
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0	0

SA objective	A	B	C	D
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	-	0	-	-
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++/-	+/-?	+/-?	+/-

A. Managing Motorised Vehicles

4.271 The preferred approach seeks to deliver NEC in a way that does not result in peak-period highway trip levels increasing above existing levels, which requires the introduction of a 'trip budget' for development proposals, and limits to parking provision. No significant effects are expected for this policy; however mixed significant positive and minor negative effects are expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel). This is due to the fact that consideration should be given to the design and location of parking provision to create a place that positively encourages walking and cycling instead of car use for short trips. The minor negative effects arise as, whilst this policy seeks to add substantial management of traffic flows in and out of NEC, the trip budget and parking allowances still allow for a large amount of vehicle traffic overall within NEC.

4.272 A minor positive effect is expected against SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape), as planning positively and restricting the amount of vehicle trip generation will improve the public realm by reducing street parking. Minor negative effects are expected against SA objective 14 (economy) as restricting the amount of vehicle trip generation could adversely affect the local economy in the short term, as it is unlikely that improved public and active transport infrastructure will be provided at the same time as residential and economic development.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.273 Policy 15 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan state that development at NEC should ensure high quality access linkages, including for pedestrians and cyclists. Policies HQ/1 and TI/2 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan, and policies 5, 59, 80 and 81 of the Cambridge Local Plan promote travel by sustainable transport, including walking and cycling and promote a shift away from car-based transport. However, existing policies do not include a trip budget or parking restrictions for NEC. As such,

this option is likely to have similar effects to Option C, but with no effects expected for SA objective 14 (economy).

C. Introduce a vehicular trip budget but no parking restraint

4.274 It may be that this option would mean it is more likely that the trip budget will not be adhered to, and could lead to more parking and therefore more vehicle movements within the site than the preferred policy, therefore mixed minor positive and minor negative uncertain effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel). Negligible uncertain effects are recorded for SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape), as this alternative would be unlikely to improve the townscape due to less on-street parking.

D. Introduce a parking budget but no trip budgets

4.275 Alternative D aims to introduce a parking budget but no trip budgets, therefore it is expected to have similar effects to alternative option C, as the trip budget and parking restraint are linked. Whilst parking would be restricted, it may be that this option would mean more vehicle movements to and from the site would take place, therefore mixed minor positive and minor negative uncertain effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel).

Recommendations

4.276 It is recommended that the policy makes it clear that the trip budget and parking restrictions are maximum figures and that vehicle movements within NEC should be minimised as far as possible. It could also cross-refer to Policy 19.

Chapter 5 – Environment, Health and Wellbeing

Policy 21: Biodiversity & Net Gain

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Biodiversity & Net Gain
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.30 Policy 21: Biodiversity & Net Gain

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	++?	++?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	++?	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	++?	++?

SA objective	A	B
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	++?	+?
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+?	+?
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Biodiversity & Net Gain

4.277 Significant positive effects are expected against SA objectives 3 (water), 4 (protected habitats and species) and 5 (biodiversity) as development proposals will be required to deliver a minimum of 10% net gain in biodiversity value and shall follow the mitigation hierarchy. This will be achieved through, including but not limited to, the provision of a measurable improvement in the size, quality, diversity and interconnectedness of the sites habitats, to deliver a coherent and high-quality ecological network as part of the wider green infrastructure network, landscape character and place making. It is also expected that coordinated habitat and water quality improvements to the First Public Drain, Milton County and Chesterton Fen will be delivered.

Uncertainty is attached to these objectives as the expected passage of the Environment Bill will make 10% biodiversity net gain mandatory for most developments and therefore subdue the significance of these scores.

4.278 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 8 (climate change resilience) as an increase in biodiversity net gain would help to combat climate change and help to build resilience to the effects of climate change, such as more extreme weather events.

4.279 Minor positive effects are also expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 6 (landscape and townscape), 9 (health and wellbeing), 10 (open space) and 14 (economy) as improving the green infrastructure network could help to manage air pollution within the area and health and wellbeing of residents and workers within the area. In addition, enhanced green infrastructure could improve the public realm and attract and retain talent by making NEC an attractive area to live and work, therefore improving and maintaining the local economy. Uncertainty is attached to SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 10 (open space) as positive effects are dependent on the location and nature of green infrastructure and open space.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.280 Cambridge Local Plan policies 69 and 70, and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Policy NH/4, focus more on protection of species and habitats than net gain. Neither require a set net gain standard nor specify how any enhancement may be measured. Both plans also include support for provision of green infrastructure, with the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan having a specific policy on this (NH/6). As such, this option is expected to have minor positive effects on SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 4 (protected habitats and species), 5 (biodiversity), 6 (landscape and townscape), 9 (health and wellbeing), 10 (open space) and 14 (economy).

Recommendations

4.281 It is recommended that the policy further emphasises that 10% is a minimum value and encourages a higher level of biodiversity net gain where possible.

Policy 22: Tree Protection and Coverage

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Tree Protection and Coverage
- B. Alternative option – Rely on existing Cambridge Local Plan policy 71
- C. Alternative option – Rely on existing South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Policies NH/7, HQ/1, NH4

Table 4.31 Policy 22: Tree Protection and Coverage

SA objective	A	B	C
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against	+?	+?	+?

SA objective	A	B	C
sources of environmental pollution			
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	+?	+?	+?
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	++	+	+
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	+	+
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+	+	+
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0	0

A. Tree Protection and Coverage

4.282 Significant positive effects are expected against SA objective 5 (biodiversity) as this policy aims to increase the areas of canopy cover by protecting trees of value and ensures new

development will plant new trees of appropriate species and size. As such, it is likely that a greater area of tree habitat will be delivered, benefitting species reliant on this.

4.283 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 3 (water), 6 (landscape and townscape), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 8 (climate change resilience) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as protecting existing trees and increasing canopy cover has a wide range of positive implications for the area from increased health and wellbeing through the creation of shade and shelter to reducing the area's vulnerability to climate change through for example, reducing the urban heat island effect. Uncertainty is attached to SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 3 (water) as the positive effects depend on where new trees are planted.

B. Rely on existing Cambridge Local Plan policy 71

4.284 Alternative B is expected to have similar effects as the preferred policy, but without significant positive effects. This is due to the fact that Policy 71 of the Cambridge Local Plan 2018 has weaker language and does not aim to achieve the City of Cambridge's canopy cover target of 19% coverage by 2030.

C. Rely on existing South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Policies NH/7, HQ/1, NH4

4.285 This alternative is expected to have the same effects as Alternative B, but for different reasons. Policy NH/7 only relates to ancient woodland and veteran trees, however there are no ancient woodland in NEC and it is expected that there are no veteran trees on site. Therefore, the trees on site are not protected by this policy. The other two policies, HQ1 and NH4 relate to design principles and biodiversity, but of which would have positive effects, but not to the same extent as having a specific tree protection policy such as the preferred policy.

Recommendations

4.286 It is recommended that additional text be added to ensure the policy emphasises the importance of the inclusion of native tree species being included on site.

Policy 23: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Standards

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Open Space, Sport and Recreation Standards
- B. Alternative option – Strict application of Cambridge City Local Plan 2018 – Appendix I
- C. Alternative option – Retention of South Cambridgeshire District Council Local Plan 2018 Policy SC/7
- D. Alternative option – Provision of green spaces at a district size

Table 4.32 Policy 23: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Standards

SA objective	A	B	C	D
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+?	+?	+?	+?
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+?	+?	+?	+?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	+?	+?	+?	+?
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	+/-	0	0	+?
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+?	+?	+?	+?
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+?	+?	+?	+?
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+?	+?	+?	+?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+?	+?	+?	+?
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	++	++	++	++
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	++	++	++	++
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable	0	0	0	0

SA objective	A	B	C	D
housing				
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+?	+?	+?	+?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+?	+?	+?	+?

A. Open Space, Sport and Recreation Standards

4.287 Significant positive effects are expected against SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing) and 10 (open space) as all residential development proposals should contribute to the provision of open space and recreation sites/facilities on-site. The policy notes that the successful integration of open space should be provided for early in the design process. Also, all open spaces will be high quality, low maintenance, publicly accessible with a multi-use functionality to ensure they maximise their utility, availability and functionality throughout the year. Overall, the aim of this policy is to provide additional high quality and accessible open space will increase health and wellbeing and increase the amount of and quality of accessible green space for residents and wildlife.

4.288 Minor positive effects are expected against SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), 2 (air quality and pollution), 3 (water), 5 (biodiversity), 6 (landscape and townscape), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 8 (climate change resilience), 14 (economy) and 16 (sustainable travel) as an increase in open space and recreation sites/facilities are likely to have a wide range of positive implications for the area from increased health and wellbeing to reducing the need to travel to facilities further afield. Uncertainty is attached to each of these objectives as the positive effects depend on the nature of the open space provided.

4.289 Mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected against SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species) as the policy aims to improve wayfinding at Bramblefields Local Nature Reserve. Whilst this could help manage visitor movements, it could also increase the popularity of the site, therefore increasing recreational pressure and associated disturbance.

B. Strict application of Cambridge City Local Plan 2018 – Appendix I

4.290 Appendix I, as referenced in the preferred policy, sets out standards for provision of open space. Whilst it includes criteria to recognise space with environmental and recreational value, protection against loss of open space is not as strong as the preferred policy. Appendix I does not include a requirement for spaces to link up to form a wider network or mitigation of adverse effects on amenity from outdoor sports provision. Nevertheless, similar effects are expected as the preferred policy, with the exception of negligible effects being recorded for SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species).

C. Retention of South Cambridgeshire District Council Local Plan 2018 Policy SC/7

4.291 This alternative is expected to have the same significant and minor positive effects against the same SA objectives that were assessed to have positive effects against the preferred policy, with the exception of negligible effects being recorded for SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as retaining Policy SC/7 of the South Cambridgeshire District Council Local Plan 2018 sets a standard for all development to contribute to Outdoor Playing Space and Informal Open Space. The standards utilised reflect the district's rural nature therefore the AAP area may not be able to accommodate these standards.

C. Provision of green spaces at a district size (interconnected network of smaller parks/open spaces)

4.292 This alternative is expected to have the same significant and minor positive effects against the same SA objectives that were assessed to have positive effects against the preferred policy as it aims to make provision of green spaces at a district size including a number of walkable and cyclable neighbourhood level parks with large green corridors in common. This alternative would have an additional significant positive effect compared to the preferred policy against SA objective 5 (biodiversity) as it puts a greater emphasis on the delivery of an interconnected network of smaller parks/open space that could provide habitat connectivity for wildlife and allow residents and employees in the AAP and wider area to enjoy and access wildlife and green space.

Recommendations

4.293 It is recommended to combine Option D with the preferred policy as making provision for green space at a district size, including a number of walkable and cyclable neighbourhood level parks with large green corridors in common would have additional significant positive effects.

Policy 24: Water Quality, Demand and Sustainable Urban Drainage

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 24: Water Quality, Demand and Sustainable Urban Drainage
- B. Alternative option – Requires retention of SCDC LP Policy CC/4 and CC/7
- C. Alternative option – Retention of CCC policy 31
- D. Alternative option – Requirements to make water recycling, stormwater and rainwater harvesting part of development design

Table 4.33 Policy 24: Water Quality, Demand and Sustainable Drainage

SA objective	A	B	C	D
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	++	++	+	+
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	0	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0	0	+
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+	+	+	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	0	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0	0

SA objective	A	B	C	D
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.294 The preferred option is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 3 (water) as overall the policy seeks to improve the water environment of proposed developments. The policy states that a Water Quality Risk Assessment will be required and secured through a planning obligation and developers will need to demonstrate that all proposed development will have an adequate supply of water, appropriate sewerage infrastructure and sufficient sewage treatment capacity.

4.295 The policy is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 5 (biodiversity) as it permits development adjacent to a water body that actively seeks to enhance the water body in terms of its hydro morphology, biodiversity potential and setting. A minor positive effect is expected for SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape) as the policy permits development in terms of size, form and materials and make an active contribution to placemaking. Furthermore, a minor positive is expected for SA objective 8 (climate change resilience) as the policy sees water as a resource and re-used where practicable, offsetting potable water demand and that a water sensitive approach including impacts of climate change are considered in the design of the development. This will help protect water resources as they become scarcer as a result of climate change.

B. Retention of SCDC LP Policy CC/4 and CC/7

4.296 The policy option is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 3 (water) as it would require development to achieve a minimum water efficiency of equivalent to 110 litres per person per day and non-residential development must be accompanied by water conservation strategy with minimum water efficiency standards. The policy also aims to protect and enhance water quality through expecting development to have adequate water supply, sewerage and land drainage; demonstrate the quality of ground, surface or water bodies that will not be harmed; and consider SuDS solutions. A minor positive effect is also expected for SA

objective 8 (climate change resilience) as considering a SuDS solution can help mitigate the effects of climate change, such as increased risk of flooding and heavy rainfall.

C. Retention of CCC policy 31

4.297 The policy option is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 3 (water) as it requires development to manage surface water close to the source, have no discharge from site when rainfall occurs up to 5mm and all run-off from hard surfaces receives appropriate level of treatment in accordance with SuDS. The policy also requires watercourse to have culverts removed and all hard surfaces are permeable where reasonably practicable. A minor positive effect is also expected for SA objective 8 (climate change resilience) as considering a SuDS solution can help mitigate the effects of climate change, such as increased risk of flooding and heavy rainfall.

D. Requirements to make water recycling, stormwater and rainwater harvesting part of development design

4.298 The policy option is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objectives 3 (water) and 8 (climate change resilience) as it seeks to recycle water, as well as harvest stormwater and rainwater through developments designs, which will need to be compliant with maximum BREEAM credits for water efficiency and will need to have the lowest possible carbon output.

Recommendations

4.299 The preferred policy could incorporate water recycling and rainwater harvesting, as set out in option D.

Policy 25: Flood Risk

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 25: Flood Risk
- B. Alternative option – Requires retention of SCDC LP policy CC/8 and CC/9
- C. Alternative option – Retention of CCC LP policy 32
- D. Alternative option – Predicates requirement for whole site strategic sustainable urban drainage system that contributes towards the open space and green and blue infrastructure requirement for the entire site

Table 4.34 Policy 25: Flood Risk

SA objective	A	B	C	D
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	+	+	+	+

SA objective	A	B	C	D
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+	+	+	++
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0	0	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	++	++	++	++
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+	+	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	++
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0	0	+
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.300 The preferred policy option is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 3 (water) as the policy aims to protect future development from flooding, which will protect the water environment. The policy requires that certain thresholds should be met for developing on existing development sites, such as a peak rate of run-off over the lifetime of the development should achieve greenfield run-off rates or if this is not possible discharge should be no more than 2 litres per second per hectare for all events up to the 100-year period event. Furthermore, the policy includes conditions depending on the Environment Agency's (EA) Flood Zone rating for undeveloped sites. If a site is in the EA Flood Zone 3b it must be a water-compatible development and not increase flood risk elsewhere. The policy is expected to have a positive effect on SA objectives 5 (biodiversity) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as the risk of future flooding could decrease which may protect public safety, along with wildlife and the natural environment.

B. Retention of the South Cambridgeshire District Council Local Plan 2018 Policy CC/8: Sustainable Drainage Systems and Policy CC/9: Managing Flood Risk

4.301 The policy option is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 8 (climate change resilience) as the policy aims to reduce vulnerability to climate change effects by making sure future development can withstand flooding, the likelihood of which is expected to increase as a result of climate change.

4.302 The policy option is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 3 (water) as the policy aims to protect future development from flooding, which will protect the water environment, through specific development conditions, hierarchies for discharge destinations and site specific Flood Risk Assessments (FRAs) that will need to meet national and local guidance. The policy option is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 5 (biodiversity) as development proposals are required to integrate sustainable drainage with enhancing biodiversity and contributing to a network of green and blue space. Moreover, integrating sustainable drainage will protect wildlife and the natural environment from flooding. The policy is also expected to have a positive effect on SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), as the risk of future flooding could decrease which may protect public safety.

C. Retention of CCC LP policy 32

4.303 The policy option is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 3 (water) as the policy aims to protect future development from flooding through specific development conditions, which will protect the water environment. The policy option is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 8 (climate change resilience), as the policy allows for the effects of climate change by requiring the development not to effect the peak rate of run-off and mitigation against any future risk of flooding.

4.304 The policy is also expected to have a positive effect on SA objectives 5 (biodiversity) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as the risk of future flooding could decrease, which may protect public safety, along with wildlife and the natural environment.

D. Predicates requirement for whole site strategic sustainable urban drainage system that contributes towards the open space and green and blue infrastructure requirement for the entire site

4.305 This option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy, as it seeks to manage drainage and reduce the risk of flooding across the site. However, significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 5 (biodiversity) and 10 (open space), as this option

includes blue and green infrastructure enhancements. This will also help the site adapt to climate change, as green and blue infrastructure can help aid local cooling and provide biodiversity corridors. Minor positive effects are also expected for SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 14 (economy), as green infrastructure can help create a more attractive area and can encourage inward investment.

Recommendations

4.306 It is recommended that the policy requires SUDS to be naturalised, where possible and therefore enhance green and blue infrastructure in NEC.

Policy 25b: Environmental Protection

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 25b: Environmental Protection
- B. Alternative option - Leave mitigation of impact up to the applicant and for them to demonstrate this through the development management process

Table 4.35 Policy 25b: Environmental Protection

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	++	+?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+?	?
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+?	?
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0

SA objective	A	B
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.307 The preferred policy is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), as the policy states development should, wherever possible, consider opportunities to enhance and improve local environmental conditions such as noise pollution and air quality.

4.308 The policy is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), as the policy aims to protect the health of those living in future residential developments. The policy requires developers to identify any adverse environmental impacts such as noise, air pollutants and land contamination and complete any relevant assessments of these environmental effects. Furthermore, the policy supports planning obligations that may help mitigate against unacceptable levels of risk from pollutants.

4.309 Minor positive effects are also identified with regards to SA objectives 5 (biodiversity) and 6 (landscape and townscape), as the policy seeks to minimise and mitigate adverse effects on the natural environment. This could include mitigating noise, light and vibration pollution that could otherwise disturb wildlife and have a negative effect on townscape.

B. Leave mitigation of impact up to the applicant and for them to demonstrate this through the development management process

4.310 This option would likely lead to varying standards across the site and less certainty for both applicants and development management regarding what is acceptable. Minor positive uncertain effects are expected for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution) as there is likely to be a degree of environmental protection but it is less certain what this will look like. Uncertain or negligible effects are expected for the remaining SA objectives.

Recommendations

No recommendations identified.

Chapter 6 – Built Form

Policy 26: Creating a high quality, distinctive new City District

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 26: Creating a high quality, distinctive new City District
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on the CLP allocation and existing Local Plan Policies (without the proposed defined framework)

Table 4.36 Policy 26: Creating a high quality, distinctive new City District

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	++	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	+
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0

SA objective	A	B
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	+
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.311 The preferred policy is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape) as the policy ensure future proposals designs are integrated into the existing landscape and fit with the current buildings. Buildings, streets and spaces will have to be designed so they have a positive impact on their setting in terms of the site, height scape and form. Consideration will also need to be made for materials and detailing.

4.312 The policy is also expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 10 (open space) and 15 (infrastructure) as the policy expect proposals to create clearly defined public and private amenity spaces that are inclusive, usable, safe and enjoyable, therefore proposals will invest in places and communities. Minor positive effects are also expected for SA objective 14 (economy), as an attractive and vibrant townscape can help attract workers and businesses to the area.

B. Rely on the Cambridge Local Plan (CLP) allocation and existing Local Plan Policies (without the proposed defined framework)

4.313 Policy 15 of the adopted Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the adopted South Cambridgeshire Local Plan do not give details on the design of development. . However, other policies in the existing Local Plans seek to ensure residential amenity, require development to be sensitive to its surroundings, protect and enhance open space and protect the historic environment. As such, minor positive effects are expected for SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape), 10 (open space), 14 (economy) and 15 (infrastructure).

Recommendations

4.314 No recommendations identified.

Policy 27: Creating a comprehensive streets and spaces network

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 27: Creating a comprehensive streets and spaces network
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.37 Policy 27: Creating a comprehensive streets and spaces network

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0

SA objective	A	B
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	+/-
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	+	+
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	+
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+	+
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	+/-
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+	+
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+	+/-

A. Preferred policy

4.315 The preferred policy is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 3 (water) and 5 (biodiversity), as the policy aims to protect the environment of streets and spaces, including through the protection of air quality, incorporating

trees and planting into the public realm and integrating Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) to prevent flooding and protect the water environment and wildlife. The policy is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), as reducing flood risk will help protect public safety. The policy option is also expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 8 (climate change resilience), as the policy aims reduce vulnerability to climate change effects by making sure future development can withstand flooding through the integration of SuDS.

4.316 The policy is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape), as it supports a coordinated approach to the design and siting of street furniture, boundary treatments, lighting, signage and public art, which will support and enhance the local distinctiveness and townscape character. Furthermore, the preferred policy is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 12 (equality) and 16 (sustainable travel), as the policy ensure that design is inclusive by considering all users and prioritises pedestrian and cycle movements.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.317 Policy 15 of the adopted Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the adopted South Cambridgeshire Local Plan do not give details on the design of development, including key routes and specific active travel links. However, existing policies, such as HQ/1 and TI/2 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan, and policies 5, 59 and 80 of the Cambridge Local Plan promote travel by sustainable transport, including walking and cycling and promote a shift away from car-based transport. Mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as measures in existing local plans place limited emphasis on reducing the need to travel, therefore a greater level of vehicle use is expected. Both existing Local Plans also require use of SuDS, therefore minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 3 (water), 8 (climate change resilience) and 9 (health and wellbeing). Existing policies also require protection of key habitats and species and promote protection and planting of trees, therefore minor positive effects are expected for SA objectives 4 (protected habitats and species) and 5 (biodiversity).

Recommendations

4.318 No recommendations identified.

Policy 28: Buildings heights, scale and massing

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 28: Building heights, scale and massing
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.38 Policy 28: Building heights, scale and massing

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0

SA objective	A	B
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	++	+
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+?
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.319 The preferred policy option is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape), as the policy aims to be exemplary in design and make a positive contribution to local and wider skyline. The policy considers adequate separation between buildings and a limit to the cumulative impact of scale and massing. The policy option is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 12 (equality) as the policy requires proposals designs to be accessible for all and to align with Building Regulations 2010 for England Part M4(2): Accessible and Adaptable Dwellings. Furthermore, designs are required to

provide some wheelchair user dwellings on-site in accordance with Building Regulations 2010 for England Part M4(3): Wheelchair user dwellings. Therefore, the policy helps to reduce inequalities related to disability.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.320 Policy 15 of the adopted Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the adopted South Cambridgeshire Local Plan do not give details on the design of development. However, Policy 60 of the Cambridge Local Plan sets out requirements relating to tall buildings and the skyline and Policy HQ/1 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan sets out design principles for development. These seek to ensure good design, including of tall buildings, resulting in minor positive effects for SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape). Cambridge Local Plan Policy 51 Accessible Homes requires a proportion of dwellings to be built to Building Regulations requirement M4(3), although South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Policy H/9: Housing Mix only requires a proportion of development to be built to Building Regulations requirement M4(2), making no requirement for M4(3). As such, minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 12 (equality), but these are uncertain as standards would vary across the site.

Recommendations

4.321 The policy could require proposals to undertake a landscape and visual impact assessment and heritage impact assessment prior to development, to ensure that any key views in and out of the city are maintained. The policy could also add a requirement for proposals to ensure the settings of heritage assets are maintained and enhanced.

Policy 29: Good design at higher densities

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 29: Good design at higher densities
- B. Alternative option – Do nothing: Revert to the NPPF

Table 4.39 Policy 29: Good design at higher densities

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+	+
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of	0	0

SA objective	A	B
landscape and townscape character		
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	0?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	0	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.322 The preferred policy option is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as it promotes efficient use of land through high density development and innovative building types.

4.323 The policy is also expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), as the policy ensures private amenity, that dwellings have natural sunlight and good ventilation, as well as adequate space, which are expected to contribute towards good health and wellbeing. The policy ensures there is enough air circulation, sufficient internal floorspace and private amenity space, and mitigation of microclimate impacts such as wind. Moreover, the policy requires the consideration of sunlight, daylight and overshadowing effects to improve the health and well-being of residents.

B. Revert to the National Planning Policy Framework

4.324 This option is a 'do nothing' scenario. The NPPF requires densities to be optimised, resulting in minor positive effects on SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources). The effect against SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing) is recorded as negligible uncertain, as not going above and beyond the requirements of the NPPF could result in homes with no or smaller

amenity space and less natural daylight, which could have negative effects on health and wellbeing. However, national standards would still need to be adhered to.

Recommendations

4.325 No recommendations identified.

Policy 30: Mixed use forms

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 30: Mixed use forms
- B. Alternative option – Status quo: Rely on existing policy

Table 4.40 Policy 30: Mixed use forms

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+?
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	-
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and	0	0

SA objective	A	B
facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)		
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	0

A. Preferred policy

4.326 The preferred policy option is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape), 9 (health and wellbeing) and 14 (economy) as the policy is likely to help maintain health and wellbeing of residents, while also helping to improve the economy. The policy ensures that incompatible uses are avoided that could impact on amenity of residents and occupiers in the same or adjacent block. Furthermore, the policy also ensures businesses can function effectively and seeks to diversify and activate the street scene, which will contribute to creating a vibrant townscape and attracting businesses to the area.

B. Rely on existing policy

4.327 Policy 15 of the Cambridge Local Plan and Policy SS/4 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan allocate NEC for high quality mixed use development, including employment, commercial, retail, leisure and residential uses. The Cambridge Local Plan contains more detail on the need for active ground floor uses than the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan, and both include general design policies, but neither include detailed policies for this area. Existing design policies are likely to result in minor positive effects on SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 14 (economy), although effects are uncertain as requirements will differ across the site. Without the preferred policy, there may be potential for business uses to negatively impact the amenity of residents, therefore a minor negative effect is expected for SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing).

Recommendations

4.328 No recommendations identified.

Chapter 7 – Sub-areas

Policy 31: Sub-Area principles

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 31: Sub-Area principles
- B. Alternative option - Piecemeal approach to intensified uses – plot promotion managed through DM process
- C. Alternative option - Do nothing: NPPF development principles

Table 4.41 Policy 31: Sub-Area principles

SA objective	A	B	C
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	-?	-?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	+	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	++	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	-?	-?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+	+?	+?
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+	+?	+?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	++	0	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	0	-?	-?

A. Preferred policy

4.329 Minor positive effects are expected for SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) and 6 (landscape and townscape), as the policy seeks to make efficient use of land and requires functional needs to avoid having a negative effect on the public realm. The preferred policy option aims to improve the quality of development and create communities. As such, a significant positive effect is expected for SA objective 15 (infrastructure), as it supports investment in people, places and communities.

4.340 A significant positive effect is expected on SA objective 5 (biodiversity) as the policy supports the creation, protection, enhancement and management of local biodiversity and Green Infrastructure (GI). Furthermore, a minor positive effect is expected for SA objective 3 (water) as the policy ensures surface water flooding will be mitigated in the design of the development therefore, protecting the water and the natural environment. Therefore, the policy is also expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 8 (climate change resilience), as the policy supports the mitigation of climate change effects, such as flooding. The policy is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 10 (open space), as the policy suggests developments should make improvements to the quality of the public realm, providing spaces for movement, circulation, seating and biodiversity.

4.341 The policy is also expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy) as the policy ensures there is a mix of residential and employment uses, along with a range of retail units to meet people's needs and improve the economy. Furthermore, the policy ensures that community and cultural facilities such as community centres, libraries and multi-use cultural venues are located within mixed use developments, which will contribute to the social wellbeing of residents and may provide activities to contribute to mental and physical wellbeing.

B. Piecemeal approach to intensified uses – plot promotion managed through DM process

4.342 This option may lead to a lesser variety of development, including type and size of units, as there would be no overall co-ordination of development in the sub-areas. It would also be difficult to plan for the appropriate infrastructure for the sub-areas, which may result in some uses, such as community facilities, not being delivered. Piecemeal development could also hinder a cohesive approach to the public realm and biodiversity. A degree of employment uses and local services and facilities, including retail, would still likely come forward in the sub-areas, therefore minor positive effects uncertain are expected for SA objective 13 (local services and facilities) and 14 (economy). However, lack of a joined up approach could result in a lack of provision of appropriate infrastructure, including social and community infrastructure, meaning that people may have to travel further and by car to meet their needs, resulting in minor negative uncertain effects for SA objectives 2, (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 9 (sustainable travel).

C. Do nothing: NPPF development principles

4.343 This option would consider development proposals against the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) development principles, which centres on the presumption in favour of sustainable development. The NPPF states that there should be an integrated approach to the location of housing, economic use and community services and facilities, which may help ensure some provision of services and facilities but there would not be any appropriate local planning to ensure that local needs are met. As such, the effects of this option are expected to be the same as the effects identified for Alternative B.

Recommendations

4.344 No recommendations identified.

Policy 32: District Centre Sub-Area

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Policy 32: District Centre Sub-Area
- B. Alternative option – Retention of Veolia Waste Transfer Station on-site
- C. Alternative option – On-site relocation of the Golf driving range
- D. Alternative option – Retail and residential led, no employment floorspace
- E. Alternative option – Retail provision greater than 5,000sqm to create a destination shopping location
- F. Alternative option – Do nothing: NPPF development principles

Table 4.42 Policy 32: District Centre Sub-Area

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+?	-	+?	+?	+/-?	-
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	+?	+?	+?	+?	+?	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+?	+?	+?	+?	+?	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+	+	+	+	0

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	+	+	+	+/-?	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	-	+	+	+	-
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	++	++	++	++	++	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	+?	+?	+	++	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+	+	+	+	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	++	++	++	++	++	+/-?
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	+?	+?	+/-?	++	+?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	++	++	++	++	++	0
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	++	++	+/-	++/-	0

A. Preferred policy

4.345 The preferred policy is expected to have a significant positive effects on SA objective 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure), as overall the policy seeks to invest in people, places and communities, including improving the quality of and access to services and facilities, such as the provision of a new primary school. The policy is expected to have an uncertain mixed minor positive and negative effect on SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources),

as the policy supports the relocation of the golf driving range which is a part brownfield and part greenfield site.

4.346 The policy is also expected to have a uncertain minor positive effect on SA objective 5 (biodiversity) and 3 (water), as the policy seeks to protect and enhance the First Public Drain as a biodiversity corridor and amenity space, including through the protection of existing mature and semi-mature trees along Cowley Road and the First Public Drain. Reducing flood risk will help protect the natural environment and biodiversity. The policy is also expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), as reducing flood risk will help protect public safety.

4.347 The policy is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objectives 10 (open space) and 16 (sustainable travel), as design guidance within the policy allows for a new public square, easy movement including through new pedestrian and cycle routes and as such the development will prioritise walking and cycling. This is also expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), as prioritising sustainable travel and having local shops and amenities will reduce the need to travel, which will help minimise greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution.

4.348 The preferred policy is expected to have significant positive effects on SA objectives 11 (housing) and 14 (economy), as the policy supports development of around 250 new homes, including a range of accommodation sizes and tenures (which includes affordable housing), 20,000 sqm of employment space, 5,000 sqm of retail space and a new District Square that can support events such as temporary markets. As such, development is likely to a positive impact on the economy.

4.349 The preferred policy is expected to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape), as proposals within the area will be required to reflect the grain, scale and form of the development on the northern side.

B. Retention of Veolia Waste Transfer Station on-site

4.350 This option is likely to have similar effects to the preferred policy, with the following exceptions.

4.351 The retention of Veolia Waste Transfer Station on-site is expected to have a minor negative effect on SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as it may have negative effects on amenity, particularly residential amenity of the new development, such as through noise and odour issues.

4.352 Furthermore, it is expected that the retention of the Veolia Waste Transfer Station would result in development of a lower number of residential units, along with less employment and retail space. Therefore, an uncertain minor positive effect is expected for SA objectives 11 (housing) and 14 (economy) depending on what type of development was reduced.

C. On-site relocation of the golf driving range

4.353 This option is likely to have similar effects to the preferred policy, with the following exceptions. The relocation of the on-site golf driving range would result in less space available for provision of new residential units, along with employment and retail space. Therefore, an uncertain minor positive effect is expected for SA objectives 11 (housing) and 14 (economy).

D. Retail and residential led, no employment floorspace

4.354 This option is likely to have similar effects to the preferred policy, with the following exceptions. The policy option is likely to have a minor positive effect on SA objective 11 (housing), as the development will provide a range of accommodation sizes and tenures. An uncertain minor positive and negative effect is expected for SA objective 14 (economy), as having retail floorspace may have a positive effect on the economy however, having no employment floorspace could have a negative impact, but both of these effects are uncertain.

4.355 The policy option is expected to have a minor positive and negative effect on SA objective 16 (sustainable travel), as residents will have access to retail shops for amenities however, residents may have to travel further for employment.

E. Retail provision greater than 5,000 sqm to create a destination shopping location

4.356 This option is likely to have similar effects to the preferred policy, with the following exceptions. The policy option is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 14 (economy), as the provision of retail greater than 5,000 sqm to create a destination shopping location is likely to improve the local economy. The shopping destination is likely to draw more people from further afield which will likely increase travel by private car into and around NEC, although many local residents will be able to use the facilities without driving. As such, an uncertain minor positive and negative effect is expected for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and a significant positive and minor negative effect for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel).

F. Do nothing: NPPF development principles

4.357 This option would consider development proposals against the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which centres on the presumption in favour of sustainable development. The area currently has Veolia Waste Transfer Station and a Golf driving range on-site which would likely remain on the site if this option was taken. The retention of Veolia Waste Transfer Station on-site is expected to have a minor negative effect on SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 9 (health and wellbeing), as it may have negative effects on amenity, particularly residential amenity of the new development, such as through noise and odour issues. The NPPF states that there should be an integrated approach to the location of housing, economic use and community services and facilities, which may help ensure some provision of services and facilities but there would not be any appropriate local planning to ensure that local needs are met. As such, the Centre District may become partially developed resulting in piecemeal development in terms of built form and delivery. This option could also result in an under-provision of retail floorspace and an increase in industrial land coming forward which could have an uncertain minor positive effect on SA objective 14 (economy), in terms of job provision, but a mixed minor positive and minor negative uncertain effect on SA objective 13 (services and facilities).

Recommendations

4.358 No recommendations identified.

Policy 33: Science Park Local Centre Sub-Area

- A. Preferred policy – Science Park Local Centre Sub-Area
- B. Alternative option – Development to consist of residential uses only
- C. Alternative option – Development to consist of office uses only

D. Alternative option – Do nothing: NPPF development principles

Table 4.43 Policy 33: Science Park Local Centre Sub-Area

SA objective	A	B	C	D
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	--?	--?	--?	?
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	+	+	0?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+	+	+	0?
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+	+	0?
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	+	+	0?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+/-	+/-	+/-	0?
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+	+	0?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	++	++	++	0?
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+?	+	0	0?
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	0	0	0?
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	++	0	+	+/-?
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	0	++	0?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	0	0	0?
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	+	+	0?

A. Preferred policy

4.359 Significant negative uncertain effects are expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) as the site is currently undeveloped. It is within an area of best and most versatile agricultural land, but given the location of the site is unlikely to be used for agriculture. Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 10 (open space), 13 (services and facilities) and 16 (sustainable travel), as the local centre will provide a range of services and facilities for people in the local area, including new open space, therefore reducing the need to travel.

4.360 Significant positive effects are also expected for SA objective 14 (economy) as the policy provides for new employment space, as well as new retail floorspace.

4.361 Minor positive effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), as creation of a local centre at this location may help to ensure people have access to shops and services within a walkable distance of their homes and/or workplaces, and the policy requires walking and cycling to be prioritised. These effects would be further enhanced by including a logistics hub to consolidate last mile deliveries, therefore minimising traffic movements in the local area as a result of deliveries. Minor positive effects are also expected for SA objective 12 (equality) and 15 (infrastructure), as the local centre will provide services and facilities, including community facilities and community space, in an accessible location. The provision of open spaces, community space and emphasis on walking and cycling will also have minor positive effects on SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing).

4.362 Minor positive effects are also expected for SA objectives 5 (biodiversity) and 6 (landscape and townscape), as the policy requires 'biodiversity public open space', the retention of mature and semi-mature trees, and states that development should enhance the entrance to the science park and 'introduce a new urban character'.

4.363 Mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected for SA objective 8 (climate change resilience), as the policy encourages green space and tree planting, which could help adapt to the impacts of climate change, for example through providing local cooling, but the policy would also introduce more hard surfaces, which would reduce the infiltration of surface water and could contribute to the urban heat island effect.

4.364 Minor positive uncertain effects are expected for SA objective 11 (housing) as the policy states that residential uses would be permitted but does not specify how much housing would be delivered.

B. Development to consist of residential uses only

4.365 It has been assumed the requirements for open space would still apply for this option. Effects are expected to be similar to those for the preferred policy, with the exception of the following.

4.366 Negligible effects are expected for SA objectives 12 (equality), 13 (services and facilities), 14 (economy) and 15 (infrastructure) as the policy would not provide for community services and facilities, shops or new employment land. Minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel) as residential development would be next to existing employment sites and within a 5 minute walk of Campkin Road minor centre.

C. Development to consist of office uses only

4.367 It has been assumed the requirements for open space would still apply for this option. Effects are expected to be similar to those for the preferred policy, with the exception of the following.

4.368 Negligible effects are expected for SA objectives 11 (housing), 12 (equality) and 15 (infrastructure) as the policy would not provide for community services and facilities, shops or new residential development. Minor positive effects are expected for SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 16 (sustainable travel) as the policy would still promote walking and cycling, and would provide local employment, and possibly training, opportunities, but would not provide new local services and facilities.

D. Do nothing: NPPF development principles

4.369 This option would consider development proposals against the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which centres on the presumption in favour of sustainable development. This option could result in a single land use in the location, which is likely to be either residential or employment use, the effects of which are assessed above. However, it is possible that no development would come forward under this option. The NPPF states that there should be an integrated approach to the location of housing, economic use and community services and facilities, which may help ensure some provision of services and facilities but there would not be any appropriate local planning to ensure that local needs are met. As such, mixed minor positive and minor negative uncertain effects are expected for SA objective 13 (services and facilities). Negligible but uncertain effects are expected for most of the SA objectives as this option could result in no change from the current situation, but could still result in development of the site. There is a stronger degree of uncertainty recorded for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as effects on this objective depend on whether the site is developed or not.

Recommendations

4.370 If the local centre includes a logistics hub, the policy should encourage last mile deliveries to be undertaken by zero-carbon means.

4.371 Development should maximise green infrastructure provision in order to adapt to the effects of climate change, including provision of green roofs and walls. The policy should require runoff rates to be kept at greenfield levels or below, and encourage the use of SUDS to achieve this.

Policy 34: Station Approach Sub-Area

- A. Preferred policy – Station Approach Sub-Area
- B. Alternative option – Development to consist of residential uses only
- C. Alternative option – Development to consist of office uses only
- D. Alternative option – Do nothing: NPPF development principles

Table 4.44 Policy 34: Station Approach Sub-Area

SA objective	A	B	C	D
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	++?	++?	++?	0?

SA objective	A	B	C	D
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	+	+	-?
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	+	+	+	0?
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	-	-	-	0?
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	-	-	-	0?
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	+	+	+	0?
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	+	+	-?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+	+	0?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	++	0	0?
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+	0	0?
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+	0	+	+/-?
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	0	++	0?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	0	0	0?
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	++	++	-?

A. Preferred policy

4.372 Significant positive uncertain effects are expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as development will make use of previously developed land and will result in more efficient use of land in the area, although substantial areas of vegetation have established in some parts of the area.

4.373 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objectives 11 (housing) and 14 (economy), as the policy provides for around 600 residential units and states that these should be of a wide range of types and tenures, as well as around 15,000 sqm of employment land. This variety in housing will result in minor positive effects on SA objective 12 (equality).

4.374 Significant positive effects are expected for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel), and minor positive effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), as development in this area will benefit from the proximity of the train station, guided busway and planned Cambridge Autonomous Metro, as well as providing walking and cycling provision, making sustainable transport an attractive mode of travel.

4.375 Minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 3 (water), as de-culverting the First Public Drain could help to enhance the quality of the waterbody. Minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape), as the policy requires development to improve the arrival experience from Cambridge North station and requires an LVIA and Townscape Assessment to be undertaken to inform development. Minor positive effects are also expected for SA objective 9 (health and wellbeing), 13 (services and facilities) and 15 (infrastructure) due to provision of local services and facilities, including retail and community use, as well as requiring adverse impacts on amenity to be mitigated and requiring links to the Waterbeach Greenway and Chisholm Trail.

4.376 Minor negative effects are expected for SA objectives 4 (protected habitats and species) and 5 (biodiversity), as the policy is likely to increase urban edge effects (such as litter, pet predation and trampling) on Bramblefields Local Natural Reserve and would lead to loss of existing vegetation and brownfield land that may be of biodiversity interest.

B. Development to consist of residential uses only

4.377 Effects are expected to be similar to those for the preferred policy, with the exception of the following.

4.378 Negligible effects are expected for SA objectives 13 (services and facilities), 14 (economy) and 15 (infrastructure), as this option would not include provision of employment, retail or community uses.

C. Development to consist of office uses only

4.379 Effects are expected to be similar to those for the preferred policy, with the exception of the following.

4.380 Negligible effects are expected for SA objectives 11 (housing), 12 (equality) and 15 (infrastructure), as this option would not include provision of residential, retail or community uses.

D. Do nothing: NPPF development principles

4.381 This option would consider development proposals against the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) development principles, which centres on the presumption in favour of sustainable development. This option could result in a single land use in the location, which is likely to be either residential or employment use, the effects of which are assessed above. However, it is possible that no development would come forward under this option. The NPPF states that there should be an integrated approach to the location of housing, economic use and community services and facilities, which may help ensure some provision of services and facilities but there would not be any appropriate local planning to ensure that local needs are met. As such, mixed minor positive and minor negative uncertain effects are expected for SA

objective 13 (services and facilities). Negligible but uncertain effects are expected for most of the SA objectives as this option will result in no change from the current situation but could still result in development of the site.

4.382 Minor negative uncertain effects are likely to SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as not setting out a policy to ensure development of this area takes full advantage of its location with a good range of sustainable transport connections, would fail to promote more sustainable transport choices and therefore minimise emissions of greenhouse gases and air pollutants.

Recommendations

4.383 The policy could be further enhanced by requiring high-quality walking and cycling connectivity to the rest of the AAP area and to the southwest of the sub-area.

4.384 The area contains land with potential biodiversity value, therefore it is recommended a detailed ecological assessment is undertaken for this part of the site to identify the biodiversity value present and recommend a strategy for minimising loss and maximising biodiversity gain – this should be committed to in the policy.

Policy 35: Cowley Road Neighbourhood Centre Sub-Area

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Cowley Road Neighbourhood Centre Sub Area
- B. Alternative option – No primary or secondary school in the location
- C. Alternative option – Development to consist of residential and retail uses only
- D. Alternative option – Retail provision in excess of indicative development capacity
- E. Alternative option – Do nothing: NPPF development principles

Table 4.45 Policy 35: Cowley Road Neighbourhood Sub-Area

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+	+	+	+	0?
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	-?	-?	-?	-?	-
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	+	+	+	+	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+	+	+	+	0?
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	++	++	++	++	0?

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+	+/-	+	+/--	-
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0	0	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+	+/-?	+	0?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	++	++	++	++	0?
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+	+?	+?	+?	0?
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+	+	+	0?
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	++	+	+/-?	++	+/-
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	++	+/-?	++	0?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+	0	0	+	0?
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	+/-	++	+/-	-

A. Preferred policy

4.385 Significant positive effects are expected in relation to SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape). This is because the policy aims to address the street along Cowley Road through active frontages and introducing a new urban character. It will also create new open spaces and squares that would enhance the street scene and any development should mitigate adverse impacts on residential amenity, education facilities and open spaces from the A14 and Milton Road. These measures should have a significant positive effect on maintaining and enhancing the diversity and local distinctiveness of the townscape character.

4.386 Significant positive effects are also expected in relation to SA objective 10 (open space). The creation of a new open space and square, as well as the enhancement of the City Wildlife Site will significantly improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space.

4.387 The policy is anticipated to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 13 (services and facilities). The provision of community facilities such as schools and shops, safer roads, and walking and cycling links should significantly improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities. The provision of employment uses, including B1 and retail use also means the policy should have a significant positive effect on SA objective 14 (economy).

4.388 The policy is also anticipated to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 16 (sustainable travel). It will provide local services, facilities and jobs to reduce the need to travel. It will also result in safer roads, as well as providing improved walking and cycling links which will reduce reliance on the car.

4.389 Minor positive effects are expected for a number of the remaining objectives including: SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as it will use land that has been previously developed, SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), due to increased pedestrian and cycle routes as well as local services and facilities leading to a reduction in motorised transport, and SA objectives 4 (protected habitats and species) and 5 (biodiversity), due to the protection and enhancement of Milton Road Hedgerows City Wildlife Site. and the addition of new open space. Minor positive effects have also been identified for SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), 12 (equality) and 15 (infrastructure), due to the provision of local services, facilities, better transport links, education and jobs and SA objective 11 (housing) due to the provision of additional housing.

4.390 However, a minor negative effect with uncertainty is expected for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), as the presence of the Waste Water Treatment Works has likely led to contaminated land. However, uncertainty is recorded as development could potentially remediate the contaminated land.

B. No primary or secondary schools in the location

4.391 This alternative option is expected to have similar effects to the preferred policy. Even though schools will not be provided it is still expected that there will be significant positive effects on SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape), 10 (open space) and 14 (economy) due to the provision of open space, active frontages, and employment uses. Minor positive effects are expected for SA objective 13 (services and facilities), as the policy would provide for local services and facilities, including retail, but not education,

4.392 However, a negligible effect on SA objective 15 (infrastructure) is expected rather than a positive effect as schools will not be provided to help improve access to education and training. It is also noted that there are no existing schools within walking distance of this sub-area, which may lead to residents having to travel further, including by private car, to access education, therefore minor negative effects are expected for SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel). These effects are mixed with minor positive effects, as the mix of residential, retail and employment use will reduce the need to travel for some needs and for those who are not responsible for school-age children.

C. Development to consist of residential and retail uses only

4.393 This reasonable alternative option has very similar effects to the preferred policy for SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), 2 (air quality and pollution), 3 (water), 4 (protected habitats and species), 5 (biodiversity), 6 (landscape and townscape), 8 (climate change resilience), 10 (open space), 11 (housing) and 12 (equality) . It is still expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape) and 10 (open space) due to the provision of active frontages, open space, local facilities and jobs.

4.394 However, in not providing for schools and employment uses, mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected in regards to SA objectives 13 (services and facilities) and 14 (economy) as access to services, facilities and jobs will be limited to the retail development on site and as part of this area (St John's Innovation Centre) is already in employment use and so there is the potential for loss of jobs. Furthermore, if schools are not provided, and as there

are currently no existing schools within walking distance, a negligible effect is expected in regard to SA objective 15 (infrastructure) as access to education and training will not be improved. It is noted that minor negative uncertain effects are also expected for SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), due to potential loss of jobs at St John's Innovation Park.

4.395 It is noted that there are no existing schools within walking distance of this sub-area, which may lead to residents having to travel further, including by private car, to access education, therefore minor negative effects are expected for SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable transport). These effects are mixed with minor positive effects, as the mix of residential and retail development in proximity to existing employment development, as well as the requirement for walking and cycling links will reduce need to travel for some everyday purposes, particularly for those without school age children.

D. Retail development is excess of indicative development capacity

4.396 Increasing the development capacity of retail uses is anticipated to have identical effects to the preferred policy. Significant positive effects would be expected on SA objectives 6 (landscape and townscape), 13 (services and facilities), 14 (economy) and 16 (sustainable travel), which also receive significant positive effects as a result of the preferred policy due to the inclusion of retail use in this.

E. Do nothing: NPPF development principles

4.397 This option would consider development proposals against the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which centres on the presumption in favour of sustainable development. This option could result in a single land use in the location however, it is possible that no development would come forward under this option. As such, negligible but uncertain effects are expected for most SA objectives as an option based on the NPPF would most likely result in no change from the current situation, but could still result in development of the site. Minor negative uncertain effects are expected for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), as without this policy it is unlikely that any schools would come forward in this location and therefore the education needs of the redevelopment of NEC are unlikely to be met and people are likely to travel further, by car, to access educational facilities. The NPPF states that there should be an integrated approach to the location of housing, economic use and community services and facilities, which may help ensure some provision of services and facilities but there would not be any appropriate local planning to ensure that local needs are met. In particular, schools are less likely to come forward at this location. As such, mixed minor positive and minor negative effects are expected for SA objective 13 (services and facilities).

Recommendations

4.398 It is recommended that additional text be added to the policy to require the neighbourhood centre to be an exemplar of how increased density of development can minimise contribution to climate change. This could be through for example the implementation of sustainable construction practices and / or renewable energy technologies, for example solar PV panels on roofs. Denser development in a neighbourhood centre may also offer the opportunity for decentralised energy and district heating networks.

Chapter 8 – implementation, Infrastructure and Monitoring

Policy 36a: Land Assembly

Policy options

- A. Preferred policy – Land Assembly
- B. Alternative option – Piecemeal approach to land assembly managed through the DM process

Table 4.46 Policy 36a: Land Assembly

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+	?
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+?	?
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+?	?
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+?	?

SA objective	A	B
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+?	-?
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+?	0

A. Preferred policy

4.399 This is expected to have a negligible effect on the majority of the SA objectives. This is because the policy is related to the delivery of the whole AAP rather than the specific outcomes. The outcomes and elements of the AAP are assessed in detail through the SA of the other individual policies in the Plan.

4.400 However, a minor positive effect is expected for SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), as the delivery of the AAP and the assembly of land to do this will use brownfield land and this will minimise the loss of undeveloped land and minimise the amount of underutilised land.

4.401 Minor positive effects are also expected for SA objectives 11 (housing), 13 (services and facilities), 14 (economy), 15 (infrastructure) and 16 (sustainable travel), though with uncertainty. This is because without land assembly, delivery of services and infrastructure could be delayed or not delivered.

B. Piecemeal approach to land assembly managed through the DM process

4.402 Under this option, it is likely that the AAP Spatial Framework for NEC will not be achieved through a comprehensive process, thereby leading to possible delays in the delivery of development such as housing, schools, employment use, community facilities etc. Therefore, this option is expected to have minor negative effects against SA objective 15 (infrastructure) and uncertain effects for the rest of the SA objectives.

Recommendations

4.403 No recommendations

Policy 36b: Relocation

Policy options

- A. Preferred Policy – Relocation
- B. Alternative option – Piecemeal approach to relocation managed through DM process

Table 4.47 Policy 36b: Relocation

SA objective	A	B
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	?	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	0	0

SA objective	A	B
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	0	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	0	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	0	0
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	+?	?
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	0	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+?	?
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	+/-?	?
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+?	-?
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+?	0

A. Preferred policy

4.404 This is expected to have a negligible effect on the majority of the SA objectives. Effects on SA objective 1 (land, soils and mineral resources) are uncertain, as the delivery of the AAP and the relocation of existing floorspace and uses to do this could result in the use of brownfield land which would minimise the loss of undeveloped land. However, we do not know where land will be relocated and there are some small areas of greenfield within the AAP area. Minor positive effects with uncertainty are expected for SA objectives 11 (housing), 13 (services and facilities), 15 (infrastructure) and 16 (sustainable travel). This is because the relocation of necessary floorspaces and uses that are incompatible with the spatial strategy will mean that

new development including services, facilities and supporting infrastructure can be delivered. Without this, development could be delayed or not delivered at all.

4.405 Mixed effects are recorded against SA objective 14 (economy). This is because, as set out above, relocation of floorspaces and uses incompatible with the spatial strategy will mean that new employment uses and services can be delivered without delay and in the best locations. However, there is also the possibility that relocation could have a negative impact on those businesses that are needing to relocate, in terms of disruption to business operations, associated costs etc.

B. Piecemeal approach to relocation managed through the DM process

4.406 This option would manage the relocation of existing floorspace and other uses through the development management process and therefore could lead to an ineffective and disjointed approach to relocation. Minor negative effects are expected against SA objective 15 (infrastructure) for this reason. Without the preferred policy, relocation of existing floorspaces or uses may not be as easily achievable and therefore there may be delays in the delivery of development such as housing, schools, employment use, community facilities etc. leading to uncertain effects for a number of the SA objectives.

Recommendations

4.407 It is recommended that additional text be added to the policy which would help to mitigate the potential impact on those uses that would need to be relocated. This could form part of the Relocation Strategy and be in addition to the engagement with affected businesses. It could include the requirement for discussions to take place regarding the mitigation of disruption and the re-imbursement of costs.

Policy 37: Planning Contributions

Policy options

- A. Preferred Policy – Planning contributions
- B. Alternative option – Developer contributions required through local infrastructure tariff
- C. Alternative option – In-kind contributions to be sought by developers to achieve infrastructure on site
- D. Alternative option – Contributions limited to CAM Metro
- E. Alternative option – Contribution limited to affordable housing
- F. Alternative option – No major development granted consent without contributions in line with AAP viability
- G. Alternative option – Status Quo: rely on existing policy

Table 4.48 Policy 37: Planning Contributions

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	+	+	+	-	+	+

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	+?	+?	+?	-?	-?	+?	+?
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	+?	+?	+?	-?	-?	+?	+?
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	+?	+?	-?	-?	+?	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	+?	+?	+?	+	-?	+?	+?
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+?	+?	+?	-?	-?	+?	+?
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+?	+?	+?	-?	+	+?	+?
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	+?	+?	+?	-?	-?	+?	+?
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	++	+++?	+++?	-?	++	+?	+?
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+?	+?	+?	-?	+	+?	+?
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+?	+?	+?	+	-?	+?	+?
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	+?	+?	+?	-?	-?	+?	+?
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	+?	+?	+?	++	-?	+?	+?

A. Preferred policy

4.408 The policy is expected to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 11 (housing), as planning contributions will help to secure the provision of affordable housing in relation to residential schemes.

4.409 A minor positive uncertain effect is expected for SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution), as the policy suggests that planning contributions will go towards mitigating environmental pollution, such as through the provision of a noise barrier for the A14 or highway network.

4.410 The majority of the other objectives are also anticipated to receive minor positive uncertain effects as planning contributions will help to finance major strategic infrastructure, as well as new or enhanced infrastructure set out in the IDP. It is assumed that this infrastructure will include: open space, recreation facilities and green infrastructure (SA objectives 5 (biodiversity), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 8 (climate change resilience), 9 (health and wellbeing), and 10 (open space)); SUDS and drainage (SA objective 3 (water) and 8 (climate change resilience)); active travel links; improvements to roads and public transport; (SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), 9 (health and wellbeing), 12 (equality), 13 (services and facilities), 15 (infrastructure) and 16 (sustainable travel)) funding for schools, training and community facilities (SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing), 12 (equality), 13 (services and facilities), 14 (economy), 15 (infrastructure) and 16 (sustainable travel)); renewable energy and / or carbon offsetting (SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 8 (climate change resilience)). As this is not confirmed in the policy, the minor positive effects are uncertain.

B. Developer contributions required through Local Infrastructure Tariff

4.411 This reasonable alternative option is expected to have very similar effects as the preferred policy, as CIL is another means of collecting contributions from developers to deliver required infrastructure and mitigation. Uncertainty has been added to the significant positive effects expected on SA objective 11 (housing), as it is not stated in this reasonable alternative that the contributions will help to secure the provision of affordable housing, although it is assumed that it will.

C. In kind contributions to be sought by developers to achieve infrastructure on site

4.412 This reasonable alternative option is also expected to have very similar effects as the preferred policy as infrastructure would simply be delivered 'in-kind' (directly by the developer) rather than through financial contributions. However, this option may add further uncertainty as the delivery of the infrastructure may depend on developer timings, which may mean it cannot be delivered at the ideal time. Uncertainty has been added to the significant positive effects expected on SA objective 11 (housing), as it is not stated in this reasonable alternative that the contributions will help to secure the provision of affordable housing, although it is assumed that it will.

D. Contributions limited to CAM Metro

4.413 This reasonable alternative option is likely to have significant positive effects on SA objective 16 (sustainable travel), as delivery of the CAM Metro will improve modal choice, facilitate use of public transport and discourage use of the private car.

4.414 Minor positive effects are likely for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions), as it would result in a reduction in motorised transport and

associated emissions, and SA objective 13 (services and facilities) as it will improve accessibility to key services.

4.415 However, a minor negative effect with uncertainty is likely for the majority of the SA objectives if contributions are limited to the CAM Metro. This is because development may come forward without needing providing contributions for other strategic infrastructure and mitigation needed to support the development and provide benefits for the AAP area.

E. Contributions limited to affordable housing

4.416 This reasonable alternative option is likely to have significant positive effects on SA objective 11 (housing), as it will result in the delivery of affordable housing. For this reason minor positive effects are also expected for SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing) and 12 (equality).

4.417 However, a minor negative effect with uncertainty is likely for the majority of the SA objectives if contributions are limited to the provision of affordable housing. This is because development may come forward without providing contributions for other strategic infrastructure and mitigation needed to support the development and provide benefits for the AAP area.

F. No major development granted consent without contributions in line with AAP viability

4.418 This option is likely to have similar effects to the preferred policy as developer contributions would still be made. However, if development cannot be consented without contributions, and the developers consider that this makes their proposals unviable, this may result in less development coming forward, and the development and infrastructure not being delivered or being delayed. For this reason uncertainty remains.

G. Rely on existing policy

4.419 This option would see the continued use of Cambridge Local Plan Policy 85 and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan policies SS/4, TI/8, H/10, E/14, E/22, which relate to infrastructure delivery. This option is expected to have similar effects to option F as the existing policies provide guidance on provision of retail, affordable housing and infrastructure development in addition to planning obligations and community infrastructure levies. However, uncertainty is attached due to the fact that there is no joined-up, comprehensive and sufficient policy in place currently that covers the AAP area as a whole (instead there are South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City Local Plan policies which cover different areas of the AAP area) and so without it there could be a lack of coordination and infrastructure procured for the site.

Recommendations

4.420 Additional wording could be added to the policy to be clearer in what is covered by strategic infrastructure. For example this could include: open space, recreation and green infrastructure; drainage; active travel links; improvements to roads and public transport; funding for schools, training and community facilities; renewable energy and / or carbon offsetting.

Policy 38: Digital Infrastructure and open innovation

Policy options

- A. Preferred Policy – Digital Infrastructure and open innovation
- B. Alternative option – Green roofs with high vegetation required to cool buildings
- C. Alternative option – Buildings must replicate natural cooling airflows
- D. Alternative option – No digital street furniture
- E. Alternative option – Open data not a planning consideration
- F. Alternative option – Requirement to maximise a building's off grid potential by exploring decentralised utilities and energy production: including rain water harvesting, photovoltaic panels, microgrids, and domestic wind turbines where appropriate
- G. Alternative option – Development must contribute to and accommodate a new autonomous pod system
- H. Alternative option – Status Quo: rely on existing policy

Table 4.49 Policy 38: Digital Infrastructure and open innovation

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	0
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	0
9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0

SA objective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	++	++	++	++	++?	++	++	0
15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	+
16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices	++	++	++	++	++?	++	++	0

A. Preferred policy

4.421 The policy is considered likely to have significant positive effects on SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions). This is because it sets out the use of solar panels on street furniture so they self-power, it aims to deliver electric vehicle charging points and implement the use of the circular economy – reducing waste and promoting the more efficient use of materials. It will also expect development to incorporate a single waste collection point, minimise waste during the operational phase and consider rooftop delivery space which should reduce road traffic trips and emissions.

4.422 Significant positive effects are also expected in relation to SA objective 14 (economy) as the circular economy principles set out in the policy should help improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the area. Additionally, the experiments for future mobility mentioned in the policy will aim to help foster the areas innovation. It is also anticipated that the delivery of smart buildings with high quality communications will contribute to this.

4.423 Significant positive effects are also expected for SA objective 15 (infrastructure) due to the investment in quality communications infrastructure, and high speed and open access broadband which will improve community services and infrastructure as well as possibly improving access to distance education and training opportunities.

4.424 Significant positive effects are also expected for SA objective 16 (sustainable travel). This is as a result of the provision of electric vehicle charging points, which will encourage the use of

electric vehicles, improved public realm and wayfinding which should facilitate walking and cycling, access to good broadband which may in some circumstances reduce the need to travel at all, and the reduction in the number of vehicles on the streets due to single waste collection points and the possibility of drone deliveries. The experiments in future mobility may also assist in supporting the delivery of new transport services.

4.425 Minor positive effects are expected for a number of the objectives, including SA objectives 1 (land, soils and mineral resources), 2 (air quality and pollution), 8 (climate change resilience), 9 (health and wellbeing), 12 (equality) and 13 (services and facilities). This is due to a number of factors within the policy including: the promotion of the circular economy, recycling and minimising waste (SA objective 1); single waste collection point and drone deliveries (SA objective 2); reducing the risk of overheating (SA objective 8), and improving access to broadband (SA objectives 9, 12, and 13).

B. Green roofs with high vegetation required to cool buildings

4.426 This reasonable alternative option is expected to have very similar effects as the preferred policy as it is assumed that the requirements and measures in the preferred policy will remain, but with the addition of the requirement for green roofs. Significant positive effects are expected in relation to SA objective 8 (climate change resilience), as provision of green roofs will reduce vulnerability to climate change through natural cooling as well as reducing flood risk. Minor positive effects are also expected for SA objective 5 (biodiversity) as it will enhance habitats and species in the area, helping to delivering net gains in biodiversity and could enhance connectivity and improve access to wildlife and green space. It is noted that provision of green roofs could impact upon the space needed for drone deliveries, therefore uncertainty has been added to the minor positive effect on SA objective 2 (air quality and pollution).

C. Buildings must replicate natural cooling airflows and use fans instead of air conditioning

4.427 This reasonable alternative option is also expected to have very similar effects as the preferred policy as it is assumed that the requirements and measures in the preferred policy will remain but with the additional requirement of natural cooling airflows as an alternative to air conditioning. Significant positive effects are expected on SA objective 8 (climate change resilience) because the use of natural cooling rather than air conditioning means the building can adapt to climate change in a way that does not increase greenhouse gas emissions. It will also contribute further to the significant positive effects on SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) through a reduction in energy use.

D. No digital street furniture

4.428 Again this option is expected to have very similar effects as the preferred policies as it is assumed that many elements of the preferred policy would remain the same, with just the removal of the requirement for digital street furniture.

4.429 Significant positive effects are still anticipated with regards to SA objectives 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 16 (sustainable travel), however this may be slightly reduced without the provision of electric vehicle charging points and improved public realm and wayfinding which would minimise impacts on climate change and encourage walking and cycling respectively.

E. Open data not a planning consideration

4.430 This reasonable alternative option will mean that developments are not obliged to provide open data, and therefore the benefits associated with this may not be realised. The effects on

the majority of the SA objectives are identical to those for the preferred policy as the reasons for these effects include: the use of the circular economy; recycling, reducing and reusing materials; reducing overheating; providing high quality communications and broadband; reducing vehicle movements; and improving the public realm, all of which could be delivered without open access data. However, uncertainty has been added to two of the SA objectives that are anticipated to receive significant positive effects. SA objectives 14 (economy) and 16 (sustainable travel) have added uncertainty because it is not clear whether the experiments on future mobility will be impacted by not having access to open data.

F. Requirement to maximise a building's off grid potential by exploring decentralised utilities and energy production: including rain water harvesting, photovoltaic panels, microgrids, and domestic wind turbines where appropriate

4.431 This reasonable alternative option is expected to have very similar effects to the preferred policy as the requirements of the preferred policy would remain with the added requirement of maximising a building's off grid potential. This addition has resulted in minor positive effects on SA objective 3 (water) due to the potential requirement for rainwater harvesting which will help to use water resources more efficiently and protect groundwater.

4.432 Furthermore, this additional requirement will enhance the significant positive effects expected on SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) as the requirement for more renewable energy technologies will minimise impacts on climate change.

G. Development must contribute to and accommodate a new autonomous pod system instead of experiments on future mobility

4.433 This reasonable alternative option is expected to have almost identical effects to the preferred policy as it is assumed that all other requirements and measures in the preferred policy will remain, but with the requirement for developers to contribute to an autonomous pod system rather than the council carrying out experiments on future mobility. This alternative option could enhance the significant positive effects on SA objective 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) through the use of sustainable transport and reduced energy use. It is also expected to contribute to significant effects on SA objective 14 (economy) through the provision of an innovative transport solution which will enhance connectivity, and SA objective 16 (sustainable travel) through providing a sustainable alternative to the use of cars. However, it is not expected that these alternative approaches would lead to different overall outcomes on these objectives.

H. Rely on Existing Policy

4.434 This option would see the continued use of existing Cambridge Local Plan Policy 42 and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan policies CC/1, CC/3, CC/5 and TI/10. However, unlike the preferred policy, the existing policies do not state that development proposals should include a digital infrastructure and open innovation strategy. This could result in continuation of a linear, rather than circular, economy, digital street furniture not being implemented, communications not being improved, and the recycling, reuse and minimising of waste not being implemented. Therefore, this option is expected to have a negligible impact on the majority of SA objectives.

4.435 Minor positive are expected against SA objective 15 (infrastructure) as the existing policies aim to provide high capacity broadband as an integral part of development which would support investment in people and places.

Recommendations

4.436 It is recommended that the reasonable alternatives that set out the requirement for green roofs, natural cooling airflows and maximising a buildings off-grid potential, are incorporated into the policy, due to the additional positive effects that these measures add, particularly on SA objectives 5 (biodiversity), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 8 (climate change resilience).

Chapter 5 – Cumulative Effects of the Draft Area Action Plan

Introduction

5.1 This Chapter presents an assessment of the likely significant effects of the Area Action Plan as a whole on each of the SA objectives, i.e. an assessment of cumulative effects. Table 5.1 at the end of this section presents a summary of the likely effects for each of the individual policies in the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan, as well as the Draft Spatial Framework, vision and objectives.

SA Objective 1: Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves

5.2 The majority of NEC consists of previously developed land and AAP seeks to make efficient use of land in this area. As such, cumulative significant positive effects (++) are expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 2: Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution

5.3 The AAP has a strong focus on reducing the need to travel, promoting sustainable modes of transport, including walking and cycling connectivity, particularly via Policy 14: Sustainable Connectivity, Policy 16: Cycle Parking Infrastructure, Policy 17: Safeguarding for Cambridge Autonomous Metro and Public Transport and Policy 19: User Hierarchy for Streets. The AAP also seeks to reduce traffic movements to and from NEC through the use of a trip budget and parking restraints, through Policy 20: Managing Motorised Vehicles.

5.4 In addition, the AAP promotes energy-efficient development, particularly through Policy 3: Designing for the Climate Emergency. These measures are expected to reduce emissions of air pollutants from vehicle traffic and the burning of fossil fuels. The AAP also seeks to avoid, reduce and mitigate environmental pollution, particularly through Policy 25b: Environmental Protection, including potential land contamination in the area.

5.5 Nevertheless, the AAP proposes a substantial increase in development through the densification of employment uses and development of a substantial amount of residential development. This will result in an increase in energy use and car use, including through the AQMA on the A14 corridor. The proposed model of car barns on the periphery of NEC is likely to reduce traffic movements within the site, but vehicle movements may still increase air pollution in the area beyond, particularly in combination with the increase in development set out in the existing Cambridge Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan.

5.6 Overall, cumulative significant positive and minor negative effects (++/-?) are expected for this SA objective. There is considerable uncertainty regarding the minor negative effect. The AAP aims to reduce vehicle trip generation below current levels, which could be very challenging to achieve given the scale of development in the AAP. If it is achieved, then the minor negative effect would not arise. If it is not achieved, the minor negative effect could become a significant negative effect, given the potential effects on the A14 Corridor AQMA. At this stage, the SA has taken an approach that recognises what the AAP is seeking to achieve in terms of trip reductions, whilst flagging up that this could be a potential issue when trying to implement the AAP in practice.

SA Objective 3: Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment

5.7 The AAP seeks to limit water use and improve water quality through Policy 24: Water Quality, Demand and Sustainable Urban Drainage. The AAP also seeks to protect the water environment through preventing environmental pollution through Policy 25b: Environmental Protection, as well improving the First Public Drain and minimising the risk of flooding, through various policies. Overall, cumulative minor positive effects (+) are expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 4: Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species

5.8 Whilst the AAP will result in development within proximity to designated sites, including Bramblefields Local Nature Reserve and Milton Road Hedgerows County Wildlife Site, these are expected to be protected by Policy 21: Biodiversity & Net Gain. However, there is potential for increased disturbance at these sites in combination with an increase in development in the wider area.

5.9 The Draft Habitats Regulations Assessment Report⁹ concludes that adverse effects on the integrity of some European sites, including Devil's Dyke Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Wicken Fen Ramsar and Fenland SAC cannot be ruled out at this stage as a result of the NEC AAP either alone or in-combination with other plans and programmes.

5.10 Taking into account the findings of the Habitats Regulations Assessment at this stage of plan-making, cumulative mixed minor positive and significant negative uncertain effects (+/--?) are expected for this SA objective. It will be a priority to address the issues identified by the Habitats Regulations Assessment in order to resolve the potential significant negative effects identified.

SA Objective 5: Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces

5.11 The AAP promotes biodiversity gain through Policy 21: Biodiversity and Net Gain and Policy 22: Tree Protection and Coverage, which seeks to increase tree coverage in NEC. In addition, Policy 23: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Standards may lead to creation of green space with biodiversity value. Overall, cumulative minor positive effects (+) are expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 6: Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character

5.12 The AAP seeks to create a distinctive, attractive city district, through the policies set out in Chapter 6 – Built Form. In particular, Policy 26: Creating a High Quality, Distinctive new City District is expected to ensure development is integrated into and enhances the existing landscape and townscape. A number of other policies also require street level uses to have active frontages, which will help ensure a vibrant townscape. Overall, a cumulative significant positive effect (++) is expected for this SA objective.

⁹ LUC (2020) North East Cambridge Area Action Plan, HRA Report (Draft Report)

SA Objective 7: Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)

5.13 The AAP has a strong focus on reducing the need to travel, promoting sustainable modes of transport, including walking and cycling connectivity, particularly via Policy 14: Sustainable Connectivity, Policy 16: Cycle Parking Infrastructure, Policy 17: Safeguarding for Cambridge Autonomous Metro and Public Transport and Policy 19: User Hierarchy for Streets. In addition, the AAP seeks to reduce traffic movements to and from NEC through the use of a trip budget and parking restraints, through Policy 20: Managing Motorised Vehicles.

5.14 Policy 3: Designing for the Climate Emergency requires development to contribute towards achieving net zero carbon emissions and to have the flexibility to incorporate new technologies to achieve this in future. These measures are expected to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases both within the site itself and in terms of energy use of buildings. Nevertheless, the AAP proposes a substantial increase in development through the densification of employment uses and development of a substantial amount of residential development. This will result in an increase in energy use and car use, particularly in combination with the increase in development set out in the existing Cambridge Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan.

5.15 Overall, cumulative significant positive and minor negative effects (++/-) are expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 8: Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects

5.16 Policy 3: Designing for the Climate Emergency sets out a number of measures to help adapt to climate change, including designing buildings to minimise and manage increases in temperature and, along with Policy 5: Water Efficiency, to make efficient use of water resources. Policy 25: Flood Risk should also help ensure the increased risk of flooding as a result of climate change is minimised. Overall, the AAP includes a number of measures to help development adapt to climate change, therefore cumulative significant positive effects (++) are expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 9: Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities

5.17 In providing a substantial new number of homes and jobs, the AAP will contribute to improving human health and wellbeing by helping to ensure that everyone has access to suitable housing and can access employment opportunities. In addition, the AAP strongly supports active travel, particularly through policies Policy 14: Sustainable Connectivity, Policy 19: User Hierarchy for Streets and the sub-area policies, which will both help reduce vehicles on the road (therefore improving road safety) and encourage active lifestyles.

5.18 Physical, mental and social wellbeing will also benefit from the provision of local services, facilities and infrastructure, particularly those that encourage community cohesion and recreation, such as through Policy 9: Social and Community Infrastructure and Policy 23: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Standards.

5.19 Overall, cumulative significant positive effects (++) are expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 10: Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space

5.20 Policy 23: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Standards protects against loss of sport, open space, recreation and play facilities and requires these to be provided to serve new development and surrounding communities. The sub-area policies also include provision of

open/civic space. Overall, cumulative significant positive effects (++) are expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 11: Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing

5.21 The AAP provides for over 8,000 additional dwellings to be delivered in NEC. Policy 8a: Housing requires homes to be high quality, mixed in type and tenure, accessible and adaptable and a minimum 40% new homes to be affordable. Policies 8b to 8f give further details on the variety of housing to be provided, which together are expected to provide a suitably diverse range of housing stock. As such, cumulative significant positive effects (++) are expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 12: Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income

5.22 The AAP will help provide homes and jobs for those who need them in the area, and includes provision of specialist, affordable and accessible and adaptable housing. In addition, Policies 15: Connecting to the Wider Network and 28: Building Heights, Scale and Massing include provision for wheelchair users. Promoting sustainable modes of transport, including through the policies Chapter 4: Connectivity, and the ambition for a walkable neighbourhood may help ensure that those with mobility issues or who cannot afford a car can access employment, services and facilities. Overall, a cumulative minor positive effect (+) is expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 13: Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)

5.23 The AAP provides for new services and facilities to serve new development and the surrounding community. This includes provision of a new district centre through Policy 32: District Centre Sub-Area, a local centre at the Science Park (Policy 33), a neighbourhood centre at Cowley Road (Policy 35) as well as some retail and community uses in the Station Approach Sub-Area (Policy 34).

5.24 In addition, Policy 9 seeks to provide new social and community infrastructure, Policy 23 provides for new open space, sport and recreation facilities and a number of policies promote improved sustainable transport infrastructure.

5.25 Overall, cumulative significant positive effects (++) are expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 14: Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy

5.26 The AAP provides for 28,000 new jobs, particularly through the policies set out in Chapter 3 – Land Use, which is a substantial increase in employment delivery at the site and for the city as a whole. These policies seek to intensify employment use at the site and make efficient use of existing employment land. In addition, the AAP promotes active frontages and an attractive and readable public realm, which is likely to help attract employers and workers to the area. Overall, cumulative significant positive effects (++) are expected in relation to this SA objective, as the AAP will help provide jobs for NEC and the wider area, as well as boosting the local economy.

SA Objective 15: Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure

5.27 The AAP provides for new housing and employment, as well as services and facilities to serve new development and the surrounding community. This includes provision of a new centres through the policies in Chapter 7: Sub Areas, Policy 9: Social and Community Infrastructure, which seeks to provide new social and community infrastructure, Policy 23: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Standards, which provides for new open space, sport and recreation facilities and a number of policies that promote improved sustainable transport infrastructure.

5.28 In addition, Policy 38: Digital Infrastructure and Open Innovation should ensure investment in digital infrastructure and neighbourhoods ready to take advantage of future technologies.

5.29 Overall, cumulative significant positive effects (++) are expected for this SA objective.

SA Objective 16: Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices

5.30 The AAP has a strong focus on reducing the need to travel and promoting sustainable modes of transport, including walking and cycling connectivity, particularly via Policy 14: Sustainable Connectivity, Policy 16: Cycle Parking Infrastructure, Policy 17: Safeguarding for Cambridge Autonomous Metro and Public Transport and Policy 19: User Hierarchy for Streets. These policies will work together to achieve this objective, therefore cumulative significant positive effects (++) are expected for this SA objective.

In-combination effects with other plans and programmes

5.31 The SA has considered potential in-combination effects of the AAP with other relevant plans and programmes. The key other plans relevant to the AAP are the Cambridge Local Plan and the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. The cumulative effects of these two Local Plans were considered in their respective SAs prior to adoption, and both plans contain a policy allocating NEC for redevelopment. However, the AAP adds considerable detail to the policies allocating NEC and specific cumulative effects need to be taken into account when preparing and implementing the AAP.

5.32 The Local Plans propose a substantial amount of development in the wider area; at least 12 ha of employment land to accommodate around 22,100 new jobs and at least 14,000 additional dwellings in Cambridge City and 22,000 additional jobs and 19,500 additional homes in South Cambridge. This is likely to lead to further positive effects for SA objectives 11 (housing) and 14 (economy). There are also likely to be further, indirect effects for SA objectives 9 (health and wellbeing) and 12 (equality), due to increased employment and training opportunities, and access to decent housing, giving more people an increased quality of life.

5.33 The Local Plans identify a large amount of development in and near to the northern part of Cambridge. This includes Land between Huntington Road and Histon Road Area of Major Change, West Cambridge Area of Major Change and Cambridge East. In addition, the area covered by the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan continues to be developed. The South Cambridgeshire Local Plan includes a new settlement at Bourn Airfield and major growth at Cambourne West, which are connected to NEC via the A428, which leads into the A14 corridor AQMA. These developments, along with development of Waterbeach new town and a substantial extension to Northstowe could generate movements between these developments and the AAP area, particularly in terms of people commuting to work. This is likely to increase

traffic in the area, including along the A14 corridor, therefore adding to the negative effects identified for SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions). The large amount of development proposed in these plans could also have negative in-combination effects for SA objective 3 (water), as there will be a substantial increase in water demand in one of the driest parts of the country.

5.34 There may be in-combination effects of the AAP with relocation of the wastewater treatment works, but as it is not known where this will be relocated too, effects cannot be known at this stage.

Table 5.1 Summary of SA scores for the policies in the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan

Policy	SA1: Land, soils and mineral resources	SA2: Air Quality and pollution	SA3: Water	SA4: Protected habitats and species	SA5: Biodiversity	SA6: Landscape and townscape	SA7: Greenhouse gas emissions	SA8: Climate Change resilience	SA9: Health and well-being	SA10: Open space	SA11: Housing	SA12: Equality	SA13: Services and facilities	SA14: Economy	SA15: Infrastructure	SA16: Sustainable Travel
Vision	0	+	0	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	+	++	++	++	++	++
Strategic Objective 1	0	+	0	+	++	+?	++	+	+	+?	0	+	++	+	+	++
Strategic Objective 2	++	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0?	0?	++	+?	+	++	+	+
Strategic Objective 3	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	0	0	++	++	+	++	+	+/-
Strategic Objective 4	0	+	0	++	++	0	+	0	++	++	0	0	+	+	+	++
Draft Spatial Framework	++	--/+	+	-?	+/-?	++	+/-	+	++	++	++	+	++	++?	++	++/-
1: Overarching Principles	+	++/-?	0	+	++	+?	++	+?	++	0	++	+	+	++	++	++
2: Comprehensive and Co-ordinated Development	0	+	0?	0?	+	+	+	+	++	++	0	0	0	0	+	++
3: Designing for the Climate Emergency	0	+	++	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+
4: Energy and Associated	0	+	0	0	0	0	++?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Policy	SA1: Land, soils and mineral resources	SA2: Air Quality and pollution	SA3: Water	SA4: Protected habitats and species	SA5: Biodiversity	SA6: Landscape and townscape	SA7: Greenhouse gas emissions	SA8: Climate Change resilience	SA9: Health and well-being	SA10: Open space	SA11: Housing	SA12: Equality	SA13: Services and facilities	SA14: Economy	SA15: Infrastructure	SA16: Sustainable Travel
Infrastructure																
5: Water Efficiency	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6: Business	++	+/-	0	-?	0	+	+	0	+	0	++	+	++	++	+	++
7: Industry	++	+/-	0	0	-	-?	+/-	0	+?	0	+	+?	+	++	+?	+
8a: Housing	+	+/-?	0	-?	-	+	+	0	+	0	++	++	0	0	0	+
8b: Affordable Housing	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	++	0	0	0	0
8c: Housing for Local Workers	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	++	++	0	0	0	+
8d: Build to Rent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	0	0	0
8e: Custom Finish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0
8f: Short Term & Corporate Lets/ Visitor Accommodation	?	+/-	0	0	0	?	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	++
9: Social and Community Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	++	++	0	++	0

Policy	SA1: Land, soils and mineral resources	SA2: Air Quality and pollution	SA3: Water	SA4: Protected habitats and species	SA5: Biodiversity	SA6: Landscape and townscape	SA7: Greenhouse gas emissions	SA8: Climate Change resilience	SA9: Health and well-being	SA10: Open space	SA11: Housing	SA12: Equality	SA13: Services and facilities	SA14: Economy	SA15: Infrastructure	SA16: Sustainable Travel
10a: Retail	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	++	++	+	+
10b: Markets	0	0	0	0	0	+/-?	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	+	0
11: Meanwhile Uses	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0
12: Employment and Training	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	++	++	++	0
13: Aggregates / Waste	?	?	0	0	?	?	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14: Sustainable Connectivity	0	+	0	0	0	+	++	0	++	0	0	+	+	+	+	++
15: Connecting to the Wider Network	+	+	0	0	+?	+	++	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	++
16: Cycle Parking Infrastructure	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	++
17: Safeguarding for Cambridge Autonomous Metro and Public Transport	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	++	++

Policy	SA1: Land, soils and mineral resources	SA2: Air Quality and pollution	SA3: Water	SA4: Protected habitats and species	SA5: Biodiversity	SA6: Landscape and townscape	SA7: Greenhouse gas emissions	SA8: Climate Change resilience	SA9: Health and well-being	SA10: Open space	SA11: Housing	SA12: Equality	SA13: Services and facilities	SA14: Economy	SA15: Infrastructure	SA16: Sustainable Travel
18: Last Mile Deliveries	0	++	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+
19: User Hierarchy for Streets	0	++	0	0	0	+	++	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	++
20: Managing Motorised Vehicles	0	++/-	0	0	0	+	++/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	++/-
21: Biodiversity and Net Gain	0	+?	++?	++?	++?	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0
22: Tree Protection and Coverage	0	+?	+?	0	++	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Standards	+	+	+	+/-	+	+	+	+	++	++	0	0	0	+	0	+
24: Water Quality, Demand and Sustainable Urban Drainage	0	0	++	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25: Flood Risk	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Policy	SA1: Land, soils and mineral resources	SA2: Air Quality and pollution	SA3: Water	SA4: Protected habitats and species	SA5: Biodiversity	SA6: Landscape and townscape	SA7: Greenhouse gas emissions	SA8: Climate Change resilience	SA9: Health and well-being	SA10: Open space	SA11: Housing	SA12: Equality	SA13: Services and facilities	SA14: Economy	SA15: Infrastructure	SA16: Sustainable Travel
25b: Environmental Protection	0	++	0	0	+?	+?	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26: Creating a High Quality, Distinctive new City District	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0
27: Creating a Comprehensive Streets and Spaces Network	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	+
28: Building Heights, Scale and Massing	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0
29: Good Design at Higher Densities	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30: Mixed Use Forms	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0
31: Sub-Area Principles	+	0	+	0	++	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	++	0
32: District Centre Sub—Area	+/-?	+?	+?	0	+?	+	+	0	+	++	++	+	++	++	++	++

Policy	SA1: Land, soils and mineral resources	SA2: Air Quality and pollution	SA3: Water	SA4: Protected habitats and species	SA5: Biodiversity	SA6: Landscape and townscape	SA7: Greenhouse gas emissions	SA8: Climate Change resilience	SA9: Health and well-being	SA10: Open space	SA11: Housing	SA12: Equality	SA13: Services and facilities	SA14: Economy	SA15: Infrastructure	SA16: Sustainable Travel
33: Science Park Local Centre Sub-Area	--?	+	0	0	+	+	+	+/-	+	++	+?	+	++	++	+	++
34: Station Approach Sub-Area	++?	+	+	-	-	+	+	0	+	0	++	+	+	++	+	++
35: Cowley Road Neighbourhood Centre Sub-Area	+	-?	0	+	+	++	+	0	+	++	+	+	++	++	+	++
36a: Land Assembly	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	+?	+?	+?	+?
36b: Relocation	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	+?	+/-?	+?	+?
37: Planning Contributions	0	+?	+?	0	+?	0	+?	+?	+?	+?	++	+?	+?	0	+?	+?
38: Digital Infrastructure and Open Innovation	+	+	0	0	0	0	++	+	+	0	0	+	+	++	++	++

Chapter 6 – Monitoring and Recommendations

Monitoring

6.1 The SEA Regulations require that “the responsible authority shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of each plan or programme with the purpose of identifying unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and being able to undertake appropriate remedial action’ and that the environmental report should provide information on ‘a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring”.

6.2 Although national Planning Practice Guidance states that monitoring should be focused on the significant environmental effects of implementing a plan, monitoring is also required to enable local planning authorities to identify unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and to enable appropriate remedial actions. Since effects which the SA expects to be minor may become significant and vice versa, monitoring measures have been proposed in this SA Report in relation to all of the SA objectives in the SA framework.

6.3 As the AAP is implemented and the likely significant effects become more certain, the Council may wish to narrow down the monitoring framework to focus on those effects of the AAP likely to be significantly adverse.

6.4 Table 6.1 sets out a number of suggested indicators for monitoring the potential sustainability effects of implementing the AAP. Note that the indicators proposed are included as suggestions at this stage and may change once the Council has finalised the AAP and the Councils’ proposed monitoring framework. It is recommended that the monitoring framework for the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan incorporates measures to monitor the effects of the AAP, including the measures listed below.

6.5 The data used for monitoring in many cases will be provided by outside bodies, for example the Environment Agency. It is therefore recommended that the Council remains in dialogue with statutory environmental consultees and other stakeholders and works with them to agree the relevant sustainability effects to be monitored and to obtain information that is appropriate, up to date and reliable.

Recommendations

6.6 The appraisals presented in Chapter 4 included recommendations against some policies in the Draft AAP. These are summarised in Table 6.2.

Table 5.1: Proposed Monitoring Indicators (those marked with an asterisk* are proposed in the Draft AAP)

SA Objectives	Proposed Monitoring Indicators
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, protect soils and economic mineral reserves	Percentage of new development on brownfield land.
2. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	<p>NO₂ emissions.</p> <p>PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} emissions.</p> <p>Percentage of residents owning a car, motorbike/moped or van.</p> <p>Percentage of trips made using walking or cycling.</p> <p>Travel to work methods.</p> <p>Area of contaminated land remediated.</p> <p>Number of noise and other disturbance complaints received.</p>
3. Protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment	<p>An increase in the number of non-residential completions delivered at BREEAM 'excellent'/'outstanding' with maximum credits for water consumption.*</p> <p>Water consumption levels of residential development (no more than 110 litres/person/day).*</p> <p>Percentage of new development incorporating additional water efficiency measures.</p> <p>Percentage of water bodies at good ecological status or potential.</p> <p>Percentage of water bodies assessed at good chemical status.</p> <p>Water cycle study capacity in sewerage and water resources.</p> <p>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on water quality grounds.</p> <p>Incidences of flooding (and flood warnings) and location.</p>

SA Objectives	Proposed Monitoring Indicators
	Percentage or number of permitted developments incorporating SuDS.
4. Avoid adverse effects on designated sites and protected species	Biodiversity enhancements to City and County Wildlife Sites. Spatial extent of any designated sites within the plan area. Condition of the nearest sensitive receptors (where available).
5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species and improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	Site wide and landowner parcel Biodiversity Net Gain from the 2020 baseline.* Biodiversity Net Gain and habitat improvements to Chesterton Fen from the 2020 baseline.* Percentage of permitted developments providing biodiversity value e.g. green/brown roof, living wall, native planting.* Distance from the development site to the nearest green space.
6. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	Number of design / landscape awards (shortlisted, finalist, winner) received.* Development on previously developed land or conversion of existing buildings.
7. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	Annual greenhouse gas emissions (carbon dioxide equivalent). Annual energy consumption (GWh/household). Percentage of energy supplied from renewable sources. Renewable energy capacity installed and permitted (by type) (Megawatt). Percentage of residents owning a car, motorbike/moped or van. Percentage of trips made using walking or cycling. Travel to work methods.
8. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	Percentage of new development incorporating water efficiency measures. Percentage or number of permitted developments incorporating SuDS.

SA Objectives	Proposed Monitoring Indicators
	<p>Incidences of flooding (and flood warnings) and location.</p> <p>Area of new green infrastructure provided.</p>
<p>9. Maintain and enhance human health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities</p>	<p>Life Expectancy in the plan area.</p> <p>Percentage of people who regularly take 30 minutes exercise more than three times a week.</p> <p>Indices of Multiple Deprivation – Health and Disability sub-domain scores.</p> <p>Total gains and losses of public open space and recreational facilities.</p> <p>Hectares of accessible open space per 1000 population.</p> <p>Proximity of site to healthcare facilities.</p> <p>Percentage of population obese.</p>
<p>10. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space</p>	<p>Residents' opinion on availability of open space/leisure facilities.</p> <p>Total gains and losses of public open space.</p> <p>Hectares of accessible open space per 1000 population.</p> <p>Percentage or number of open spaces receiving Green Flag Award.</p>
<p>11. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing</p>	<p>Net additional dwellings.*</p> <p>Range of homes delivered.*</p> <p>Number of affordable homes delivered on-site.*</p> <p>Financial contributions secured and received towards off-site affordable housing.*</p> <p>Number of homes delivered for local and key workers.*</p> <p>Net additional Build to Rent dwellings.*</p> <p>Proportion of BTR dwellings that are affordable.*</p>

SA Objectives	Proposed Monitoring Indicators
	Number of custom finished homes delivered on-site.*
12. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	Net additional dwellings.* Range of homes delivered.* Number of affordable homes delivered on-site.* Number of custom finished homes delivered on-site.* Percentage of dwellings meeting Buildings Regulations requirements part M4(2) and M4(3). Number of new jobs provided. Percentage of working age population in employment. Average gross weekly earnings. Life Expectancy across the plan area. Indices of Multiple Deprivation.
13. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	Delivery of smart buildings.* Delivery of smart street furniture.* Delivery of future mobility experiments.* Collation of open data.*
14. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	Amount of new office floorspace permitted and delivered (gross and net).* Number of new businesses registered.* Availability of industrial land measured through no overall net loss of industrial and warehouse floorspace (B2 and B8).* Developer contributions collected for skills and training (from S106).* Number of Employment and Skills Plan secured through S106 agreements.*

SA Objectives	Proposed Monitoring Indicators
	<p>Developers should provide monitoring reports of implementation of their ESP.*</p> <p>Employment land take-up.*</p> <p>Working age population.*</p> <p>Floorspace approved.*</p> <p>Employment status by residents and job type.</p> <p>Average gross weekly earnings.</p>
<p>15. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communities and other infrastructure</p>	<p>Amount of retail, leisure and office floorspace in the plan area.</p> <p>Total gains and losses of services and facilities.</p> <p>Pedestrian footfall count in the District Centre.</p> <p>Indices of Multiple Deprivation Score – particularly Barriers to Housing and Services Domain and the Living Environment Deprivation Domain.</p> <p>Utilisation rates of local services and facilities.</p>
<p>16. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable travel choices</p>	<p>Modal share for pedestrian, cycle, public transport users.*</p> <p>Travel to work methods.</p> <p>Percentage of residents owning a car, motorbike/moped or van.</p> <p>Public transport capacity, punctuality and efficiency.</p> <p>Length of Public Rights of Way created/enhanced.</p> <p>Length of cycleways created/enhanced.</p>

Table 5.2: Recommendations for the AAP

Policy	Recommendations
Vision	<p>The vision focuses on social and economic factors, with minimising carbon as the only environmental factor mentioned. Whilst environmental enhancement, such as green and blue infrastructure, biodiversity and water quality, is mentioned in the 'how vision will be delivered' text, it is recommended this is incorporated into the vision itself.</p>
Objectives	<p>Whilst the objectives address many topics, they do not address water quality and quantity, therefore it is recommended this is explicitly referred to in the sub-objectives for Strategic Objective 1.</p> <p>The objectives refer to minimising climate change mitigation but only touch lightly on climate change adaptation. It is recommended that the sub-objective to Strategic Objective 1 '...embed the challenge of climate change resilience' is strengthened by rewording to 'ensure the NEC is resilient to the effects of climate change'. Similarly, the importance of climate change adaptation could be recognised in other objectives, for example with regards to ensuring the economy is resilient to this and minimising the effects of climate change on people's health.</p>
Draft Spatial Framework	<p>Archaeological surveys should also be carried out prior to redevelopment of any part of the site.</p> <p>It is recommended that the effects of proposed development on the AQMA along the A14 Corridor should be subject to assessment, including through traffic and air quality modelling, and mitigated as appropriate. In addition, it is recommended soft landscaping is used along the A14 and alongside the railway (and any other significant sources of noise) to buffer the site from noise and air pollution. A construction environmental management plan should also be produced to avoid, minimise and mitigate environmental pollution in the construction phase. Furthermore, developers should be encouraged to register with The Considerate Constructors Scheme which includes guidelines for considering the impact on neighbours, and for protecting and enhancing the environment.</p> <p>Opportunities to improve habitat corridors through BOAs should also be realised as far as possible. Furthermore the recommendations set out in the Biodiversity Assessment should be included in the AAP.</p> <p>New and enhanced active travel routes (walking and cycling) should be fully segregated from each other and vehicular traffic to ensure a safe environment for all. Ideally, active travel links should be</p>

Policy	Recommendations
	<p>prioritised over roads and should be suitable for all users, including wheelchair users. Proposed interventions set out in the Transport Study should also be included.</p> <p>In terms of equalities, affordable housing provision should include a mix of type and tenure to meet local demand. Furthermore, a large proportion of employment opportunities should be available for local people.</p>
1: Overarching Principles	This policy reiterates the vision and much of what is set out in the Strategic Objectives but could be enhanced by specifically referring to the Strategic Objectives and requiring the measures set out in the objectives and sub-objectives to be brought forward.
2: Comprehensive and Co-ordinated Development	<p>The policy could be strengthened to address the uncertainties highlighted in the assessment above. For example, with regards to responding to the impacts of climate change, the policy could specify the need to include SuDS, green infrastructure and consider layouts that allow for temperature regulation. With regards to mitigating environmental constraints, the policy should refer to the mitigation hierarchy and be more specific about whether this relates to air, water, biodiversity, noise or landscape issues etc.</p> <p>The policy refers to biodiversity net gain but could be strengthened by specifying how this should be measured, e.g. through the DEFRA metric.</p>
3: Designing for the Climate Emergency	No recommendations
4: Energy and Associated Infrastructure	<p>It is recommended that additional text is added to promote local energy communities and local collaboration to encourage community ownership of any decentralised energy network opportunities that may arise from the Energy Masterplan. This will add significant positive effects for the longevity and vitality of the local economy and reduce inequalities.</p> <p>It is also recommended that the policy clearly states the key outcomes required as a result of implementing the energy masterplan, in terms of achieving net zero carbon emissions and energy efficiency.</p>
5: Water Efficiency	No recommendations.

Policy	Recommendations
6: Business	It is recommended that the policy cross-refers to the requirement of Policy 25b (Environmental Protection) to prevent risks to adverse effects on health as a result of land contamination.
7: Industry	No recommendations.
8a: Housing	Whilst the policy states that new dwellings should be accessible and adaptable, it could refer to relevant standards, including the requirement for all housing to meet at least Building Regulation requirement M4(2) 'accessible and adaptable dwellings' and an appropriate proportion of housing to meet Building Regulation requirement M4(3) 'wheelchair user dwellings'.
8b: Affordable Housing	No recommendations.
8c: Housing for Local Workers	No recommendations.
8d: Build to Rent	No recommendations.
8e: Custom Finish	No recommendations.
8f: Short Term & Corporate Lets/ Visitor Accommodation	With regard to landscape and townscape, the policy could require all visitor accommodation to be sympathetic to the character of the area.
9: Social and Community Infrastructure	<p>It is recommended that additional text is added to the policy minimising the impact of development of community, cultural and leisure facilities on climate change. This could be through the implementation of sustainable construction practices and/or renewable energy technologies. The policy could also specify the need for high quality development that is sympathetic to the surrounding landscape and townscape. With regard to sustainable transport, the policy could specify that all facilities must be located in close proximity to sustainable transport links (e.g. bus stops and cycle ways). Additionally, the policy could explicitly state whether open space is considered to fall within the definition of social and community infrastructure or not. It is also recommended that the words 'Where possible' are removed from the final paragraph, in order to strengthen the policy's commitment to affordable facilities provision.</p> <p>It is noted that the policy safeguards land on the site to deliver a secondary school if needed. In</p>

Policy	Recommendations
	<p>many other parts of the country, developments of around 5,000 new homes would often require a secondary school to be provided. Therefore, as the NEC provides for over 8,000 homes, it is surprising that this is not the case for this site as well. It is therefore recommended that this evidence is checked to make sure it is robust.</p>
10a: Retail	<p>As required by the preferred policy, it is recommended that each of the centres includes some convenience food shopping, as this will reduce the need for residents to travel for day to day needs.</p> <p>The policy could do more to recognise the positive role community facilities (D2), particularly meeting places, can play in local centres, as it would be beneficial for such uses to be located in areas where people can access easily and are likely to visit anyway.</p>
10b: Markets	<p>It is recommended that the preferred policy is taken forward, but ensures that consideration is given to townscape and to ensure that the market prioritises local businesses and people.</p>
11: Meanwhile Uses	<p>No recommendations.</p>
12: Employment and Training	<p>In order to strengthen this policy, reference could be made to the specific groups that the employment, skills and training initiatives would be directed towards.</p>
13: Aggregates / Waste	<p>It is recommended that additional text is added to the policy on mitigating adverse effects on air quality, the landscape as a result of development, including the relocation of the Waste Transfer Station. This could include vehicle routeing, screening, consideration of topography and landscape character.</p>
14: Sustainable Connectivity	<p>It is recommended that additional text is added to require active travel to be tied in with the green infrastructure network thereby providing additional positive effects for access to green spaces and wildlife habitats. Also, by including all green spaces within the site and around within the wider connectivity figure could help to show potential connections that should be executed though the policy.</p> <p>It is recommended that alternative options C and/or E are incorporated into the preferred policy, for example by requiring car free zones within NEC, as they are expected to have additional significant</p>

Policy	Recommendations
	positive effects compared to the current preferred policy.
15: Connecting to the Wider Network	It is recommended that the policy requires active travel links to be tied in with the green infrastructure network thereby providing additional positive effects for access to green spaces and wildlife habitats.
16: Cycle Parking Infrastructure	It is recommended that cycle parking infrastructure be stationed throughout the area, but specifically in more deprived areas to encourage the use of active sustainable travel and allow for additional ways to access employment options, services and facilities.
17: Safeguarding for Cambridge Autonomous Metro and Public Transport	No recommendations.
18: Last Mile Deliveries	It is recommended that this policy strengthens its wording to require, rather than encourage, use sustainable modes of transport as the 'last mile' delivery. This will provide additional positive effects for the SA objectives discussed above.
19: User Hierarchy for Streets	It is recommended that text be added that requires at least part of the site to be car free, which would provide additional benefits to resident health and well-being, air pollution and combating climate change. The user hierarchy could also be amended to include car sharing and electric vehicles at the same level as car share and taxis.
20: Managing Motorised Vehicles	It is recommended that the policy makes it clear that the trip budget and parking restrictions are maximum figures and that vehicle movements within NEC should be minimised as far as possible. It could also cross-refer to Policy 19.
21: Biodiversity and Net Gain	It is recommended that the policy further emphasises that 10% is a minimum value and encourages a higher level of biodiversity net gain where possible.
22: Tree Protection and Coverage	It is recommended that additional text be added to ensure the policy emphasises the importance of the inclusion of native tree species being included on site.
23: Open Space, Sport and Recreation	It is recommended to combine Option D with the preferred policy as making provision for green

Policy	Recommendations
Standards	space at a district size, including a number of walkable and cyclable neighbourhood level parks with large green corridors in common would have additional significant positive effects.
24: Water Quality, Demand and Sustainable Urban Drainage	The preferred policy could incorporate water recycling and rainwater harvesting, as set out in option D.
25: Flood Risk	It is recommended that the policy requires SUDS to be naturalised, where possible and therefore enhance green and blue infrastructure in NEC.
25b: Environmental Protection	No recommendations identified.
26: Creating a High Quality, Distinctive new City District	No recommendations identified.
27: Creating a Comprehensive Streets and Spaces Network	No recommendations identified.
28: Building Heights, Scale and Massing	The policy could require proposals to undertake a landscape and visual impact assessment and heritage impact assessment prior to development, to ensure that any key views in and out of the city are maintained. The policy could also add a requirement for proposals to ensure the settings of heritage assets are maintained and enhanced.
29: Good Design at Higher Densities	No recommendations identified.
30: Mixed Use Forms	No recommendations identified.
31: Sub-Area Principles	No recommendations identified.
32: District Centre Sub—Area	No recommendations identified.
33: Science Park Local Centre Sub-Area	If the local centre includes a logistics hub, the policy should encourage last mile deliveries to be undertaken by zero-carbon means. Development should maximise green infrastructure provision in order to adapt to the effects of

Policy	Recommendations
	climate change, including provision of green roofs and walls. The policy should require runoff rates to be kept at greenfield levels or below, and encourage the use of SUDS to achieve this.
34: Station Approach Sub-Area	<p>The policy could be further enhanced by requiring high-quality walking and cycling connectivity to the rest of the AAP area and to the southwest of the sub-area.</p> <p>The area contains land with potential biodiversity value, therefore it is recommended a detailed ecological assessment is undertaken for this part of the site to identify the biodiversity value present and recommend a strategy for minimising loss and maximising biodiversity gain – this should be committed to in the policy.</p>
35: Cowley Road Neighbourhood Centre Sub-Area	It is recommended that additional text be added to the policy to require the neighbourhood centre to be an exemplar of how increased density of development can minimise contribution to climate change. This could be through for example the implementation of sustainable construction practices and / or renewable energy technologies, for example solar PV panels on roofs. Denser development in a neighbourhood centre may also offer the opportunity for decentralised energy and district heating networks.
36a: Land Assembly	No recommendations
36b: Relocation	It is recommended that additional text be added to the policy which would help to mitigate the potential impact on those uses that would need to be relocated. This could form part of the Relocation Strategy and be in addition to the engagement with affected businesses. It could include the requirement for discussions to take place regarding the mitigation of disruption and the reimbursement of costs.
37: Planning Contributions	Additional wording could be added to the policy to be clearer in what is covered by strategic infrastructure. For example this could include: open space, recreation and green infrastructure; drainage; active travel links; improvements to roads and public transport; funding for schools, training and community facilities; renewable energy and / or carbon offsetting.
38: Digital Infrastructure and Open Innovation	It is recommended that the reasonable alternatives that set out the requirement for green roofs, natural cooling airflows and maximising a buildings off-grid potential, are incorporated into the policy,

Policy	Recommendations
	due to the additional positive effects that these measures add, particularly on SA objectives 5 (biodiversity), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 8 (climate change resilience).

Chapter 7 – Conclusions and Next Steps

Conclusions

7.1 The Draft AAP and the reasonable alternatives considered during its preparation, have been subject to a detailed appraisal against the SA objectives, which were developed at the scoping stage of the SA process. The AAP makes provision for a substantial amount of housing and employment growth in North East Cambridge, through increased density of development, efficient use of land and use of the land currently occupied by the wastewater treatment works. This is expected to make a substantial contribution to meeting the considerable local housing and employment needs. Furthermore, the AAP has a strong focus on moving towards net zero carbon emissions, including through creating a high quality, comprehensive sustainable transport network, including walking and cycling, as well as making the most of NEC's location next to the guided busway, train station and future Cambridge Autonomous Metro.

7.2 The AAP is expected to result in overall significant positive effects against the majority of SA objectives. For SA objectives 2 (air quality and pollution) and 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) these effects are mixed with a minor negative effect, as the large quantity of development coming forward in NEC is expected to increase energy and vehicle use to some extent, even if this is substantially lower per person than the surrounding area. The SA has highlighted, in particular, the risk of significant negative effects on air quality occurring, especially along the A14 Corridor AQMA, in combination with other developments to the north and east of Cambridge, if the trip budgets which the AAP seeks to achieve are exceeded in practice.

7.3 Cumulative potential significant negative effects could arise for SA objective 4 (protected habitats and species), as the draft HRA has identified potential for the AAP to result in adverse effects on integrity of European designated sites. However, these effects are uncertain as the HRA highlighted that further work needs to be done to consider potential effects in more detail.

7.4 The alternative options generally performed worse than the preferred policy. Most reasonable alternatives identified by the Council consist of removing or replacing one element of the policy. For example, alternatives for sub-area policies included providing for a single use in the area, which would not bring the benefits that mixed-use development and provision of services and facilities in proximity to housing and workplaces will bring. For most policies, a 'do nothing' option was identified, which consists either of relying on existing Local Plan policies or the NPPF. Assessment of these options highlighted that existing Local Plan policies address many of the same issues as the AAP, but the AAP tends to go further and sets a stronger and more specific policy framework for the area, resulting in more positive, or more significant positive, effects.

Next Steps

7.5 To meet the requirements of the SEA Regulations, this SA Report is being published for consultation alongside the Draft Area Action Plan between 20th July and 25th September 2020. Following consultation, the responses received will be considered and any necessary updates to the SA will be included in the next iteration of the SA Report.

LUC

June 2020

Appendix A – Consultation Responses

Table A.1: Consultation comments received on the Interim SA for the North East Cambridge AAP Issues and Options 2019 (consultation ended in March 2019)

Representation ID	Respondent	Representation	LUC's response
32513	Dr Jason Day	<p>In peak periods, parts of the network frequently operate at or near capacity' should be changed to reflect a more realistic view, Milton Road, Green End Road, and Kings Hedges Road are heavily congested during peak periods, and are massive sources of pollution.</p> <p>The substantial increase in vehicle traffic that will occur from having a large development built in the middle of this needs serious thought. If not, we will experience significant additional delays and frustration, with economic and health implications. The development should have little or no provision for commuting by car.</p>	<p>The SA considers effects on air quality through SA objective 2, effects on climate change through SA objective 7 and travel and transport modes through SA objective 16.</p>
33243	Mrs Clare Hargraves	<p>Encourage the building of new homes immediately.</p> <p>Plan a site for a secondary school as part of the current sewage works land.</p>	<p>Comment seems to give suggestions for the AAP itself, rather than the SA.</p>
33464	Environment Agency	<p>We appreciate that the SA is in interim stage and welcome the consultation.</p> <p>We welcome the fact that primary sustainability objectives relate to ensuring that the protection of people and wildlife from flooding and pollution is sustained and improved. Climate change is also listed as a long term context to plan for.</p> <p>We consider this especially important for the context because</p>	<p>Support for the sustainability objectives is noted.</p> <p>The relocation of Milton Water Recycling Centre is expected to make the land available for the proposals in the AAP, but is not part of the AAP itself. The relocation of the WRC will require a Development</p>

Representation ID	Respondent	Representation	LUC's response
		<p>the sole purpose of the existing site is to protect people and wildlife from flooding and serious health risks from the Cambridge's foul water.</p> <p>Clearly, displacing that infrastructure poses an enormous potential risk to the sustainability of Cambridge and the River Cam. A redevelopment is a once in a few generations opportunity to sustainably plan the relocation. Given the scale of the risks, all options should be robustly tested with a high degree of certainty before the AAP commits to irreversible directions or decisions. We therefore recommend that suitable weight is afforded to these water, health and climate change objectives, and that the AAP tackles the relocation and related phasing.</p> <p>SEA: Missing Issue: Relocation options and implications</p> <p>There is a section aimed at relocating existing industrial uses, but no apparent substantive consideration of the issues, options and impacts of relocating Milton WRC itself. This is most likely to be the biggest direct and indirect water impact of all, and is a highly significant impact in any event, pre-mitigation. Our advice is very clearly that the impact of relocation is potentially highly significant, and that it falls to be appraised as an impact arising from the plan. It also features cumulative effects with other projects, such as Waterbeach New Town. The SEA/SA should address this.</p>	<p>Consent Order (DCO), as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). Alternative relocation options will be considered through that process. The SA of the draft AAP describes the context of the relocation of the WRC and the mechanism by which the effects of relocation will be assessed.</p>

Representation ID	Respondent	Representation	LUC's response
33164	Natural England	<p>Natural England is satisfied that the Interim Sustainability Appraisal (SA) objectives and framework generally accord with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations. The SA seeks to address the effects of the AAP on key aspects of the natural environment including designated sites, biodiversity, landscape, green infrastructure and soils. The assessment and recommendations / mitigation will need to be updated as the AAP policies evolve and to take into account the findings and mitigation recommendations of the outstanding environmental assessments.</p> <p>Other advice: Priority habitats, ecological networks and priority / protected species populations: The AAP should be underpinned by up to date environmental evidence including an assessment of existing and potential components of local ecological networks. This assessment should inform the Sustainability Appraisal, ensure that land of least environment value is chosen for development, and that the mitigation hierarchy is followed and inform opportunities for enhancement as well as development requirements for particular sites.</p>	<p>The SA assessments and recommendations will be updated in each iteration of the report, as the APP evolves.</p> <p>The SA provides baseline information informed by the Councils' evidence base, which will be updated in future iterations of the report. A biodiversity assessment was undertaken for the AAP area, which has been considered in preparing the SA. However, SA is a strategic process and therefore does not consider the level of detail set out in the biodiversity assessment.</p>

Table A.2 Consultation comments received on the Interim SA for the Northern Fringe East AAP Issues and Options 2014 (consultation ended in February 2015)

Representation ID	Respondent	Representation	LUC's response
29367	Stagecoach	Options 2, 3 and 4 show heavy goods vehicle access through the middle of my property. With the planned expansion of public transport as part of the City Deal, how do you propose we achieve this without a bus depot? If we are to be relocated who pays for the building for the new bus depot?	This comment relates to the details of taking forward the options identified by the Council. It does not specifically refer to the SA.

Table A.3 Consultation comments received on the SA Scoping Report for the Cambridge Northern Fringe East Area Action Plan (consultation ended September 2014)

Respondent	Representation	Environ response to representation as presented in the Scoping Report Addendum (2015)
Natural England	Recently updated National Character Area Profiles (NCAs) contain a broad range of information which can be used to underpin sustainable decisions, including a description of ecosystem services provided in each character area. Additionally, they identify opportunities for positive environmental change and provide the best available information and evidence as a context for local decision making and action.	Information from the relevant NCA profile: 88 (Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Claylands) has been added to the updated baseline data table and will be used to inform the assessment.
	NCA profile 88 (Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Claylands) identifies improvements to green	Information from the relevant NCA profile: 88 (Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Claylands)

Respondent	Representation	Environ response to representation as presented in the Scoping Report Addendum (2015)
	<p>infrastructure within urban areas that link natural and semi-natural environments as a strategic environmental objective (SEO3). This should be considered when developing SA environmental objectives and assessing the area action plan against them.</p>	<p>has been added to the updated baseline data table and will be used to inform the assessment. The statement environmental opportunity (SEO3) in the NCA Profile 88 has been added to the list of policy objectives which the plan should consider.</p>
	<p>Natural England welcomes the identification of the Brownfield and Built Environment Action Plan (part of the BAP) within the relevant plans and programmes, and the First Public Drain, Bramblefields and Chesterton Sidings as areas of ecological importance which should be protected, enhanced and incorporated within the wider ecological/GI network.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>English Heritage¹⁰</p>	<p>EH's guidance document 'Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal and the Historic Environment' sets out detailed information on scoping, relevant plans, programmes and policies and gives general pointers to baseline information. Answers to the questions and guidance on the sections found in the scoping report can be found in this document.</p>	<p>Noted. This document has been reviewed and will be used to inform the SA process with regards to heritage assets.</p>
	<p>Landscape, Townscape and cultural heritage. That there are no designated heritage assets (conservation areas, listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, scheduled monuments) within the AAP area is correct. Designated heritage assets</p>	<p>Impacts on heritage assets outside the AAP boundary will be taken into account in both the plan preparation and its assessment.</p> <p>The potential for buried archaeology is acknowledged in</p>

¹⁰ Now Historic England

Respondent	Representation	Environ response to representation as presented in the Scoping Report Addendum (2015)
	<p>outside the AAP in the adjoining area should be shown on the maps in Annex A. The site may include undesignated heritage assets, particularly buried archaeology, and the County Archaeologist, along with the Historic Environment Record, will be best placed to advise on this.</p> <p>English Heritage considers that for an SEA/SA to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive to assess impacts on cultural heritage, it needs to include a specific objective: 'conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings'.</p> <p>The proposed Sub-Objective/Decision making question should therefore be reworded to read:</p> <p><i>'Will it conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings through appropriate design and scale of development'.</i></p>	<p>the baseline information for the AAP. There is no known buried archaeology in the AAP.</p> <p>The SEA Directive (and Regulations) does not prescribe a method of assessment and therefore does not require the use of objectives in assessment.</p> <p>Objectives-led SEA is a matter of English SEA/SA practice. The SEA Directive requires that the likely significant effects on issues such as cultural heritage are identified, described and evaluated.</p> <p>The relevant sub objective/ decision-aiding question has been amended to that suggested by EH.</p> <p>Additional comment from LUC: In this urban location, the historic environment is closely related with townscape in this location and therefore potential impacts on heritage assets have been considered through SA objective 6 (landscape and townscape). As such, the SA framework used in previous iterations of the SA has been retained, but we have ensured that historic environment considerations have been taken into account.</p>
Environment Agency	No response received	

Appendix B – Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes

Population, Health and Wellbeing

International

B.1 The following list of policies includes a number of EU Directives. Whilst the UK left the EU in January 2020, most EU legislation continues to apply to the UK until the end of the implementation period (31st December 2020). After this time, the majority of EU legislation will be 'saved' in UK law, as set out in sections 3 and 20(1), and Schedule 6, to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (c. 16), as amended by regulation 2 of The European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (Exit Day) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2019 (No. 859) and regulation 2 of The European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (Exit Day) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2019 (No. 1423).

B.2 United Nations Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (the 'Aarhus Convention') (1998): Establishes a number of rights of the public (individuals and their associations) with regard to the environment. The Parties to the Convention are required to make the necessary provisions so that public authorities (at national, regional or local level) will contribute to these rights to become effective.

B.3 United Nations Declaration on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Declaration) (2002): Sets a broad framework for international sustainable development, including building a humane, equitable and caring global society aware of the need for human dignity for all, renewable energy and energy efficiency, sustainable consumption and production and resource efficiency.

B.4 European Environmental Noise Directive (2002): Sets out a hierarchy for the avoidance, prevention and reduction in adverse effects associated with environmental noise, including noise generated by road and rail vehicles, infrastructure, aircraft and outdoor, industrial and mobile machinery.

National

B.5 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)¹¹ sets out the following:

- The NPPF promotes healthy, inclusive and safe places which promote social integration, are safe and accessible, and enable and support healthy lifestyles.
- One of the core planning principles is to “take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community”.
- Local plans should “contain policies to optimise the use of land in their area and meet as much of the identified need for housing as possible”. To determine the minimum number of

¹¹ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779764/NPPF_Feb_2019_web.pdf

homes needed strategic policies should be informed by the application of the standard method set out in national planning guidance, or a justified alternative approach.

- “A network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation is important for the health and well-being of communities”.
- “Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development” and requires development supported by planning decisions to function well and add to the overall quality of the area over its lifetime. Planning decisions should result in development which is of a quality which incorporates good architecture and appropriate and effective landscaping as to promote visual attractiveness, raises the standard more generally in the area, and addresses the connections between people and places.
- The promotion of retaining and enhancing of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports, cultural venues and places of worship.
- Developments should create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion.
- There is a need to take a “proactive, positive and collaborative approach” to bring forward development that will “widen choice in education”, including sufficient choice of school places.
- Paragraph 72 states that “The supply of large numbers of new homes can often be best achieved through planning for larger scale development, such as new settlements or significant extensions to existing villages and towns, provided they are well located and designed and supported by the necessary infrastructure and facilities”. As such the NPPF provides support for the identification of locations which are suitable for this type of development in a manner which would help to meet needs identified in a sustainable way.

B.6 National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)¹² sets out the following:

- Local planning authorities should ensure that health and wellbeing, and health infrastructure, are considered in local and neighbourhood plans and in planning decision making.

B.7 Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change Report: Ready for Ageing?¹³ : warns that society is underprepared for the ageing population. The report states that “longer lives can be a great benefit, but there has been a collective failure to address the implications and without urgent action this great boon could turn into a series of miserable crises”. The report highlights the under provision of specialist housing for older people and the need to plan for the housing needs of the older population as well as younger people.

¹² Department for Communities and Local Government (2016) National Planning Practice Guidance [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

¹³ Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change (2013) Ready for Ageing? [online] Available at: <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldselect/ldpublic/140/140.pdf>

B.8 Fair Society, Healthy Lives¹⁴ : Investigated health inequalities in England and the actions needed in order to tackle them. Subsequently, a supplementary report was prepared providing additional evidence relating to spatial planning and health on the basis that there is “overwhelming evidence that health and environmental inequalities are inexorably linked and that poor environments contribute significantly to poor health and health inequalities”.

B.9 Laying the foundations: a housing strategy for England¹⁵ : Aims to provide support to deliver new homes and improve social mobility.

B.10 Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Our strategy for public health in England¹⁶ : Sets out how the Government’s approach to public health challenges will:

- Protect the population from health threats – led by central government, with a strong system to the frontline.
- Empower local leadership and encourage wide responsibility across society to improve everyone’s health and wellbeing, and tackle the wider factors that influence it.
- Focus on key outcomes, doing what works to deliver them, with transparency of outcomes to enable accountability through a proposed new public health outcomes framework.
- Reflect the Government’s core values of freedom, fairness and responsibility by strengthening self-esteem, confidence and personal responsibility; positively promoting healthy behaviours and lifestyles; and adapting the environment to make healthy choices easier.
- Balance the freedoms of individuals and organisations with the need to avoid harm to others, use a ‘ladder’ of interventions to determine the least intrusive approach necessary to achieve the desired effect and aim to make voluntary approaches work before resorting to regulation.

B.11 A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment¹⁷ : Sets out goals for improving the environment within the next 25 years. It details how the Government will work with communities and businesses to leave the environment in a better state than it is presently. It identifies six key areas around which action will be focused. Those of relevance to this chapter are: using and managing land sustainably; and connecting people with the environment to

¹⁴ The Marmot Review (2011) Fair Society, Healthy Lives. [online] Available at: <http://www.parliament.uk/documents/fair-society-healthy-lives-full-report.pdf>

¹⁵ HM Government (2011) Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7532/2033676.pdf

¹⁶ HM Government (2010) Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Our strategy for public health in England [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/216096/dh_1274_24.pdf

¹⁷ HM Government (2018) A Green Future: Our 23 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/673203/25-year-environment-plan.pdf

improve health and wellbeing. Actions that will be taken as part of these two key areas are as follows:

- Using and managing land sustainably:
- Embed an 'environmental net gain' principle for development, including housing and infrastructure.
- Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing:
- Help people improve their health and wellbeing by using green spaces including through mental health services.
- Encourage children to be close to nature, in and out of school, with particular focus on disadvantaged areas.
- 'Green' our towns and cities by creating green infrastructure and planting one million urban trees.

Sub-national

B.12 Homes for our future: Greater Cambridge Housing Strategy 2019-2023¹⁸: Sets out the strategic direction for housing activity in Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District. Its purpose is to set the context as to how both councils aim to meet the housing challenges facing the area, setting out key priorities for action. These include:

- Increasing the delivery of homes, including affordable housing, along with sustainable transport and other infrastructure, to meet housing need.
- Diversifying the housing market & accelerating housing delivery.
- Achieving a high standard of design and quality of new homes and communities.
- Improving housing conditions and making best use of existing homes.
- Promoting health and wellbeing through housing.
- Preventing and tackling homelessness and rough sleeping.
- Working with key partners to innovate and maximise resources available.

B.13 South Cambridgeshire Empty Homes Strategy 2012-2016¹⁹: Aims to clearly set out: the current situation of empty homes in South Cambridgeshire; their work so far to bring empty homes back into use; their future priorities for tackling empty homes; when they will achieve this; and how.

B.14 South Cambridgeshire Homelessness Strategy 2018-2023²⁰: Identifies four themes that need to be taken forward over the 5 year period: working closer with partner agencies to

¹⁸ Greater Cambridge (2019) Homes for our future: Greater Cambridge Housing Strategy 2019-2023 [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/13250/greater-cambridge-housing-strategy-2019-2023.pdf>

¹⁹ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2012) Empty Homes Strategy 2012-2016 [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/5717/empty-homes-strategy-2012-2016.pdf>

²⁰ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2019) Homelessness Strategy 2018-2023 [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/13206/homelessness-strategy.pdf>

prevent homelessness; new private rent initiatives; access to information; and access to accommodation and support.

B.15 Cambridge Anti-Poverty Strategy 2017-2020²¹: Aims to improve the standard of living and daily lives of those residents in Cambridge who are currently experiencing poverty; and to help alleviate issues that can lead households on low incomes to experience financial pressures.

B.16 Cambridgeshire Strategy for Supporting New Communities²²: Sets out three visions that provide the foundation to the strategy:

- Ensure that infrastructure in new communities is designed to meet the needs of the community now and in the future.
- Support the development of a self-supporting, healthy and resilient community by helping to build people's capacity to help themselves and others in order to create a good place to live, improve outcomes, support economic prosperity and make people less reliant on public services.
- Ensure that where people's needs are greater than can be met within community resources they are supported by the right services and are helped to return to independence.

B.17 South Cambridgeshire Design Guide SPD (2010)²³: Produced to expand on district-wide policies and ensure that design is an integral part of the development process, in a way that respects the local context. An emerging SPD for Greater Cambridge is currently undergoing consultation and will replace the existing SPD when adopted.

B.18 Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (2007)²⁴: Produced to provide guidance on the policies within the Cambridge Local Plan 2006 that relate to sustainability. An emerging SPD for Greater Cambridge is currently undergoing consultation and will replace the existing SPD when adopted.

B.19 Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011)²⁵: Outlines how the broader historic environment makes an important contribution to sense of places, sense of time and local identity and distinctiveness. The challenges highlighted including the impact of farming, the impact of climate change and development, lack of visibility of some assets, and conflicts between conservation and public access.

²¹ Cambridge City Council (2017) Anti-Poverty Strategy 2017-2020 [online] Available at: https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3814/170920_revised_anti-poverty_strategy_2017-2020_-_final_v2.pdf

²² Cambridgeshire County Council (2015) Strategy for Supporting New Communities 2015-2020 [online] Available at: https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/CCC_Supporting_New_Communities_Strategy_Final.pdf?inline=true

²³ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2010) District Design Guide [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/district-design-guide-spd/>

²⁴ Cambridge City Council (2007) Sustainable Design and Construction SPD [online] Available at: https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2355/sustaincomspd_web.pdf

²⁵ Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Forum (2011) Green Infrastructure Strategy [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2557/green-infrastructure-strategy.pdf>

B.20 South Cambridgeshire Recreation and Open Space Study (2013)²⁶: Provides an audit of the quantity and quality of existing provision in the district and assesses the need for future provision.

B.21 Cambridge Open Space and Recreation Strategy (2011)²⁷: Discusses the findings of the Open Space and Recreation Assessment. It breaks the information down by ward and provides data on the deficits in each ward and the ward's strengths and weaknesses in terms of open space provision. It also discusses the level of provision proposed in the urban extensions to the City, which have not been assessed in this Strategy, as they have not yet been delivered on site.

B.22 Greater Cambridge Playing Pitch Strategy 2015-2031²⁸: Aims to provide accessible community sport and leisure facilities for swimming, fitness and sports hall sports/activities for all residents. This includes both formal and informal spaces.

B.23 Greater Cambridge Indoor Sports Facility Strategy 2015-2031²⁹: The vision for future provision of sport and leisure facilities is: 'to enable opportunities for increased and more regular physical activity, particularly from those in areas of deprivation, and in new settlements, to improve community health and well-being, by facilitating provision of, and access to, a range of quality, accessible and sustainable facilities in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire District'.

B.24 South Cambridgeshire Services and Facilities Study (2014)³⁰: Aims to collate services and facilities data for all settlements within the district to provide and document an evidence base for the review of the settlement hierarchy and for future community/neighbourhood planning.

B.25 Air Quality Action Plan for the Cambridgeshire Growth Areas (2009)³¹: Reviewed all existing air quality information across the regions, identified the key causes in each management area and assessed the necessary actions needed to improve pollutant levels in those areas.

²⁶ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2013) Recreation and Open Space Study [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/10290/recreation-open-space-study-2013.pdf>

²⁷ Cambridge City Council (2011) Open Space and Recreation Strategy [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2467/open-space-and-recreation-strategy-2011.pdf>

²⁸ Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council (2016) Playing Pitch Strategy [online] Available at: <https://files.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/coredocs/RD-CSF/rd-csf-190.pdf>

²⁹ Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy 2015-2031 (2016) [online] Available at: <https://files.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/coredocs/RD-CSF/rd-csf-200.pdf>

³⁰ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2014) Services and Facilities Study [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/the-adopted-development-plan/stages-in-the-preparation-of-the-local-plan-2018/services-and-facilities-study/>

³¹ Cambridge City Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council (2009) Air Quality Action Plan for the Cambridgeshire Growth Areas [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/6727/air-quality-action-plan.pdf>

B.26 Cambridge City Council Air Quality Action Plan 2018-2023 (2019 update)³²: Sets out Cambridge City Council's priority actions for improving areas of poor air quality in the city and maintaining a good level of air quality in a growing city.

B.27 South Cambridgeshire Local Air Quality Strategy 2008-2013³³: Sets out three objectives for the long term vision of the Council which include: enhance quality of life and build a sustainable South Cambridgeshire where everyone is proud to live and work, work in partnership to manage growth to benefit everyone in South Cambridgeshire now and in the future and deliver high quality services that represent best value and are accessible to all out community.

Cambridge City Council Contaminated Land Strategy (2009)³⁴: Builds on the City Council's Medium Term Objectives which include:

- To promote Cambridge as a sustainable city, in particular by reducing carbon dioxide emissions and the amount of waste going into landfill in the City and sub-region.
- Ensure that residents and other service users have an entirely positive experience of dealing with the Council.
- Maintain a healthy, safe and enjoyable city for all, with thriving and viable neighbourhood.
- Lead the growth of Cambridge to achieve attractive, sustainable new neighbourhoods, including affordable housing, close to a good range of facilities, and supported by transport networks so that people can opt not to use the car.

B.28 South Cambridgeshire Contaminated Land Strategy (2001)³⁵: Sets out South Cambridgeshire District Council's strategy on how it proposes to identify contaminated land within its boundaries. It supports the following objectives:

- Maintaining, improving and developing sympathetically the character, environment, economy and social fabric of our villages.
- Promoting a healthier environment to enable our communities to lead healthier lives, by its own actions and active partnership with others.
- Working towards a more sustainable future for everyone living and working in South Cambridgeshire, balancing the needs of the present and future generations.

B.29 Cambridge & South Cambridgeshire Sustainable Development Strategy (2012)³⁶: Reviews what sustainable development means in the context of Cambridge and South

³² Cambridge City Council (2018) Air Quality Action Plan 2018-2023, Version 2, 2019 update [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3451/air-quality-action-plan-2018.pdf>

³³ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2008) Local Air Quality Strategy 2008-2013 [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/6728/air-quality-strategy.pdf>

³⁴ Cambridge City Council (2009) Contaminated Land Strategy [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3025/contaminated-land-strategy.pdf>

³⁵ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2001) Contaminated Land Strategy [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/7919/contaminatedlandstrategy-2001-final-version.pdf>

³⁶ Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Joint Strategic Planning Unit (2012) Sustainable Development Strategy [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2531/sustainable-development-strategy-review.pdf>

Cambridgeshire and to ensure that the sustainability of different broad spatial options for locating new developments are assessed.

B.30 Cambridge & South Cambridgeshire Infrastructure Delivery Study (2015)³⁷: aims to assess the infrastructure requirements, costs and known funding relating to planned growth, particularly the strategic sites, and identify any phasing issues that might affect the proposed growth and advice on the future delivery of infrastructure needed to support the planned growth.

Economy

International

B.31 There are no specific international or European economic policy agreements relevant to the preparation of the Local Plan and the SA, although there are a large number of trading agreements, regulations and standards that set down the basis of trade within the European Union (subject to changes post-Brexit) and with other nations.

National

B.32 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)³⁸ sets out the following:

- The economic role of the planning system is to contribute towards building a “strong, responsive and competitive economy” by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation. There is also a requirement for the planning system to identify and coordinate the provision of infrastructure.
- Planning policies should address the specific locational requirements of different sectors.
- Local planning authorities should incorporate planning policies which “support the role that town centres play at the heart of local communities, by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation”.
- When considering edge of centre and out of centre proposals, preference should be given to accessible sites which are well connected to the town centre. Sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas should be supported, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings.
- The NPPF requires Local Plans to “set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth, having regard to Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration.”

B.33 National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)³⁹: Reiterates the importance for Local Plans to include a positive strategy for town centres to enable sustainable economic growth and provide a wide range of social and environmental benefits.

³⁷ Cambridge City Council & South Cambridgeshire District Council (2015) Infrastructure Delivery Study [online] Available at: <https://files.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/coredocs/rd-mc-080.pdf>

³⁸ Department for Communities and Local Government (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779764/NPPF_Feb_2019_web.pdf

B.34 The Local Growth White Paper (2010)⁴⁰: Highlights the importance of economic policy that focusses on the delivery of strong, sustainable and balanced growth of income and employment over the long-term, growth which is broad-based industrially and geographically to provide equality of access and opportunity and build businesses that are competitive internationally.

B.35 Rural White Paper 2000 (Our Countryside: the future – A fair deal for rural England)⁴¹: Sets out the Government’s Rural Policy Objectives:

- To facilitate the development of dynamic, competitive and sustainable economies in the countryside, tackling poverty in rural areas.
- To maintain and stimulate communities, and secure access to services which is equitable in all the circumstances, for those who live or work in the countryside.
- To conserve and enhance rural landscapes and the diversity and abundance of wildlife (including the habitats on which it depends).
- To promote government responsiveness to rural communities through better working together between central departments, local government, and government agencies and better co-operation with non-government bodies.

B.36 LEP Network Response to the Industrial Strategy Green Paper Consultation (2017)⁴²: The aim of the document is to ensure that all relevant local action and investment is used in a way that maximises the impact it has across the Government’s strategy. Consultation responses set out how the 38 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) will work with Government using existing and additional resources to develop and implement a long-term Industrial Strategy.

Sub-national

B.37 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Industrial Strategy (2019)⁴³: Sets out a summary of the wider economic context and identifies priorities that work across the three other local industrial strategies, including the Oxford-Cambridge Arc (‘the Arc’). These include:

³⁹ Department for Communities and Local Government (2016) National Planning Practice Guidance [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

⁴⁰ Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (2010) Local Growth: Realising Every Place’s Potential. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-growth-realising-every-places-potential-hc-7961>

⁴¹ HM Government (2000) Rural White Paper (Our Countryside: the future – A fair deal for rural England) [online] Available at: <http://www.tourisminsights.info/ONLINEPUB/DEFRA/DEFRA%20PDFS/RURAL%20WHITE%20PAPER%20-%20FULL%20REPORT.pdf>

⁴² LEP Network (2017) Response to the Industrial Strategy Green Paper Consultation [Online] Available at: <https://www.lepnetwork.net/media/1470/lep-network-industrial-strategy-response-april-2017-final.pdf>

⁴³ HM Government (2019) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Industrial Strategy [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/818886/Cambridge_SINGLE_PAGE.pdf

- Working together collaboratively across all of the foundations of productivity to ensure that the implementation of the four Local Industrial Strategies maximises the economic potential of the wider Arc region.
- Harnessing the collective strength of the Arc's research base – driving greater collaboration on science and research; developing a network of 'living labs' to trial and commercialise new technologies; and growing the role of the Arc as a global research and innovation hub.
- Bringing employers and skills providers together to understand the current and future skills needs, and planning provision to meet them.
- Maximising the economic benefits of new transport, energy and digital infrastructure within the Arc.
- Developing an improved business support and finance programme for high growth companies, a shared approach to commercial premises and an Internationalisation Delivery Plan to encourage greater trade and inward investment in the Arc.

B.38 Combined Authority Business Plan 2019-2020⁴⁴: Aims to create a clear, deliverable and fundable set of priorities and schemes which feeds the growth strategy for the combined authority.

B.39 Partnering for Prosperity: A new deal for the Cambridge-Milton Keynes-Oxford Arc⁴⁵: Provides Government with proposals and options to maximise the potential of the Cambridge-Milton Keynes-Oxford Arc as a connected, knowledge-intensive cluster that competes on a global stage, protecting the area's high quality environment, and securing the homes and jobs that the area needs.

B.40 Cambridge Cluster at 50, The Cambridge economy retrospect and prospect⁴⁶: Aims to:

- Better understand the performance of the Cambridge economy currently (including the impacts of recession), and the factors that underpin and explain this.
- Understand long term opportunities and threats for the economy of Cambridge, taking into account changes in government policy and also the different aspirations of new generations of Cambridge-based businesses and residents.
- Understand the potential synergies and conflicts that exist in relation to Cambridge's different economic roles, both now and looking forward.
- Examine the constraints to economic growth – infrastructural, workforce-related, spatial, attitudinal, and institutional – and to distil what might be done to address these.
- Understand – in broad terms – the spatial implications of the above.

⁴⁴ Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (2019) Combined Authority Business Plan 2019-20 [online] Available at: <https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/assets/Uploads/CPCA-Business-Plan-2019-20-dps.pdf>

⁴⁵ National Infrastructure Commission (2017) Partnering for Prosperity: A new deal for the Cambridge-Milton Keynes-Oxford Arc [online] Available at: <https://www.nic.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Partnering-for-Prosperity.pdf>

⁴⁶ SQW (2011) Cambridge Cluster at 50, The Cambridge economy retrospect and prospect [online] Available at: https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2505/cambridge_cluster_at_50_report_06042011.pdf

B.41 Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Independent Economic Review (2018)⁴⁷: Provides an overview of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority area and includes 14 key recommendations and another 13 subsidiary recommendations for how the combined authority can sustain its own economy and support the UK economy.

B.42 Cambridge Retail and Leisure Study Update 2013⁴⁸: Reviews the quality of existing provision and the need for additional retail floor space and leisure uses in Cambridge.

B.43 Cambridge City Centre Capacity Study (2013)⁴⁹: Examines the capacity of Cambridge city centre to meet the needs of the district and the wider sub-region in the period to 2031. The study will form part of the evidence base for the emerging Local Plan. The objectives of the study are:

- To review the current uses in and functionality of the city centre.
- To explore the existing and future proposed growth of the city and the surrounding sub-region.
- To consider how the city can accommodate the growth without compromising the environment.
- To identify physical opportunities to increase the capacity of the city centre, in terms of development sites.
- To review the boundary of the city centre, as defined in the adopted Local Plan, to assess whether there is a need for revision.
- To define the primary and secondary retail frontages and primary shopping area.
- To assess the potential for alternative management of uses to free up potential capacity.
- To identify potential transport schemes and public realm improvements, which may increase the capacity of the city centre.

Transport and Air Quality

International

B.44 The Trans-European Networks (TEN): Created by the European Union by Articles 154-156 of the Treaty of Rome (1957), with the stated goals of the creation of an internal market and the reinforcement of economic and social cohesion. These include the Trans-European Transport Networks (TEN-T), which includes High Speed 1, and the Trans-European Telecommunications Networks (eTEN).

B.45 European Air Quality Framework Directive (1996) and Air Quality Directive (2008): Put in place measures for the avoidance, prevention, and reduction in harmful effects to human health and the environment associated with ambient air pollution and establish legally binding limits for the most common and harmful sources of air pollution.

⁴⁷ CPIER (2018) Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Independent Economic Review Final Report [online] Available at: <https://www.cpier.org.uk/media/1671/cpier-report-151118-download.pdf>

⁴⁸ GVA (2013) Cambridge Retail and Leisure Study [online] Available at: <https://files.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/coredocs/RD-E-130.pdf>

⁴⁹ ARUP (2013) Cambridge City Centre Capacity Study [online] Available at: <https://files.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/coredocs/RD-E-120.pdf>

National

B.46 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)⁵⁰: Encourages local planning authorities to consider transport issues from the earliest stages of plan making so that: opportunities to promote sustainable transport are identified and pursued; the environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified and assessed; and opportunities from existing or proposed transport infrastructure and changing transport technology and usage are realised. The framework also states that the planning system should actively manage growth patterns in support of these objectives.

B.47 National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)⁵¹: Reiterates the requirement for local planning authorities to undertake an assessment of the transport implications of reviewing their Local Plan.

B.48 The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland⁵²: Sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues by setting out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved. It introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles, and identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives. The objectives of the Strategy are to:

- Further improve air quality in the UK from today and long term.
- Provide benefits to health quality of life and the environment.

B.49 Department for Transport, The Road to Zero (2018)⁵³: Sets out new measures towards cleaner road transport, aiming to put the UK at the forefront of the design and manufacturing of zero emission vehicles. It explains how cleaner air, a better environment, zero emission vehicles and a strong, clean economy will be achieved. One of the main aims of the document is for all new cars and vans to be effectively zero emission by 2040.

B.50 A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment⁵⁴: Sets out goals for improving the environment within the next 25 years. It details how the Government will work with

⁵⁰ Department for Communities and Local Government (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779764/NPPF_Feb_2019_web.pdf

⁵¹ Department for Communities and Local Government (2016) National Planning Practice Guidance [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

⁵² Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (2007) The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69336/pb12654-air-quality-strategy-vol1-070712.pdf

⁵³ Department for Transport, The Road to Zero (2018) [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/739460/road-to-zero.pdf

⁵⁴ HM Government (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/673203/25-year-environment-plan.pdf

communities and businesses to leave the environment in a better state than it is presently. Identifies six key areas around which action will be focused. The area of relevance to this chapter is: increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste. Actions that will be taken as part of this key areas are as follows:

- Increasing resource efficiency and reducing pollution and waste:
- Reduce pollution by tackling air pollution in our Clean Air Strategy and reduce the impact of chemicals.

B.51 UK Plan for Tackling Roadside Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations⁵⁵: Sets out the Government's ambition and actions for delivering a better environment and cleaner air, including £1 billion investment in ultra-low emission vehicles (ULESvs), a £290 million National Productivity Investment Fund, a £11 million Air Quality Grant Fund and £255 million Implementation Fund to help local authorities to prepare Air Quality Action Plans and improve air quality, an £89 million Green Bus Fund, £1.2 billion Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy and £100 million to help improve air quality on the National road network.

B.52 Clean Air Strategy 2019⁵⁶: Sets out the comprehensive action that is required from across all parts of government and society to meet these goals. This will be underpinned by new England-wide powers to control major sources of air pollution, in line with the risk they pose to public health and the environment, plus new local powers to take action in areas with an air pollution problem. These will support the creation of Clean Air Zones to lower emissions from all sources of air pollution, backed up with clear enforcement mechanisms. The UK has set stringent targets to cut emissions by 2020 and 2030.

Sub-national

B.53 Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2031 (2015)⁵⁷: Addresses the County Council's priorities, as well as the strategic objectives from the previous Local Transport Plan 2. These are:

- Supporting and protecting people when they need it most.
- Helping people to live independent and healthy lives in their communities.
- Developing our local economy for the benefit of all.
- Managing and delivering the growth and development of sustainable communities.
- Promoting improved skills levels and economic prosperity across the county, helping people into jobs and encouraging enterprise.

⁵⁵ Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs and Department for Transport (2017) UK plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/633269/air-quality-plan-overview.pdf

⁵⁶ DEFRA, Clean Air Strategy 2019 [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/770715/clean-air-strategy-2019.pdf

⁵⁷ Cambridgeshire County Council (2015) Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2031 [online] Available at: [https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/The Local Transport Plan 3%20%281%29.pdf?inline=true](https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/The%20Local%20Transport%20Plan%203%20%281%29.pdf?inline=true)

- Meeting the challenges of climate change and enhancing the natural environment.

B.54 Additionally, the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority Local Transport Plan (LTP) is under consultation until the 27th of September 2019. The emerging plan will replace the existing Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan when it is adopted. The objectives of the Combined Authority LTP include supporting housing, employment, business and tourism, as well as promoting safety, health and wellbeing and reducing environmental impact.

B.55 Cambridgeshire Transport Investment Plan (2018)⁵⁸: Sets out the transport infrastructure, services and initiatives that are required to support the growth of Cambridgeshire.

B.56 Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council Infrastructure Delivery Study 2015⁵⁹: Assessed the infrastructure requirements, costs and known funding related to planned growth, particularly the strategic sites, and identified any phasing issues that might have affected the proposed growth and advise on the future delivery of infrastructure needed to support the planned growth. bio

B.57 Air Quality Action Plan for the Cambridgeshire Growth Areas (2009)⁶⁰: Reviewed all of the existing air quality information across the regions, identified the key causes in each management area and assessed the necessary actions needed to improve pollutant levels in those areas.

B.58 Cambridge City Council Air Quality Action Plan 2018-2023 (2019 update)⁶¹: Sets out Cambridge City Council's priority actions for improving areas of poor air quality in the city and maintaining a good level of air quality in a growing city.

B.59 South Cambridgeshire Local Air Quality Strategy 2008-2013⁶²: Sets out three objectives for the long term vision of the Council which include: enhance quality of life and build a sustainable South Cambridgeshire where everyone is proud to live and work, work in partnership to manage growth to benefit everyone in South Cambridgeshire now and in the future and deliver high quality services that represent best value and are accessible to all out community.

B.60 Air Quality Action Plan for the Cambridgeshire Growth Areas (2009)⁶³: Reviewed all of the existing air quality information across the regions, identified the key causes in each

⁵⁸ Cambridgeshire County Council (2018) Cambridgeshire Transport Investment Plan [online] Available at: <https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/TIP%20Appendix%20%20%20TIP%20Policy%20Document%202018.pdf?inline=true>

⁵⁹ Peter Brett Associates (2015) Infrastructure Delivery Study 2015 [online] Available at: <https://files.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/coredocs/rd-mc-080.pdf>

⁶⁰ Cambridge City Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council (2009) Air Quality Action Plan for the Cambridgeshire Growth Areas [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/6727/air-quality-action-plan.pdf>

⁶¹ Cambridge City Council (2018) Air Quality Action Plan 2018-2023, Version 2, 2019 update [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3451/air-quality-action-plan-2018.pdf>

⁶² South Cambridgeshire District Council (2008) Local Air Quality Strategy 2008-2013 [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/6728/air-quality-strategy.pdf>

⁶³ Cambridge City Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council (2009) Air Quality Action Plan for the Cambridgeshire Growth Areas [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/6727/air-quality-action-plan.pdf>

management area and assessed the necessary actions needed to improve pollutant levels in those areas.

B.61 Cambridge City Council 'Greening Your Home'⁶⁴: Provides information on how individuals can change their lifestyles to become more environmentally sustainable including saving energy and water, using sustainable transport, eating sustainable food and greening gardens.

Land and Water Resources

International

B.62 European Nitrates Directive (1991): Identifies nitrate vulnerability zones and puts in place measures to reduce water pollution caused by the introduction of nitrates.

B.63 European Urban Waste Water Directive (1991): Protects the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water collection, treatment and discharge, and discharge from certain industrial sectors.

B.64 European Drinking Water Directive (1998): Protects human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean.

B.65 European Landfill Directive (1999): Prevents and reduces the negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.

B.66 European Water Framework Directive (2000): Protects inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater, and requires all member states to achieve 'good ecological status' or 'good ecological potential' by 2027, and for no waterbodies to experience deterioration in status. Under the obligations of this Directive, River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) are prepared.

B.67 European Waste Framework Directive (2008): Sets out the waste hierarchy requiring the reduction of waste production and its harmfulness, the recovery of waste by means of recycling, re-use or reclamation and final disposal that does not harm the environment, including human health.

B.68 European Industrial Emission Directive (2010): Lays down rules on integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole

National

B.69 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)⁶⁵ sets out the following:

⁶⁴ Cambridge City Council Greening Your Home [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/travel-more-sustainably>

⁶⁵ Department for Communities and Local Government (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] Available at:

- The planning system should protect and enhance soils in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or quality identified in the development plan.
- New and existing development should be prevented from contributing to, being put at an unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability.
- Despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land should be remediated and mitigated where appropriate.
- The reuse of previously developed land is encouraged where suitable opportunities exist.
- Plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change and ensuring resilience to climate change impacts, and new development should avoid increased vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

B.70 National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)⁶⁶: Requires local planning authorities to demonstrate every effort has been made to prioritise the use of poorer quality agricultural land for development where it has been demonstrated that significant development is required on agricultural land. It also requires that plan making considers, among other issues: identifying suitable sites for new or enhanced water infrastructure; assessing whether new development is appropriate near to sites used for water infrastructure; and the phasing of new development so that such infrastructure will be in place when and where needed. The impact of water infrastructure on sites designated for biodiversity should also be considered.

B.71 Waste Management Plan for England⁶⁷: Provides an analysis on the current waste management situation in England, and evaluates how it will support implementation of the objectives and provisions of the revised Water Framework Directive.

B.72 National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW)⁶⁸: Identifies key planning objectives, requiring planning authorities to:

- Help deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy.
- Ensure waste management is considered alongside other spatial planning concerns
- Provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste
- Help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779764/NPPF_Feb_2019_web.pdf

⁶⁶ Department for Communities and Local Government (2016) National Planning Practice Guidance [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

⁶⁷ Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2013) Waste management plan for England [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/265810/pb14100-waste-management-plan-20131213.pdf

⁶⁸ Department for Communities and Local Government (2014) National Planning Policy for Waste [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/364759/141015_National_Planning_Policy_for_Waste.pdf

- Ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management.

B.73 Safeguarding our Soils – A Strategy for England⁶⁹: Sets out how England’s soils will be managed sustainably. It highlights those areas which Defra will prioritise and focus attention in tackling degradation threats, including: better protection for agricultural soils; protecting and enhancing stores of soil carbon; building the resilience of soils to a changing climate; preventing soil pollution; effective soil protection during construction and; dealing with contaminated land.

B.74 Water White Paper⁷⁰: Sets out the Government’s vision for the water sector including proposals on protecting water resources and reforming the water supply industry. It states outlines the measures that will be taken to tackle issues such as poorly performing ecosystem, and the combined impacts of climate change and population growth on stressed water resources.

B.75 Water for Life White Paper⁷¹: Sets out how to build resilience in the water sector. Objectives of the White Paper are to:

- Paint a clear vision of the future and create the conditions which enable the water sector and water users to prepare for it.
- Deliver benefits across society through an ambitious agenda for improving water quality, working with local communities to make early improvements in the health of our rivers by reducing pollution and tackling unsustainable abstraction.
- Keep short and longer term affordability for customers at the centre of decision making in the water sector.
- Protect the interest of taxpayers in the policy decisions that we take.
- Ensure a stable framework for the water sector which remains attractive to investors.
- Stimulate cultural change in the water sector by removing barriers to competition, fostering innovation and efficiency, and encouraging new entrants to the market to help improve the range and quality of services offered to customers and cut business costs.
- Work with water companies, regulators and other stakeholders to build understanding of the impact personal choices have on the water environment, water resources and costs.
- Set out roles and responsibilities – including where Government will take a stronger role in strategic direction setting and assessing resilience to future challenges, as well as clear expectations on the regulators.

B.76 Future Water: The Government’s Water Strategy for England⁷²: Sets out how the Government wants the water sector to look by 2030, providing an outline of steps which need to

⁶⁹ Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2009) Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69261/pb13297-soil-strategy-090910.pdf

⁷⁰ Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2012) The Water White Paper [online] Available at: <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmselect/cmenvfru/374/374.pdf>

⁷¹ Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2011) Water for life [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/228861/8230.pdf

be taken to get there. These steps include: improving the supply of water; agreeing on important new infrastructure such as reservoirs; proposals to time limit abstraction licences; and reducing leakage. The document also states that pollution to rivers will be tackled, whilst discharge from sewers will be reduced.

Sub-national

B.77 Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council Infrastructure Delivery Study 2015⁷³: Assessed the infrastructure requirements, costs and known funding related to planned growth, particularly the strategic sites, and identified any phasing issues that might have affected the proposed growth and advise on the future delivery of infrastructure needed to support the planned growth.

B.78 South Cambridgeshire Contaminated Land Strategy (2001)⁷⁴: Sets out South Cambridgeshire District Council's strategy on how it proposes to identify contaminated land within its boundaries. It supports the following objectives:

- Maintaining, improving and developing sympathetically the character, environment, economy and social fabric of our villages.
- Promoting a healthier environment to enable our communities to lead healthier lives, by its own actions and active partnership with others.
- Working towards a more sustainable future for everyone living and working in South Cambridgeshire, balancing the needs of the present and future generations.

B.79 Cambridge City Council Contaminated Land Strategy (2009)⁷⁵: Builds upon the City Council's Medium Term Objectives which include:

- To promote Cambridge as a sustainable city, in particular by reducing carbon dioxide emissions and the amount of waste going into landfill in the City and sub-region.
- Ensure that residents and other service users have an entirely positive experience of dealing with the Council.
- Maintain a healthy, safe and enjoyable city for all, with thriving and viable neighbourhood.
- Lead the growth of Cambridge to achieve attractive, sustainable new neighbourhoods, including affordable housing, close to a good range of facilities, and supported by transport networks so that people can opt not to use the car.

B.80 Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011)⁷⁶: Highlights the issue of air quality in particular and how this can be addressed through Green Infrastructure (GI) provision. It also

⁷² HM Government (2008) Future Water: The Government's water strategy for England [online] Available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69346/pb13562-future-water-080204.pdf

⁷³ Peter Brett Associates (2015) Infrastructure Delivery Study 2015 [online] Available at: <https://files.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/coredocs/rd-mc-080.pdf>

⁷⁴ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2001) Contaminated Land Strategy [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/7919/contaminatedlandstrategy-2001-final-version.pdf>

⁷⁵ Cambridge City Council (2009) Contaminated Land Strategy [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3025/contaminated-land-strategy.pdf>

notes that water is an important element of GI and that management of GI assets can be conducive to improving or maintaining good water quality.

B.81 South Cambridgeshire Recreation and Open Space Study (2013)⁷⁷: Aims to provide an audit of the quantity and quality of existing provision in the district, assess the need for future provision.

B.82 Cambridge Open Space and Recreation Strategy (2011)⁷⁸: Discusses the findings of the Open Space and Recreation Assessment. It breaks the information down by ward and provides data on the deficits in each ward and the ward's strengths and weaknesses in terms of open space provision. It also discusses the level of provision proposed in the urban extensions to the City, which have not been assessed in this Strategy as they have not yet been delivered on site.

B.83 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Development Plan (2011)⁷⁹: Sets out key areas which will help shape the future of minerals activities. The plan includes a vision and strategic objectives for both sustainable minerals and waste development, spatial strategies for both waste and minerals, 10 core policies to achieve the strategic objectives for minerals and waste development, 16 development control policies to ensure no unacceptable harm to the environment, economy or communities of the region. Currently, Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council are in the process of reviewing their joint Minerals and Waste Development Plan. The consultation on the Further Draft Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan ran from 15 March to 9 May 2019. Once adopted it will replace the current Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

B.84 Anglian River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan (2016)⁸⁰: Explains the risk of flooding from various sources and how risk management authorities will work with communities to manage it over a period of 6 years.

B.85 Anglian River Basin Management Plan (2015)⁸¹: Provides a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment. To achieve this, and because water and land resources are closely linked, it also informs decisions on land-use planning.

B.86 Cambridge Area Water Cycle Strategy - Phase 1 (2008)⁸² and Phase 2 (2011)⁸³: Provides an evidence base concerning the required water services infrastructure for planned

⁷⁶ Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Forum (2011) Green Infrastructure Strategy [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2557/green-infrastructure-strategy.pdf>

⁷⁷ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2013) Recreation and Open Space Study [online] Available at: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/media/10290/recreation-open-space-study-2013.pdf>

⁷⁸ Cambridge City Council (2011) Open Space and Recreation Strategy [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2467/open-space-and-recreation-strategy-2011.pdf>

⁷⁹ Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council (2011) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Development Plan [online] Available at: https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/Core_Strategy_Adopted_19July_2011.pdf?inline=true

⁸⁰ Environment Agency (2016) Anglian River Basin District Flood Management Plan [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/anglian-river-basin-district-flood-risk-management-plan>

⁸¹ Environment Agency, DEFRA (2015) Anglian River Basin Management Plan [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718327/Anglian_RBD_Part_1_river_basin_management_plan.pdf

development in the Cambridge Sub-Region (CSR). The Phase 1 study identified no insurmountable technical constraints to the proposed level of growth, but identified a number of important issues including the need for a Surface Water Management Plan, a detailed analysis of increased flood risk at the Swavesy Drain, and the need to investigate the viability of achieving 'water neutrality'⁸⁴. Phase 2 goes further and supports a more aspirational vision for water management, including aspirations to water neutrality, improving biodiversity and sustainable surface water management. In addition, a further dedicated Water Cycle Strategy (WCS) was developed in 2014 for the allocated strategic development site at Denny St Francis, north of the existing town of Waterbeach⁸⁵. This is the most up-to-date strategy that is currently available, however any forthcoming strategies will be drawn on when released.

B.87 Cambridge Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) 2019⁸⁶: describes how Cambridge Water aims to meet the demand for water in the Cambridge region, including consideration of climate change, population growth and the need to protect the environment. The WRMP recognises the increased demand for water due to a growing population, the potential for adverse environmental impacts of extraction and the need to reduce water wastage.

B.88 Affinity Water (draft) and Anglian Water WRMPs⁸⁷: To be taken into consideration as neighbouring suppliers, given that WRMPs do not operate in isolation and abstraction by one can significantly affect the environment of another.

B.89 Citywide Tree Strategy 2016-2026⁸⁸: Aims to sustainably manage the Council's own trees and those it manages by agreement, to foster a resilient tree population that responds to the impacts of climate change and urban expansion, to raise awareness of trees being a vital community asset, through promoting continued research, through education via the provision of

⁸² Cambridgeshire Horizons (2008) Water Cycle Strategy up to 2031, Major Growth Areas in and around Cambridge, Phase 1 – Outline Strategy [Online]. Available at:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/7595/cambridgeshire-water-cycle-strategy-phase-1-2008.pdf>

⁸³ Cambridgeshire Horizons (2011) Detailed Water Cycle Strategy up to 2031, Major Growth Areas in and around Cambridge, Phase 2 – Detailed Strategy [Online]. Available at:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/7596/cambridgeshire-water-cycle-strategy-phase-2-2011.pdf>

⁸⁴ The concept that the total water used after a new development is no more than the total water used before the development in a given wider area. This requires meeting the new demand through improving the efficiency of use of the existing water resources.

⁸⁵ RLW Estates (2014) Denny St Francis Water Cycle Study [Online]. Available at:

https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/1380/328331_denny_st_francois_water_cycle_study_-_detailed_report_rev.d.pdf

⁸⁶ Cambridge Water Company (2019) Water Resources Management Plan [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge-water.co.uk/media/2546/revised-draft-wrmp-2019-cambridge-water-v2.pdf>

⁸⁷ Affinity Water (2019) [online] Available at:

https://www.affinitywater.co.uk/docs/corporate/plans/water-resources/latest/Draft_Final_Water_Resources_Management_Plan_2019_Published_June_2019.pdf ; Anglian Water (2015) [online] Available at:

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/siteassets/household/about-us/wrmp-2015.pdf>

⁸⁸ Cambridge City Council (2016) Citywide Tree Strategy 2016-2026 [online] Available at:

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3260/tree-strategy-2016-part-1.pdf>

advice and through partnership working and to make efficient and strategic use of the Council's regulatory powers for the protection of trees of current and future value.

B.90 Anglian Water's Long Term Water Recycling Plan (WRLTP)⁸⁹: A plan to prioritise investment across the wider region to help balance supply and demand for water recycling services, considering risks from growth, climate change, severe drought, and customer behaviours.

B.91 Catchment Abstraction Management Plans⁹⁰: Used by the Environment Agency to manage water resources in England, which test the availability of water at four different levels of 'flow'. The most relevant strategies for the plan area are:

- Cam and Ely Ouse Catchment: This strategy covers the largest part of the plan area, particularly in the east and including Cambridge. It highlights that at the three lowest 'flows', water is largely 'not available', and at the highest flow level water is 'restricted'.
- Upper and Bedford Ouse Catchment: This strategy covers a small part of the west of the plan area. At the two lower 'flows' tested, water was 'not available' and was restricted at the third lowest 'flow'.
- Essex Catchment: the strategy highlights that water is 'not available' across large parts of the catchment area, however this only affects a small part of the south of the plan area for Greater Cambridge.

Climate Change Adaption and Mitigation

International

B.92 European Floods Directive (2007): A framework for the assessment and management of flood risk, aiming at the reduction of the adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.

B.93 European Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2010): Aims to promote the energy performance of buildings and building units. Requires the adoption of a standard methodology for calculating energy performance and minimum requirements for energy performance.

B.94 United Nations Paris Climate Change Agreement (2015): International agreement to keep global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

National

B.95 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)⁹¹: Contains the following:

⁸⁹ Anglian Water (2018) Water Recycling Long Term Plan [online] Available at: <https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/siteassets/household/in-the-community/water-recycling-long-term-plan.pdf>

⁹⁰ HM Government (n.d) Abstraction licensing strategies (CAMS process) [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/water-abstraction-licensing-strategies-cams-process>

⁹¹ Department for Communities and Local Government (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779764/NPPF_Feb_2019_web.pdf

- One of the core planning principles is to “support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings; and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure”.
- Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided. Where development is necessary, it should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere.
- Local planning authorities should adopt a proactive approach to mitigate and adapt to climate change, taking full account of flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures.

B.96 National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)⁹²: Supports the content of the NPPF by promoting low carbon and renewable energy generation, including decentralised energy, the energy efficiency of existing and new buildings and sustainable transport.

B.97 Planning Act (2008)⁹³: Section 182 places a legal duty on local planning authorities to ensure that their development plan documents include policies to ensure that development and use of land in their area contributes to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.

B.98 Planning and Energy Act (2008)⁹⁴: enables local planning authorities to set requirements for carbon reduction and renewable energy provision. It should be noted that while the Housing Standards Review proposed to repeal some of these provisions, at the time of writing there have been no amendments to the Planning and Energy Act.

B.99 Climate Change Act 2008⁹⁵: Sets targets for UK greenhouse gas emission reductions of at least 100% by 2050 and CO2 emission reductions of at least 26% by 2015, against a 1990 baseline (in 2008 the target was set at 80%, however the target has recently been amended in 2019 by Statutory Instrument No.1056 to 100%).

B.100 Flood and Water Management Act (2010)⁹⁶: Sets out measures to ensure that risk from all sources of flooding is managed more effectively. This includes: incorporating greater resilience measures into the design of new buildings; utilising the environment in order to reduce flooding; identifying areas suitable for inundation and water storage to reduce the risk of flooding elsewhere; rolling back development in coastal areas to avoid damage from flooding or coastal erosion; and creating sustainable drainage systems (SuDS).

⁹² Department for Communities and Local Government (2016) National Planning Practice Guidance [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

⁹³ HM Government (2008) Planning Act 2008 [online] Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/contents>

⁹⁴ HM Government (2008) Planning and Energy Act 2008 [online] Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/21>

⁹⁵ HM Government (2008) Climate Change Act 2008 [online] Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/pdfs/ukpga_20080027_en.pdf

⁹⁶ HM Government (2010) Flood and Water Management Act 2010 [online] Available at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/29/pdfs/ukpga_20100029_en.pdf

B.101 The UK Renewable Energy Strategy⁹⁷: Sets out the ways in which we will tackle climate change by reducing our CO2 emissions through the generation of a renewable electricity, heat and transport technologies.

B.102 The Energy Efficiency Strategy: The Energy Efficiency Opportunity in the UK⁹⁸: Aims to realise the wider energy efficiency potential that is available in the UK economy by maximising the potential of existing dwellings by implementing 21st century energy management initiatives on 19th century homes.

B.103 The National Adaptation Programme and the Third Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting: Making the country resilient to a changing climate⁹⁹: Sets out visions for the following sectors:

- People and the Built Environment – “to promote the development of a healthy, equitable and resilient population, well placed to reduce the harmful health impacts of climate change...buildings and places (including built heritage) and the people who live and work in them are resilient and organisations in the built environment sector have an increased capacity to address the risks and make the most of the opportunities of a changing climate.”
- Infrastructure – “an infrastructure network that is resilient to today’s natural hazards and prepared for the future changing climate”.
- Natural Environment – “the natural environment, with diverse and healthy ecosystems, is resilient to climate change, able to accommodate change and valued for the adaptation services it provides.”
- Business and Industry – “UK businesses are resilient to extreme weather and prepared for future risks and opportunities from climate change.”
- Local Government – “Local government plays a central role in leading and supporting local places to become more resilient to a range of future risks and to be prepared for the opportunities from a changing climate.”

B.104 UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017¹⁰⁰: Sets out six priority areas needing urgent further action over the next five years in order to minimise risk from the effects of climate change. These priority areas include: flooding and coastal change risk to communities, businesses and infrastructure; risks to health, wellbeing and productivity from high

⁹⁷ HM Government (2009) The UK Renewable Energy Strategy [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/228866/7686.pdf

⁹⁸ Department of Energy & Climate Change (2012) The Energy Efficiency Strategy: The Energy Efficiency Opportunity in the UK [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/65602/6927-energy-efficiency-strategy--the-energy-efficiency.pdf

⁹⁹ HM Government (2018) The National Adaptation Programme and the Third Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting: Making the country resilient to a changing climate [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/727252/national-adaptation-programme-2018.pdf

¹⁰⁰ HM Government (2017) UK Climate Change Risk Assessment [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/584281/uk-climate-change-risk-assess-2017.pdf

temperatures; risk of shortages in the public water supply and for agriculture, energy generation and industry; risks to natural capital; risks to domestic and international food production and trade; and new and emerging pests and diseases and invasive species.

B.105 Understanding the risks, empowering communities, building resilience: The national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England¹⁰¹: This Strategy sets out the national framework for managing the risk of flooding and coastal erosion. It sets out the roles for risk management authorities and communities to help them understand their responsibilities. The strategic aims and objectives of the Strategy are to:

- Manage the risk to people and their property.
- Facilitate decision-making and action at the appropriate level – individual, community or local authority, river catchment, coastal cell or national.
- Achieve environmental, social and economic benefits, consistent with the principles of sustainable development.

B.106 A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment¹⁰²: Sets out goals for improving the environment within the next 25 years. It details how the Government will work with communities and businesses to leave the environment in a better state than it is presently. Identifies six key areas around which action will be focused. Those of relevance to this chapter are: using and managing land sustainably; and protecting and improving our global environment. Actions that will be taken as part of these two key areas are as follows:

- Using and managing land sustainably:
 - Take action to reduce the risk of harm from flooding and coastal erosion including greater use of natural flood management solutions.
- Protecting and improving our global environment:
 - Provide international leadership and lead by example in tackling climate change and protecting and improving international biodiversity.

Sub-national

B.107 Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011): Mitigating and adapting to climate change is one of the four objectives of the Strategy. It notes the low-lying nature of the county and subsequent flood risk, as well as the prospect that growth and development will further exacerbate the human and economic impacts.

¹⁰¹ HM Government (2011) Understanding the risks, empowering communities, building resilience: The national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England [online] Available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/228898/9780108510366.pdf

¹⁰² HM Government (2018) A Green Future: Our 23 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] Available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/673203/25-year-environment-plan.pdf

B.108 Cambridgeshire Renewables Infrastructure Framework (2012)¹⁰³: Identifies a wide range of renewable technologies available, creating opportunities for Cambridgeshire to be a leading county for clean energy projects, goods and services, recognising that the Cambridge area has an excellent research base for renewable energy technologies and is an ideal location in the UK for growth in the sector. The Framework identifies that 9% of the opportunity is in Cambridge City and 26% in South Cambridgeshire. A separate report setting out the baseline data¹⁰⁴ notes that South Cambridgeshire (along with Huntingdonshire) has both the greatest renewable energy potential and the greatest energy demand.

B.109 Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (2007)¹⁰⁵: Produced to provide guidance on the policies within the Cambridge Local Plan 2006 that relate to sustainability. An emerging SPD for Greater Cambridge is currently in consultation and will replace the existing SPD when adopted.

B.110 South Cambridgeshire Design Guide SPD (2010)¹⁰⁶: Produced to expand on district-wide policies and ensure that design is an integral part of the development process, in a way that respects the local context. An emerging SPD for Greater Cambridge is currently in consultation and will replace the existing SPD when adopted.

B.111 Scoping Report: Feasibility of a Carbon Offset Mechanism for Cambridgeshire (2010)¹⁰⁷: Explores the role that a Carbon Offset Fund (COF) could play in delivering low carbon growth within Cambridgeshire, as an alternative to developer meeting their whole carbon reduction obligations through on-site measures, with a focus on large-scale projects.

B.112 Cambridgeshire Community Energy Fund Final Report (2012)¹⁰⁸: Presents a study of the role that a community energy fund (CEF) – one that levies a charge on developers for the emissions resulting from new development and pool these into a fund for carbon saving projects - might play in delivering carbon emissions reduction in Cambridgeshire.

¹⁰³ Cambridgeshire Horizons (2012) Cambridgeshire Renewables Infrastructure Framework (CRIF) – Final Report [Online] Available at: <https://files.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/coredocs/rd-cc-040.pdf>

¹⁰⁴ Cambridgeshire Horizons (2012) Cambridgeshire Renewables Infrastructure Framework (CRIF) – Baseline data, opportunities and constraints [Online] Available at: <http://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s61865/Cambridgeshire%20Renewables%20Infrastructure%20Framework%20-%20Baseline%20Data%20Opportunities%20and%20Constraints.pdf>

¹⁰⁵ Cambridge City Council (2007) Sustainable Design and Construction SPD [online] Available at: https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2355/sustaincomspd_web.pdf

¹⁰⁶ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2010) District Design Guide [online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/district-design-guide-spd/>

¹⁰⁷ Cambridgeshire Horizons (2010) Scoping Report: Feasibility of a Carbon Offset Mechanism for Cambridgeshire [Online] Available at: <https://files.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/coredocs/Stage%201%20Carbon%20Offset%20Report.pdf>

¹⁰⁸ Cambridgeshire Horizons (2012) Cambridgeshire Community Energy Fund [Online] Available at: <https://files.cambridge.gov.uk/public/ldf/coredocs/Stage%202%20Community%20Energy%20Fund%20Report.pdf>

B.113 Cambridge Climate Change Strategy 2016-2021: Sets out five key objectives for how Cambridge City will address the causes and consequences of climate change, focussing on areas that contribute most to the City's carbon footprint and where the Council has the most scope to influence emissions, including: reducing emissions from the estate and operations; reducing transport emissions; promoting energy efficiency in development and through behaviour change; reducing consumption and waste; and supporting efforts to adapt to climate change impact¹⁰⁹. An update report in October 2018¹¹⁰ sets out progress to date on each objective.

B.114 Cambridge Climate Change Adaptation Plan¹¹¹: This plan was developed as part of one of the actions identified in the Council's Climate Change Strategy. It aims to improve the resilience of the Council and city to extreme weather events through multiple actions outlined in the plan.

B.115 Decarbonising Cambridge Study (2010)¹¹²: Provides the evidence base for setting targets for the CO2 performance of new developments in Cambridge. Assesses the potential for low carbon and renewable energy systems and provides advice on the development of planning policy and identifying supportive measures to achieve policy goals. An update to this work looking at the role of planning in delivering net zero is to be commissioned.

B.116 Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD (2016)¹¹³: Provides guidance for developers on how to manage flood risk and the water environment as part of new development proposals. This includes how to incorporate sustainable drainage systems and how to take account of climate change.

B.117 Cambridge & South Cambridgeshire Level 1 SFRA (2010)¹¹⁴: Assesses the extent and nature of the risk of flooding in the area and its implications for land use planning. It finds that most of the internal drainage boards within the study area is found in the north of South Cambridgeshire, and that fluvial flooding is the dominant source of flood risk, with surface water also likely to be a key issue. An updated SFRA is currently being commissioned.

¹⁰⁹ Cambridge City Council (2016) Climate Change Strategy 2016-2021 [Online] Available at: https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3230/climate_change_strategy_2016-21.pdf

¹¹⁰ Cambridge City Council (2018) Annual Climate Change Strategy, Carbon Management Plan and Climate Change Fund Update Report [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/6891/climate-change-strategy-progress-report-2017-18.pdf>

¹¹¹ Cambridge City Council (2018) Climate Change Adaptation Plan [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/5996/climate-change-adaptation-plan.pdf>

¹¹² Element Energy for Cambridge City Council (2010) Cambridge: A renewable and low carbon energy study [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2529/rd-cc-250.pdf>

¹¹³ Cambridgeshire County Council (2016) Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/7107/cambridgeshire-flood-and-water-spd.pdf>

¹¹⁴ Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council (2010) Cambridge & South Cambridgeshire SFRA [Online]. Available at: https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2560/ccs_sfra_report_text.pdf

B.118 Cambridgeshire Surface Water Management Plan (2014)¹¹⁵: Recognises that surface water flooding can put more properties at risk than fluvial flooding and can be more difficult to predict than river or coastal flooding. It collates and reviews flood incident records and produces a revised list of 'wet spots' prioritisation to assist in allocating resources.

B.119 Histon and Impington Surface Water Management Plan (2014)¹¹⁶: Investigates surface water flooding issues and the feasibility of potential mitigation solutions in Histon & Impington villages, located to the north of Cambridge. It focuses on three earlier identified 'wet spots' based on historic flooding evidence and mapping¹¹⁷.

B.120 Cambridge Area Water Cycle Strategy - Phase 1 (2008)¹¹⁸ and Phase 2 (2011)¹¹⁹: Provides an evidence base concerning the required water services infrastructure for planned development in the Cambridge Sub-Region (CSR). The Phase 1 study identified no insurmountable technical constraints to the proposed level of growth, but identified a number of important issues including the need for a Surface Water Management Plan, a detailed analysis of increased flood risk at the Swavesy Drain, and the need to investigate the viability of achieving 'water neutrality'¹²⁰. Phase 2 goes further and supports a more aspirational vision for water management, including aspirations to water neutrality, improving biodiversity and sustainable surface water management. In addition, a further dedicated Water Cycle Strategy (WCS) was developed in 2014 for the allocated strategic development site at Denny St Francis, north of the existing town of Waterbeach¹²¹. An update to this strategy is being commissioned by the Councils, which will form part of an Integrated Water Management Study.

B.121 Cambridge and Milton Surface Water Management Plan (2011)¹²²: Aims to produce a long term surface water management Action Plan for Cambridge and Milton, to be reviewed

¹¹⁵ Cambridgeshire County Council (2014) Surface Water Management Plan – Countywide Update [Online] Available at: https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/Cambs_Surface_Water_Management_Plans_aug15.pdf?inline=true

¹¹⁶ Cambridgeshire County Council (2014) Surface Water Management Plan – Histon & Impington Pre-PAR [Online]. Available at: https://ccc-live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/Histon_and_Impington_SWMP_report.pdf?inline=true

¹¹⁷ 1) Villa Road/South Road; 2) Glebe Road; Water Lane.

¹¹⁸ Cambridgeshire Horizons (2008) Water Cycle Strategy up to 2031, Major Growth Areas in and around Cambridge, Phase 1 – Outline Strategy [Online]. Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/7595/cambridgeshire-water-cycle-strategy-phase-1-2008.pdf>

¹¹⁹ Cambridgeshire Horizons (2011) Detailed Water Cycle Strategy up to 2031, Major Growth Areas in and around Cambridge, Phase 2 – Detailed Strategy [Online]. Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/7596/cambridgeshire-water-cycle-strategy-phase-2-2011.pdf>

¹²⁰ The concept that the total water used after a new development is no more than the total water used before the development in a given wider area. This requires meeting the new demand through improving the efficiency of use of the existing water resources.

¹²¹ RLW Estates (2014) Denny St Francis Water Cycle Study [Online]. Available at: https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/1380/328331_denny_st_francis_water_cycle_study_-_detailed_report_revd.pdf

¹²² Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Partnership (2011) Cambridge and Milton Surface Water Management Plan [online] Available at: <https://ccc->

every 6 years at a minimum. The study notes increasing flood risk associated with climate change as a critical factor.

B.122 Great Ouse Catchment Flood Management Plan (2011)¹²³: Sets out the scale and extent of flooding now and in the future, and policies for managing flood risk within the catchment.

B.123 Citywide Tree Strategy 2016-2026¹²⁴: Aims to sustainably manage the Council's own trees and those it manages by agreement, to foster a resilient tree population that responds to the impacts of climate change and urban expansion, to raise awareness of trees being a vital community asset, through promoting continued research, through education via the provision of advice and through partnership working and to make efficient and strategic use of the Council's regulatory powers for the protection of trees of current and future value.

Biodiversity

International

B.124 International Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) (1976): International agreement with the aim of conserving and managing the use of wetlands and their resources.

B.125 European Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) (1979): Aims to ensure conservation and protection of wild plant and animal species and their natural habitats, to increase cooperation between contracting parties, and to regulate the exploitation of those species (including migratory species).

B.126 International Convention on Biological Diversity (1992): International commitment to biodiversity conservation through national strategies and action plans.

B.127 European Habitats Directive (1992): Together with the Birds Directive, the Habitats Directive sets the standard for nature conservation across the EU and enables all 27 Member States to work together within the same strong legislative framework in order to protect the most vulnerable species and habitat types across their entire natural range within the EU. It also established the Natura 2000 network.

B.128 European Birds Directive (2009): Requires the maintenance of all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state in the European territory at a level which corresponds in particular to ecological, scientific and cultural requirements, while taking account of economic and recreational requirements.

B.129 United Nations Declaration on Forests (New York Declaration) (2014): international commitment to cut natural forest loss by 2020 and end loss by 2030.

[live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/Cambridge And Milton SWMP report.pdf?inline=true](https://live.storage.googleapis.com/upload/www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/Cambridge%20And%20Milton%20SWMP%20report.pdf?inline=true)

¹²³ Environment Agency (2011) Great Ouse Catchment Flood Management Plan [online] Available at:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/288877/Great Ouse Catchment Flood Management Plan.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/288877/Great_Ouse_Catchment_Flood_Management_Plan.pdf)

¹²⁴ Cambridge City Council (2016) Citywide Tree Strategy 2016-2026 [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3260/tree-strategy-2016-part-1.pdf>

National

B.130 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)¹²⁵: Encourages plans to “identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation”. Plans should also promote conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats and species, ecological networks and measurable net gains for biodiversity.

B.131 The NPPF states that a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure is also to be supported through planning policies and that there should also be support for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.

B.132 National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)¹²⁶: Supports the NPPF by requiring Local Plans to include strategic policies that conserve and enhance the natural environment through sustainable development.

B.133 Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006¹²⁷: Places a duty on public bodies to conserve biodiversity.

B.134 Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England’s wildlife and ecosystem services¹²⁸: Guides conservation efforts in England up to 2020 by requiring a national halt to biodiversity loss, supporting healthy ecosystems and establishing ecological networks. The Strategy includes 22 priorities which include actions for the following sectors: Agriculture, Forestry, Planning & Development, Water Management, Marine Management, Fisheries, Air Pollution and Invasive Non-Native Species.

B.135 Biodiversity offsetting in England Green Paper¹²⁹: Biodiversity offsets are conservation activities designed to compensate for residual losses. The Green Paper sets out a framework for offsetting.

¹²⁵ Department for Communities and Local Government (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779764/NPPF_Feb_2019_web.pdf

¹²⁶ Department for Communities and Local Government (2016) National Planning Practice Guidance [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

¹²⁷ HM Government (2006) Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 [online] Available at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/pdfs/ukpga_20060016_en.pdf

¹²⁸ Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2011) Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England’s wildlife and ecosystem services [Online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69446/pb13583-biodiversity-strategy-2020-111111.pdf

¹²⁹ Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2013) Biodiversity offsetting in England Green Paper [Online] Available at: https://consult.defra.gov.uk/biodiversity/biodiversity_offsetting/supporting_documents/20130903/Biodiversity%20offsetting%20green%20paper.pdf

B.136 A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment (2018)¹³⁰: Sets out goals for improving the environment within the next 25 years. It details how the Government will work with communities and businesses to leave the environment in a better state than it is presently. Identifies six key areas around which action will be focused. Those of relevance to this chapter are: recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes; securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans; and protecting and improving our global environment. Actions that will be taken as part of these three key areas are as follows:

- Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes:
 - Develop a Nature Recovery Network to protect and restore wildlife, and provide opportunities to re-introduce species that have been lost from the countryside.
- Securing clean, healthy, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans:
 - Achieve a good environmental status of the UK's seas while allowing marine industries to thrive, and complete our economically coherent network of well-managed marine protected areas.
- Protecting and improving our global environment:
 - Provide international leadership and lead by example in tackling climate change and protecting and improving international biodiversity.
 - Support and protect international forests and sustainable agriculture.

Sub-national

B.137 Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011)¹³¹: One of the four overarching objectives of the county-level GI strategy is to reverse the decline in biodiversity. The strategy outlines a series of issues, opportunities and constraints for biodiversity in Cambridgeshire.

B.138 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Habitat Action Plans¹³²: The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biodiversity Group have produced a series of Habitat Action Plans for various habitat types, detailing their current status, the factors affecting them, objectives and long term targets, and proposed actions.

B.139 Anglian River Basin Management Plan (2015)¹³³: Provides a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment. To achieve this, and because water and land resources are closely linked, it also informs decisions on land-use planning.

¹³⁰ HM Government (2018) A Green Future: Our 23 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [Online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/673203/25-year-environment-plan.pdf

¹³¹ Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and other neighbouring authorities (2011) Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2557/green-infrastructure-strategy.pdf>

¹³² Cambridge and Peterborough Biodiversity Group (n.d) Habitat Action Plans [Online] Available at: <http://www.cpbiodiversity.org.uk/downloads>

¹³³ Environment Agency, DEFRA (2015) Anglian River Basin Management Plan [online] Available at:

B.140 South Cambridgeshire Biodiversity SPD (2009)¹³⁴: Expands on district-wide policies to ensure that biodiversity is adequately protected and enhanced through the development process. It notes that biodiversity will not be peripheral to the planning process but fully integrated, and is designed to assist applicants in understanding biodiversity requirements.

B.141 South Cambridgeshire District Design Guide SPD¹³⁵: Expands on district wide policies in other documents to ensure that design is an integral part of the development process. Chapter 9 covers issues of how biodiversity conservation should be considered as a key element of good design, as well as adding value to developments.

B.142 Cambridge City Conservation Strategy ‘Enhancing Biodiversity’ (2006)¹³⁶: Prepared for Cambridge City Council by the local Wildlife Trust and designed to guide nature conservation activities across the city. It sets out a vision of achieving biodiversity ‘net gain’ over a 20-year period. As a technical document, it was produced to support the Cambridge Local Plan.

B.143 Mapping natural capital and opportunities for habitat creation in Cambridgeshire (2019)¹³⁷: Report on a project to produce a detailed habitat base map for the whole of Cambridgeshire (including Peterborough) in order to identify opportunities to enhance biodiversity.

B.144 Doubling Nature – A Vision for the Natural Future of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in 2050 (2019)¹³⁸: Sets out the vision of Natural Cambridgeshire, the local nature partnership, of doubling nature across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The vision is to double the area of rich wildlife habitats and green-space from 8.5% to 17%.

B.145 Citywide Tree Strategy 2016-2026¹³⁹: Aims to sustainably manage the Council’s own trees and those it manages by agreement, to foster a resilient tree population that responds to the impacts of climate change and urban expansion, to raise awareness of trees being a vital community asset, through promoting continued research, through education via the provision of advice and through partnership working and to make efficient and strategic use of the Council’s regulatory powers for the protection of trees of current and future value.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718327/Anglian_RBD_Part_1_river_basin_management_plan.pdf

¹³⁴ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2009) Biodiversity SPD [Online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/6675/adopted-biodiversity-spd.pdf>

¹³⁵ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2010) District Design Guide SPD [Online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/6684/adopted-design-guide-spd-final-chapters-7-8-9.pdf>

¹³⁶ Cambridge City Council and the Wildlife Trusts (2006) Nature Conservation Strategy “Enhancing Biodiversity” [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3925/nature-conservation-strategy.pdf>

¹³⁷ Natural Capital Solutions (2019) Mapping natural capital and opportunities for habitat creation in Cambridgeshire [Online] Available at: <http://www.cpbiodiversity.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Cambridgeshire-habitat-mapping-final-report-FINAL.pdf>

¹³⁸ Natural Cambridgeshire (2019) Launch of the Doubling Nature Ambition Report [online] Available at: <https://naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk/news/natural-cambridgeshire-ambition-to-double-nature-across-peterborough-and-cambridgeshire/>

¹³⁹ Cambridge City Council (2016) Citywide Tree Strategy 2016-2026 [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3260/tree-strategy-2016-part-1.pdf>

Historic Environment

International

B.146 European Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (1985): Defines 'architectural heritage' and requires that the signatories maintain an inventory of it and take statutory measures to ensure its protection. Conservation policies are also required to be integrated into planning systems and other spheres of government influence as per the text of the convention.

B.147 Valletta Treaty (1992) formerly the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Revisited)¹⁴⁰: Aims to protect the European archaeological heritage "as a source of European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study".

National

B.148 Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979: a law passed by the UK government to protect the archaeological heritage of England & Wales and Scotland. Under this Act, the Secretary of State has a duty to compile and maintain a schedule of ancient monuments of national importance, in order to help preserve them. It also creates criminal offences for unauthorised works to, or damage of, these monuments.

B.149 Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990: An Act of Parliament that changed the laws for granting of planning permission for building works, with a particular focus on listed buildings and conservation areas.

B.150 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)¹⁴¹: Plans should "set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. This strategy should take into account:

- a. the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- b. the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;
- c. the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and
- d. opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place."

B.151 National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)¹⁴²: Supports the NPPF by requiring that Local Plans include strategic policies for the conservation and enhancement of the historic

¹⁴⁰ Council of Europe (1992) Valletta Treaty [online] Available at: <https://rm.coe.int/168007bd25>

¹⁴¹ Department for Communities and Local Government (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779764/NPPF_Feb_2019_web.pdf

¹⁴² Department for Communities and Local Government (2016) National Planning Practice Guidance [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

environment, including a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment. It also states that local planning authorities should identify specific opportunities for conservation and enhancement of heritage assets.

B.152 The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England 2010¹⁴³: Sets out the Government's vision for the historic environment. It calls for those who have the power to shape the historic environment to recognise its value and to manage it in an intelligent manner in light of the contribution that it can make to social, economic and cultural life. Includes reference to promoting the role of the historic environment within the Government's response to climate change and the wider sustainable development agenda.

B.153 The Heritage Statement 2017¹⁴⁴: Sets out how the Government will support the heritage sector and help it to protect and care for our heritage and historic environment, in order to maximise the economic and social impact of heritage and to ensure that everyone can enjoy and benefit from it.

B.154 Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment, Historic England Advice Note 8¹⁴⁵: Sets out Historic England's guidance and expectations for the consideration and appraisal of effects on the historic environment as part of the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment process.

Sub-national

B.155 South Cambridgeshire Design Guide SPD (2010)¹⁴⁶: Produced to expand on district-wide policies and ensure that design is an integral part of the development process, in a way that respects the local context.

B.156 South Cambridgeshire Listed Buildings SPD (2009)¹⁴⁷: This document forms part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) to ensure that Listed Building issues are adequately addressed throughout the development process. This expands on the broad policies set out in the Development Control Policies.

¹⁴³ HM Government (2010) The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England 2010 [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-governments-statement-on-the-historic-environment-for-england>

¹⁴⁴ Department for Digital, Culture Media and Sport (2017) Heritage Statement 2017 [online] Available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/664657/Heritage_Statement_2017_final_-_web_version.pdf

¹⁴⁵ Historic England (2016) Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment: Historic England Advice Note 8 [online] Available at:

<https://content.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/heag036-sustainability-appraisal-strategic-environmental-assessment.pdf/>

¹⁴⁶ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2010) District Design Guide SPD [Online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/district-design-guide-spd/>

¹⁴⁷ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2009) Listed Buildings: Works to or affecting the setting of SPD [Online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/6690/adopted-listed-buildings-spd.pdf>

B.157 South Cambridgeshire Development Affecting Conservation Areas SPD (2009)¹⁴⁸: expands on district-wide policies to provide additional guidance on developments affecting designated Conservation Areas, and to assist applicants' understanding of the local historic context to ensure that development preserves and, where possible, enhances their character.

B.158 South Cambridgeshire Village Design Guides (since 2018): Since 2018 the Council has been working with eight villages¹⁴⁹ to produce Design Guides, funded by central government, with the goal of raising the quality of new planned development. Once adopted, they will become supplementary planning documents (SPDs). Each guide describes the distinctive character of the village and sets out guidelines for how it should be enhanced.

B.159 Cambridge Historic Core Appraisal (2006)¹⁵⁰: The 'historic core' is part of the large Central Conservation Area No.1, which is one of a number within Cambridge but deemed to be of particularly historic interest. The Appraisal recognises that large parts of the floodplain and the setting of the River Cam are highly significant to the historic environment, as well as Jesus Green and Midsummer Common. In 2018 the large Central Conservation area was split into six smaller separate areas.

B.160 Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011)¹⁵¹: Outlines how the broader historic environment makes an important contribution to sense of places, sense of time and local identity and distinctiveness. The challenges highlighted including the impact of farming, the impact of climate change and development, lack of visibility of some assets, and conflicts between conservation and public access.

B.161 Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans¹⁵²: These appraisals describe the character and significance of Conservation Areas and give recommendations for their conservation and enhancement.

Landscape

International

B.162 European Landscape Convention (2002): Promotes landscape protection, management and planning. The Convention is aimed at the protection, management and planning of all landscapes and raising awareness of the value of a living landscape.

¹⁴⁸ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2009) Development affecting Conservation Areas SPD [Online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/8107/dev-affecting-cons-areas-spd-adopted-jan-2009.pdf>

¹⁴⁹ Caldecote; Fulbourn; Gamlingay; Over; Papworth; Sawston; and Swavesy.

¹⁵⁰ Cambridge City Council (2017) Cambridge Historic Core Conservation Area Appraisal [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/historic-core-appraisal>

¹⁵¹ Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and other neighbouring authorities (2011) Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2557/green-infrastructure-strategy.pdf>

¹⁵² Cambridge City Council (n.d). Conservation Area Appraisals [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/conservation-areas>

National

B.163 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)¹⁵³: Planning principles include:

- Recognising the intrinsic beauty and character of the countryside.
- Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes. Development should be sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting.
- Conserve and enhance landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, The Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

B.164 A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment¹⁵⁴: Sets out goals for improving the environment within the next 25 years. It details how the Government will work with communities and businesses to leave the environment in a better state than it is presently. Identifies six key areas around which action will be focused. Those of relevance to this chapter are: recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes. Actions that will be taken as part of this key area are as follows:

- Working with AONB authorities to deliver environmental enhancements.
- Identifying opportunities for environmental enhancement of all England's Natural Character Areas, and monitoring indicators of landscape character and quality.

Sub-national

B.165 East of England Landscape Typology¹⁵⁵: The East of England Landscape Character Typology draws on a range of data, including Landscape Character Assessment, Historic Landscape Characterisation, biodiversity and rural settlement data sets, as well as data generated through consultation. It provides a finer grain of detail on landscape character than the national-level Character Areas.

B.166 Cambridge Landscape Character Assessment (2003)¹⁵⁶: Carried out to create a 'baseline' statement of qualities and character in the city in order to ensure the character of the city is maintained. It sought to indicate areas or features which are important to the setting of Cambridge and should remain undeveloped, and to describe the essential character of the townscape and its rural hinterland, to guide judgements on new development.

¹⁵³ Department for Communities and Local Government (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779764/NPPF_Feb_2019_web.pdf

¹⁵⁴ HM Government (2018) A Green Future: Our 23 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/673203/25-year-environment-plan.pdf

¹⁵⁵ <http://www.landscape-east.org.uk/>

¹⁵⁶ Cambridge City Council (2003) Landscape Character Assessment [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/5751/cambridge-landscape-character-assessment-2003.pdf>

B.167 Ouse Washes Landscape Character Assessment (2013)¹⁵⁷: Commissioned by Cambridgeshire ACRE as part of a Landscape Partnership Lottery Fund bid as a standalone report describing the distinctive character of this part of the Fen Basin, to help to support building a 'sense of place'. The area covered by the study area overlaps with South Cambridgeshire District in the north.

B.168 Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011)¹⁵⁸: The Strategy was designed to assist in shaping and co-ordinating the delivery of Green Infrastructure across the county of Cambridgeshire, in order to provide the social, environmental and economic benefits associated with GI. It covers the period up to 2031. The Project Group consisted of the County Council, the individual District Councils, as well as a number of external bodies including Natural England and the local Wildlife Trust. The Strategy notes that enhancing landscape is one of the key functions of Green Infrastructure and the diversity of the landscape, giving an overview of the existing range of landscapes and habitats, including prominent ones such as the Ouse and Nene Washes.

B.169 South Cambridgeshire Landscape in New Developments SPD (2007)¹⁵⁹: expands on district-wide policies to provide additional guidance for planning applicants on how landscape should be integrated into new developments.

¹⁵⁷ Cambridgeshire ACRE (2013) Ouse Washes: Landscape Character Assessment [Online] Available at: http://ousewashes.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Landscape_Character_Assessment-low-res.pdf

¹⁵⁸ Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and other neighbouring authorities (2011) Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2557/green-infrastructure-strategy.pdf>

¹⁵⁹ South Cambridgeshire District Council (2010) Landscape in New Developments SPD [Online] Available at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/landscape-in-new-developments-spd/>

Appendix C – Baseline Information

Table C1: Baseline Relevant to the North East Cambridge Area

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
Land		
<p>The majority of the AAP area is on previously developed land, with Anglian Water's Water Recycling Centre (WRC) currently occupying approximately 40% of the eastern area of the site, and Cambridge Science Park comprising St Johns Innovation Centre and Cambridge Business Park to the west (30% of Cambridge's current office and R&D stock). The Cambridge North Station and Chesterton Rail Sidings are also present on the site. The former park and ride site and golf driving range north of Cowley Road, Nuffield Road Industrial Estate and Trinity Hall Farm Industrial Estate, Orwell Furlong and an open space alongside the Cambridgeshire guided busway round off the site, which is a total of 166.46ha.</p> <p>The current Mineral and Waste Plan allocates a sand and gravel safeguarding area adjacent to the AAP area however the Minerals and Waste Plan and associated allocations are currently under review as it is not clear at the current stage whether more sites are required. The Emerging Minerals and Waste Plan is expected to be</p>	<p>There are currently no plans to exploit the sand and gravel resources nearby.</p> <p>Contaminated land is likely to remain as such unless remediation takes place in order to enable the development.</p> <p>Much of the land in the area is under-utilised in terms of development density. There are also significant areas of vacant and under used land on site and this is likely to remain in the absence of the AAP.</p> <p>It is likely that the WRC will be moved off site however it is not currently decided where it will be moved to but will continue to serve the Cambridge area.</p>	<p>Development of the AAP will require thorough investigation of ground contamination and may require remediation and mitigation proposals, the nature of which partly depends on the proposed uses. The level of remediation required depends on the proposed uses. The highest level required will be for residential uses with gardens. Redevelopment of the draft AAP for uses identified within the Local Plan policies would make good use of previously developed land.</p> <p>There is a high level of housing needed in the Cambridge area and there are currently limited community facilities and open space within the draft AAP. While opportunities for housing in the AAP area are to some extent limited, the area can still make a valuable contribution to overall housing and local facility supply.</p>

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>adopted in March 2020.</p> <p>The AAP area does not include any agricultural land however, it does contain contaminated land. Development of the AAP area will require thorough investigation of ground contamination and may require remediation and mitigation proposals, the nature of which partly depends on the proposed uses.¹⁶⁰</p> <p>The area to the north and east is designated as Green Belt land. The golf driving range north of Crowley Road is still operational.</p> <p>The transport designations in the County's Minerals and Waste Plan focus on the retention and safeguarding of the strategic railhead and associated aggregates operations on the Chesterton Rail Sidings.</p>		
Environmental Quality and Protection		
<p>Air and noise pollution are issues that can impact the health of residents, workers and students in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire, as well as adversely affecting local wildlife.</p> <p>Air quality issues have been identified along the A14, from the A14 Milton Junction to Bar Hill, through the designation of an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).</p>	<p>Air quality along the A14 may improve following upgrading and management of the AQMA. Dust may continue to be emitted from the aggregates importing business. Railway for aggregates importation will continue to produce noise and vibration.</p> <p>Railway for aggregates importation will continue to</p>	<p>The operational activities of the aggregate importing business in the longer term must be considered in the AAP. This will have impacts in terms of what class and type of development is suitable in certain locations in the draft AAP. By proposing development in the AAP, it will encourage the thorough investigation and remediation of contaminated land.</p>

¹⁶⁰ NECAAP Constraints: Contaminated Land Topic Paper, 2019

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>The A14 Corridor AQMA has been designated for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and particulate matter (PM₁₀) due to the amount of traffic that is in the area. The AQMA boundary stops to the north-west of the area and therefore does not adjoin the area. The plan will, however, need to consider the impact of the section of the A14 which is alongside the AAP area to the north. The A14 is being upgraded between Huntingdon and the Milton Interchange.</p> <p>Ongoing operation of the aggregates importing businesses, next to the site, will generate dust and this must be dealt with by the AAP.</p> <p>Operations associated with the ongoing use of railway for aggregates importation will produce noise and vibration issues.</p> <p>The Cambridge North railway station is now open, along with the guided busway extension to provide direct access to the station.</p> <p>The eastern area of North East Cambridge contains contaminated land including heavy metals in soils, hydrocarbons in the soil and groundwater and chlorinated solvents. Elevated ground gas is also present on site. Remediation will be integral to redevelopment of this area of the site.</p> <p>The Water Recycling Centre is currently a source of odour</p>	<p>produce noise and vibration.</p> <p>The Water Recycling Centre could also continue to emit odours.</p>	<p>Areas immediately adjacent to the A14, the railway line and sidings, mineral and waste operations will require mitigation due to noise issues. Consideration will need to be given to air quality associated with the industrial areas and the A14; dust from the mineral and waste operations; and vibration close to the railway line and sidings. Measures to reduce light pollution from new developments will also be required.</p>

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>to the local area and is therefore currently a constraint to development. An independent Odour Impact Assessment Study, commissioned by the Councils, has been undertaken to model and map the levels of odour exposure emanating from the Water Recycling Centre. If this facility is relocated off the AAP site, this odour constraint will be removed.</p>		
<p>The First Public Drain flows through the area and provides the surface water drainage for the AAP area. It flows from west to east through the Science Park under Milton Road and then heads northeast along the boundary to the Water Recycling Centre. The River Cam lies to the east of the site.</p> <p>There are two sources of potential fluvial flood risk to the site, the River Cam and the First Public Drain. The AAP area is entirely within Flood Zone 1.¹⁶¹ The First Public Drain is not designated as main river; it is therefore not monitored by the Environment Agency. The River Cam into which it drains has moderate ecological quality and good chemical quality.¹⁶²</p>	<p>Water sensitive urban design will be implemented in the AAP through the policies in the Local Plans which will reduce impacts on water quality from run-off and surface water pollution. However, a co-ordinated approach to Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) will not be achieved through ad hoc development and therefore opportunities for greater enhancements may be missed.</p>	<p>Design and layout options for the AAP should include SuDS to improve water quality within First Public Drain and the River Cam, whilst providing opportunities to slow and reduce runoff rates which will have benefits for the wider drainage of the site.</p>

¹⁶¹ Cambridge Northern Fringe East Area Flood Risk Assessment, September 2019

¹⁶² Environment Agency, Cam and Ely Ouse Catchment Area

<http://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/ManagementCatchment/3009>

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>The Phase 2 Water Cycle Strategy for the Major Growth Sites in and around Cambridge identified no insurmountable technical constraints to the proposed level of growth for the study area.¹⁶³</p> <p>Cambridge Water handles the demand for water in Cambridge including where the site is located. However, Anglian Water borders Cambridge Water's area of supply on the north, east and west. As such, as part of the preparation for the Cambridge Water Resources Management Plan, Cambridge Water and Anglian Water met to discuss various issues. Anglian Water's preferred strategy is for all development in and around Cambridge to drain to Cambridge (Milton) WRC. In order to achieve this there will be a requirement for upgrades to the Cambridge WWRC system. However, it is not expected that wastewater treatment will be a constraint to growth in Cambridge,¹⁶⁴ as Anglian Water has made a commitment to upgrade their existing WRC to meet the city's growth needs up to 2031.</p>		

¹⁶³ Halcrow Group Limited (2011) Water Cycle Strategy up to 2031 Major Growth Areas in and around Cambridge Phase 2 <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2535/cambridgeshire-water-cycle-strategy-phase-2-2011.pdf>

¹⁶⁴ Cambridge Water Company (2019) Water Resources Management Plan

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
Biodiversity, flora and fauna		
<p>There are no European Designated Sites or Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in the AAP area.</p> <p>North East Cambridge has undergone significant development over time and there are few existing habitats which provide any clues to former land use. The exception, and perhaps the only long-standing habitat, is the Milton Road Hedgerows which run alongside Cowley Road.</p> <p>The Milton Road hedgerows are designated as a City Wildlife Site (CiWS). The Bramblefields LNR lies immediately adjacent to the south east and the King's Hedges Hedgerows CiWS also lies immediately adjacent, but to the west. Bramblefields LNR comprises a mix of woody and bramble scrub, woodland, grassland and a small pond.</p> <p>Within the AAP area there are a variety of habitats, such as woodland, scattered trees, scrub, hedgerows, poor semi-improved grassland, ephemeral/short perennial vegetation, wet ditches, ponds and other habitats. ¹⁶⁵</p> <p>There are a number of notable plants present within the eastern area of the AAP and records of protected</p>	<p>Pressure for development in the AAP area is likely to increase pressure on already fragmented habitats. Existing green infrastructure is likely to be protected and new infrastructure provided for as development takes place, through policies in the Local Plans. However, an ad hoc approach is less likely to make the most of opportunities for provision of a more coherent network of green spaces.</p> <p>Large areas of the site are of limited value in habitat and protected species terms and are likely to be the focus for future development within the area.</p>	<p>The AAP should seek to maintain and enhance the connectivity of fragmented habitats through encouraging additional green infrastructure.</p> <p>The AAP must seek to protect areas supporting the legally protected Jersey Cudweed.</p> <p>The AAP should seek to protect the Local Nature Reserve and City Wildlife Sites and could encourage access to the LNR (if appropriate) via footpath links from employment and housing areas within the AAP site.</p> <p>There are opportunities for ecological improvements around the First Public Drain (both water quality improvements and habitat creation).</p> <p>The AAP should maintain and seek to enhance the provision of accessible natural green space. Biodiversity can also be enhanced by integrating enhancement into all development proposals, for example through the use of biodiverse roofs, integration of bird and bat boxes and selection of native species. Biodiversity net gain should be a guiding principle.</p>

¹⁶⁵ North East Cambridge – A Biodiversity Assessment, October 2019

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>species within the vicinity of the site include Water vole records associated with the First Public Drain.</p> <p>The status of notable plants present in the rail sidings is to be confirmed following recent development works. An ecology survey undertaken in 2016 recorded the presence of notable plant species and protected species.</p>		<p>Ecology surveys should be undertaken to identify habitats and species of value and importance that need to be considered in determining constraints and opportunities.</p>
<p>Chesterton Sidings includes an area of Jersey Cudweed. This is a protected species under Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.</p>		
<p>Cambridge has a high standard of Green Infrastructure (1.8ha of informal open space per 1,000) with particularly high provision in some wards to the north east, south east and south west of the City. East Chesterton Ward has 2.89 hectares of protected open space per 1,000 population. Some 58.5% of this is publicly accessible.¹⁶⁶</p> <p>Green Infrastructure within the AAP area includes allotments, Bramblefields LNR to the south, the First Public Drain, which is lined with willow coppice on some stretches and is a wildlife corridor, and the Guided Busway route is a green corridor.</p>		

¹⁶⁶ Cambridge City Council Open Space and Recreation Strategy, 2011

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>The River Cam, a County Wildlife Site, forms a key corridor which performs a key role in offering green infrastructure provision in and around Cambridge. The River Cam lies just to the east of the AAP area.</p>		
<p>The northern fringe of Cambridge includes areas with a deficiency in Accessible Natural Green Space (ANGS) at the 20ha plus standard. At the 2ha plus standard there are significant deficiencies across the whole area of Cambridge.¹⁶⁷</p>		
<p>Landscape, townscape and cultural heritage</p>		

¹⁶⁷ Green Infrastructure Forum, Cambridge Green Infrastructure Strategy, 2011

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>Transport infrastructure, business and commercial development are now major components of the relevant National Character Area profile 88: Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Claylands.¹⁶⁸</p> <p>Cowley Road industrial estate includes a range of low-density industrial uses, in addition to providing the frontage to the new station. The large area occupied by Chesterton rail sidings has been unused for many years and contributes toned to enhance the overall character of the area. The Cambridge Science Park provides home for a range of science and technology-based industries and contains significant areas of car parking. Planning permission has already been granted for some buildings to be demolished and replaced with more intensive commercial buildings.</p> <p>Baits Bite Lock and Fen Ditton/Chesterton Sidings Conservation Areas are located east of the railway and are recognised for the architectural quality and historic interest. These areas contain multiple listed buildings designations. However, there are no Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens or Scheduled</p>	<p>There is likely to be a continued focus on residential, commercial and infrastructure, road and rail improvements within the draft AAP and within the wider landscape context.</p> <p>There is likely to be a need to maintain and where appropriate enhance the overall character and qualities of the townscape and skyline of Cambridge.</p> <p>Existing nearby conservation area and listed buildings are likely to remain in place.</p>	<p>The AAP should lead to development that respects the adjacent Green Belt and seek to maintain its character, views and the wider landscape context will be important Considerations for the AAP. There is a need to maintain and where appropriate enhance the overall character and qualities of the skyline of Cambridge, as the city continues to grow and develop into the future.</p> <p>The AAP will need to ensure development complements and enhances the city's character through the use of high-quality design that maximises opportunities to support the natural environment with new and existing open spaces.</p> <p>Potential for unknown archaeology may require investigation prior to development consent, however, no known constraints are recorded which will affect the masterplan options.</p>

¹⁶⁸ Natural England, National Character Area Profile 88: Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Claylands, April 2014

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>monuments in the AAP area. It is not known whether there is underground archaeology.</p>		
Climate change		
<p>The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 2018 report has led to local governments across 16 countries declaring climate emergencies, and in May 2019, the UK Government declared a climate emergency, amending the 2008 Climate Change Act to set a target for emissions in the UK to become net zero by 2050. Both Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council have pledged to support net zero through the</p>	<p>In terms of carbon emissions, new development in Cambridge is expected to result in significant emissions growth over the period to 2020. The councils have agreed to strive towards zero carbon by 2050, and review policies through the next local plan.</p> <p>Even if changes were made now, however, unavoidable climate change would still occur. There are three key risks for Cambridge associated with predicted</p>	<p>The principles of sustainable design and construction need to be integrated into all development proposals. Greater Cambridge has a sustainable design SPD in place.¹⁷³ However, more specific sustainability requirements may be necessary as part of the AAP. It is important that the following considerations are addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ the potential carbon reduction policies that are more onerous than the national building

¹⁷³ Greater Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD, January 2020

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>development of planning policy, as well as other areas over which the Councils have influence.</p> <p>On 21 February 2019 Cambridge City Council declared a 'climate emergency', following the submission of a petition signed by over 2,000 local residents. The Council also agreed on the same date to establish a Cambridge Climate Charter, which will call on all organisations, businesses and individuals in the city to each establish their own carbon reduction plans to work toward achieving the city's net carbon-zero aspiration.¹⁶⁹ This will be supported by a Climate Change / Net Zero Carbon Study being commissioned by the Councils.</p> <p>Changes to the climate will bring new challenges to Greater Cambridge's built and natural environments. Hotter, drier summers may have adverse health impacts and may exacerbate the adverse environmental effects of air and water pollution. A changing climate may place pressure on some native species and create conditions suitable for new species, including invasive non-native species. 'Urban</p>	<p>changes in climate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Increased summer temperatures and heatwaves. ■ Flooding. ■ Water shortages and droughts.¹⁷² 	<p>regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The requirement for an energy hierarchy pursued through planning policies. ■ Measures to deal with increased temperatures in a way that does not increase energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions, for example through improvements to building fabric. ■ Water scarcity, particularly in regard to looking at the creation of new areas of landscaping, and minimising the use of potable water for irrigation. (see below for details regarding flooding). <p>The proximity of North East Cambridge to the Cambridge North Railway Station, Guided Bus route, Waterbeach Greenway and Public Transport Corridor, the Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro (CAM) and the Chisholm Cycle Trail provides opportunities for the development to focus on active travel, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, incorporation of green infrastructure, reduction of private vehicle use and expansion of wildlife habitats.</p>

¹⁶⁹ Cambridge City Council (22 February 2019) Cambridge City Council declares climate emergency [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/news/2019/02/22/cambridge-city-council-declares-climate-emergency>

¹⁷² Cambridge City Council Climate Change Strategy 2016-2021, 2016

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>heat island' effects are also raised as an issue across the county by the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy, which can be managed through the management and planting of green space, tree planting and the creation of wetlands, especially in densely built up areas such as Cambridge and larger market towns.¹⁷⁰</p> <p>Between 2005 and 2017 in South Cambridgeshire, per capita carbon emissions fell from 10.1 tonnes to 7. In Cambridge City per capita emissions are lower and fell from 6.5 to 4.2 tonnes over the same period. As of 2017 the average for Cambridgeshire County was 5.9 tonnes per capita, and the national average was 4.3, suggesting that Cambridge City is outperforming the national and regional averages, while the carbon emissions of South Cambridgeshire are higher than both the county and national averages.¹⁷¹</p>		
<p>The First Public Drain runs across the AAP area and connects into the River Cam to the east and north east of the site. The drain is a wildlife</p>	<p>Existing flood risk is likely to continue to be an issue and is likely to be exacerbated by climate change. Individual planning applications will be</p>	<p>An integrated surface water policy is needed for the AAP. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consideration of

¹⁷⁰ Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and other neighbouring authorities (2011) Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy [Online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2557/green-infrastructure-strategy.pdf>

¹⁷¹ UK Local Authority and Regional Carbon Dioxide Emissions National Statistics: 2005-2017 Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-to-2017>

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>corridor at present and provides the surface water drainage for the AAP area and much of the surrounding area. The main flow of the drain is to the north with a semi-redundant section shown to connect into the River Cam, flowing underneath the railways sidings to the east.</p> <p>The AAP area is in flood zone 1 (low risk), however, there is a level of surface water flood risk. The risk is confined to small local areas that can be mitigated against through good design and careful masterplanning. Areas of open space may be required to manage this risk.</p> <p>Levels of groundwater in the area are known to be high, although there are no recorded instances of groundwater flooding within the AAP area. The extent, type and remediation of contamination on site will also determine surface water management solutions.¹⁷⁴</p> <p>Various contaminants are present on site, including heavy metals in soils, hydrocarbons in the soil and groundwater and chlorinated solvents and monitoring should occur to ensure that this does not affect the water quality within the First Public Drain.</p>	<p>required to limit impacts on flooding through Local Plan policies. However, a co-ordinated approach to Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) will not be achieved through ad hoc development and therefore opportunities for greater enhancements may be missed.</p>	<p>sustainable drainage systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Holding water on site including water storage areas. ■ Opportunities for ecological improvements around the First Public Drain (both water quality improvements and habitat creation).
<p>Human health and wellbeing</p>		

¹⁷⁴ Cambridge Northern Fringe East Area Flood Risk Assessment, September 2019

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>The areas adjoining the AAP area are largely residential. To the east of the railway line there are a number of Gypsy and Traveller sites.</p> <p>The AAP area is approximately 3km from Cambridge City Centre. To the north of the A14 lies the village of Milton, 0.8km from North East Cambridge (NEC). The planned new town north of the existing Waterbeach village lies around 5.5km to the north.</p> <p>There is a high level of housing needed in the Cambridge area and the AAP area and its surroundings currently has very limited facilities (e.g. retail, community and leisure uses).</p>	<p>New employment may be provided through new developments within the AAP area which come forward independently of an AAP. Without an AAP, opportunities to provide for healthy lifestyles and ensure equality in access to employment opportunities may be missed.</p> <p>The area to the north of Cambridge is likely to continue to be the main focus for development related to high technology and innovation. This well established and world-renowned cluster will need to be carefully grown to ensure that increasing demand for employment floorspace is met over future decades.</p>	<p>The AAP should ensure that new jobs and facilities are accessible to people from all backgrounds and demographic groups. It should also set out a coordinated approach to employment development and affordable housing. It could ensure provision of local shops, other contemporary uses and additional community use facilities.</p> <p>Protected Open Space within the AAP (Bramblefields Local Nature Reserve and an area of allotments in the south) should be included within the AAP masterplan. The AAP could contribute to improving health and well-being of local residents through the provision of Publicly Accessible Open Space, the minimisation of environmental pollution, the encouragement of active lifestyles through the prioritisation of walking and cycling modes in the AAP masterplan.</p>
<p>Cambridge experiences slightly higher rates of crime than for Cambridgeshire as a whole. The Index of Multiple Deprivation indicates that East Chesterton and King's Hedges wards are in the 20% most deprived areas. Milton lies within the 50% most deprived areas and Milton & Waterbeach lies within the 20% least deprived.¹⁷⁵</p>		<p>New development and growth will drive a need for new local retail services but will also require investment in community and physical infrastructure to meet needs. This AAP should include services such as education, healthcare, recreation and open space.</p>
<p>Cambridge has the highest proportion of minority ethnic population in the county, with 14.3% of people from ethnic groups other than White British. By contrast in South Cambridgeshire 93.3% of the</p>		<p>The AAP could capitalise on</p>

¹⁷⁵ Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2019

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>population in 2011 were White, with 5% of people identified as from minority ethnic groups.</p> <p>Some 85.9% residents of East Chesterton ward (in Cambridge) and 89.2% of Milton ward (in South Cambridgeshire) were White British, compared to 92.6% in Cambridgeshire. The largest ethnic minority in both areas was Asian or Asian British at 8.1% and 6.9% respectively.¹⁷⁶</p>		<p>the multiple educational links in the area, such as Cambridge Regional College, to improve links to businesses.</p>
<p>The 2011 Census statistics suggest that health in Cambridge is generally good with 86.7% of the population reporting themselves to be in very good or good health. Some 9.7% state they are in fair health, with only 2.9% and 0.8% in bad or very bad health respectively.</p> <p>Furthermore, 87% of the population state that their day to day activities are not limited by their health, 7.5% state that they are limited a little and 5.5% limited a lot. Estimated levels of adult excess weight and physical activity are better than the England average. With regard to South Cambridgeshire, the statistics suggest that health is generally good as well with 86.2% of the population reporting themselves to be in very good or good health. Some 10.6% state they are in</p>		

¹⁷⁶ Local Area Reports for East Chesterton and Milton Wards, 2011 Census

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>fair health, with only 2.5% and 0.7% in bad or very bad health respectively. Furthermore, 86.1% of the population state that their day to day activities are not limited by their health, 8.4% state that they are limited a little and 5.6% limited a lot.¹⁷⁷ Estimated levels of adult excess weight and physical activity are better than the England average.</p> <p>Average life expectancy within Cambridge is slightly above the national average, being 80.6 for males and 84.1 for females. Life expectancy is 10.1 years lower for men and 9.9 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Cambridge than in the least deprived areas.¹⁷⁸</p> <p>Average life expectancy within South Cambridgeshire is slightly above the national average, 82.3 for males and 85.2 for females. Life expectancy is 4.2 years lower for men and 0.5 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of South Cambridgeshire than in the least deprived areas.</p>		
<p>Milton Park, designated Open Space, lies to the north of the site on the other side of the</p>		

¹⁷⁷ NOMIS (2011) Local Area Reports [online] Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/localarea?compare=E07000008> Accessed on 5 March 2020

¹⁷⁸ Public Health England (2018) Profiles for East of England [online] Available at: https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/area-search-results/E12000006?search_type=list-child-areas&place_name=East%20of%20England

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>A14.</p> <p>Arbury ward, adjacent to the AAP area in East Chesterton, has the lowest amount of Protected Open Space in Cambridge and the spaces that are available are considered to be of insufficient quality, size and proximity to housing. West and East Chesterton have greater provision of open space.¹⁷⁹</p>		
<p>There are no education facilities within the AAP area, however, there are eight primary schools, three secondary schools and one further education facilities within close proximity to the area.¹⁸⁰ Accessibility to some of these facilities is hindered however by the A14, the River Cam and busway.</p>		
<p>Economy and Infrastructure (including transport)</p>		
<p>The Ely to Cambridge Transport Study found that around 76% of work trips to the AAP area are made by car which is significantly higher than many other areas in and around Cambridge. In terms of more sustainable modes of transport, only 2% of trips to work are made by bus and 15% made by</p>	<p>A new cycle route, the Chisholm Trail has been proposed which would run north to south, following much of the railway line. This would improve access to the site by cycle.</p> <p>The A14 is being upgraded between Huntingdon and the Milton Interchange.</p> <p>Improvements to the A10,</p>	<p>Future redevelopment within the AAP area could result in severance issues if the transport network isn't properly considered. The AAP area has close connections to the A14 and is mainly served by junctions off Milton Road. Nuffield Road Industrial Estate is served from Green End Road. In</p>

¹⁷⁹ Cambridge City Council (2011) Open Space and Recreation Strategy [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2467/open-space-and-recreation-strategy-2011.pdf>

¹⁸⁰ Greater Cambridge Shared Planning (2019) North East Cambridge Area Action Plan Issues and Options 2019 Consultation [online] Available at: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/7003/north-east-cambridge-area-action-plan-issues-and-options-consultation-report.pdf>

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>bicycle. In addition, a review of 2011 Census data shows that nearly half of employees travelling to the study area have no public transport alternative from point-of-origin and that nearly 90% of these travel to the site by car. The fact that there is currently an over-abundance of free parking across the AAP site as a whole exacerbates this situation and disincentivises use of public transport (PT) even where it is available.¹⁸¹ The opening of the new railway station, Guided Busway and cycling and walking improvements offers an opportunity to improve this situation.</p> <p>The Cambridge North Station opened in 2017 and is located within one mile from Cambridge Science Park and 0.5 miles from CNFE. The railway provides services to London, Ely, Kings Lynn and Norwich. Cambridge Busway provides access to the Science Park and links to the Cambridge North station and Park and Ride bus services.</p> <p>A review of baseline transport conditions in and around the study area shows that North East Cambridge is already relatively well-connected to surrounding multi-modal networks, but the effectiveness of these connections is hampered by performance limitations at</p>	<p>including junction improvements and dualling, are being explored by the Cambridgeshire Combined Authority. This will assist delivery of development, but the largest movements associated with development of the AAP area would be from the east and west on the A14 and from the south on the M11.</p> <p>Even with the improvements currently taking place, growth at the northern fringe has potential to displace traffic onto less appropriate routes.</p>	<p>peak periods, parts of the network frequently operate at or near capacity, particularly in the morning and evening peaks. The severance issues make moving within and beyond the AAP area more challenging, such as difficulties in crossing Milton Road, the boundaries of business parks, and the railway line.</p> <p>The AAP should seek to capitalise on opportunities to encourage use of public transport and walking/cycling and opportunities provided by the development of the Chisholm Cycling Trail.</p>

¹⁸¹ North East Cambridge Area Action Plan Transport Evidence Base, September 2019

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>peak times. Examples of these include highway congestion issues at the Milton Interchange and on Milton Road; delays to vehicles departing areas of the site during the PM peak period; and overcrowding on busway and rail services.</p> <p>There are some significant barriers to pedestrian and cycle movements within and around the study area, including those imposed by Milton Road, and some of the intra-site boundaries including fencing around the Cambridge Business Park, which reduce the potential permeability for these modes, while options for introducing new highway access points and/or increasing existing highway network capacity, even if this were desirable, are also limited by the same physical barriers and other constraints.</p>		
<p>Key issues identified for Cambridge in the Local Economic Assessment 2011 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A long-term decline in office floorspace may lead to problems for the high-tech industry over a 5-10 year timescale. ■ High levels of public sector employment with expectations of significant numbers of redundancies in this sector over the next few years. ■ Very low housing affordability and pockets 	<p>New developments within the AAP can occur under the Local Plans, however a co-ordinated approach through an AAP would provide increased opportunities.</p> <p>A generous supply of land exists for high technology research and development uses outside the City.</p> <p>The South Cambridgeshire Local Plan includes Policy E/2: Cambridge Biomedical Campus Extension which supports densification of employment uses on the site. Some of the existing building stock is dated, and there is</p>	<p>The AAP should set out a co-ordinated approach to employment development. It could provide local shops and other complementary uses.</p> <p>The AAP should ensure that new jobs and facilities are accessible to people from all backgrounds and demographic groups. It should also set out a coordinated approach to employment development. It could provide local shops, other contemporary uses and additional community use facilities.</p> <p>The AAP could help to</p>

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
<p>of income deprivation in the north of the City.¹⁸²</p> <p>A number of new office buildings have recently (2019) been granted planning permission/redeveloped within Cambridge Science Park and St John's Innovation Park.</p> <p>The Employment Land Review (2012) identified a particular need for office space in or on the edge of Cambridge. Opportunities have been identified on the northern fringe of Cambridge for additional employment development, taking advantage of the increased accessibility of the area as a result of by the Guided Busway and the new railway station. There is a need to provide B1a (office use), space and more incubation or enterprise centres whereby small-scale new ventures can be launched, focused on the city centre and the northern fringe.¹⁸³</p> <p>There are no local or district centres currently within the AAP area. The nearest local or district centre is on the A1309 towards the city centre on the boundary between the Kings Hedges and East Chesterton wards.</p> <p>Cambridge Science Park</p>	<p>an opportunity for the site to evolve to continue to make a significant contribution to the employment needs of Greater Cambridge.</p> <p>The creation of a more accessible local centre that provides employment and community facilities is unlikely without the AAP.</p>	<p>provide new accessible employment opportunities, particularly for people in the east Chesterton ward. These could potentially include training opportunities, such as apprenticeships.</p>

¹⁸² Cambridgeshire Local Economic Assessment 2011
<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2533/cambridgeshire-lea-2011.pdf>

¹⁸³ SQW (July 2012) Employment Land Review 2012
<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/2512/employment-land-review-update-2012.pdf>

Issue/Data	Likely Future Baseline	Implications for the Plan
Exchange has live superfast fibre broadband and cabinets within the eastern area of the AAP area have been upgraded recently.		
A rail safeguarding area covers the Chesterton sidings within South Cambridgeshire part of the AAP area.	The safeguarded area will continue to be in place and the sidings may continue to be actively used for rail transport.	The masterplan options for the AAP will need to include the Chesterton sidings rail safeguarded area.

Appendix D – Reasonable alternative options and why preferred options were selected

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
Vision	No reasonable alternatives identified.	<p>Reasonable alternatives have been identified through a number of different sources.</p> <p>The previous 2019 Issues and Options consultation representations were considered against commissioned evidence and internal and external stakeholder workshops to identify a set of alternatives.</p> <p>These alternatives were then considered against the backdrop of the currently adopted relevant Local Plan policies for both authorities and submitted as part of the development of the SA Policy Appraisal for further scrutiny.</p> <p>Councils corporate strategy/business plans plus national aspirations and delivering NEC will help meet these.</p>	N/A
Objectives	No reasonable alternatives	See above	The preferred objectives have

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
	identified.		been devised from representations made on the 19 objectives identified in the Issues & Options consultation document in Spring 2019 as well as consideration of council corporate policy, adopted local plan policy and national guidance.
1. Overarching principles	<p>Status quo: Retain the existing Local Plan policies for allocated sites within North East Cambridge</p> <p>Enable sites to come forward for development contrary to the spatial framework for North East Cambridge</p> <p>Enable piecemeal and uncoordinated development of sites within North East Cambridge</p>	See above	The Spatial Framework identifies strategic key fixes for the AAP area which enables development and infrastructure projects to come forward in a coordinated manner and provides the necessary framework in order to secure strategic infrastructure.
2. Comprehensive and coordinated development	No reasonable alternatives identified.	See above	The preferred policy recognises the existing constraints to realising

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			<p>higher density mixed use development, including fractured land ownership, existing uses & layout, and developer aspirations, and, therein, the social, economic and environmental benefits to be achieved. It's section provides the only reasonable means by which to coordinate redevelopment and the delivery of crucial infrastructure to secure the optimum development potential of the area as a whole and over the life of the Plan.</p>
3. Designing for the climate emergency	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	<p>Addressing climate change is one of the core land use planning principles within the NPPF. Planning policies should be in line with the objectives and provisions of the climate change act, which</p>

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			<p>was amended in August 2019 to set a legally binding target for the UK to become net zero by 2050. As existing policy was developed prior to the amendment of the Act, new policy is required to ensure that development at NEC responds to the twin challenges of climate change mitigation and adaptation, and meets its legal duties set out in the Climate Change Act and Planning Act. Many of the elements incorporated into the policy received support during the Issues and Options consultation.</p>
4. Energy and associated infrastructure	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	<p>The UK now has a legally binding target to achieve net zero carbon by 2050. To rely on existing policy would not be in line with the objectives and provisions of the Climate Change Act. The NEC AAP needs to put development in the area on a clear pathway</p>

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			<p>towards net zero by 2050, and energy and associated infrastructure is a key element of this. In light of the opportunities that the redevelopment of the NEC site presents for site wide approaches to energy, and in light of the support for this approach at Issues and Options, policy will promote the development of such an approach, supported by the commissioning of a Site Wide Energy and Infrastructure Study and Energy Masterplan. This will help to identify at an early stage the level of energy infrastructure required to support the development of NEC, taking a proactive approach to assessing the energy requirements of the site in order to ensure that infrastructure constraints do not delay development from coming forward. This approach is in keeping with</p>

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			paragraph 151 of the NPPF.
5. Water Efficiency	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	The policy position regarding water efficiency looks to ensure development conforms with the nationally stated BREEAM standards and then set a more aspirational target over time and where efficiencies can be justified.
6. Business	Only locate additional B1 floorspace within the existing employment sites (Cambridge Science Park, St Johns Innovation Park, Cambridge Business Park)	See above	Distributing net additional business floorspace across the NEC area facilitates the delivery of mixed-use developments and neighbourhoods which in turn supports the vision and strategic objectives of the plan. Existing and emerging evidence supports that there is substantial demand for additional business floorspace development in this location which supports the economic growth of Greater Cambridge. Enables a range of new
	New B1 floorspace to be solely focused on science and technology premises		
	No provision to SME/start-up/incubation units within NEC		
	Prescribing upper net additional floorspace figures for B1a, B1b and B1c		

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
	<p>separately rather than combined</p> <p>No net additional B1 floorspace within NEC</p> <p>The loss of B1 floorspace from Cowley Road and Nuffield Road Industrial Estates</p> <p>Do nothing</p>		<p>business development to take place at North East Cambridge, creating the opportunity for a diverse range of employment types to come forward which has the potential to improve social mobility and serve the needs of Greater Cambridge and beyond.</p> <p>The close proximity of new jobs to homes and public transport support the vision and strategic objectives to not be reliant on car journeys.</p>
7. Industry	<p>Increase overall industrial floorspace by intensifying current industrial sites – Nuffield Road and Cowley Road.</p> <p>Remove industrial floorspace from NEC AAP as it's incompatible with residential uses.</p> <p>Ensure 50% of industrial</p>	See above	Retaining industrial floorspace is a strategic need for Greater Cambridge. Supporting consolidation and mixed use facilitates this while improving efficiency of space and supporting trip budget. A percentage of this as affordable rent will enable start-up businesses and Small and Medium Enterprises to

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
	<p>workspace is affordable.</p> <p>Include B1c uses as acceptable uses in industrial areas.</p> <p>Set a minimum plot ratio for new developments to achieve.</p> <p>Mixed use is not acceptable for industrial uses.</p> <p>Mixed use acceptable only with B1 office space.</p> <p>Do nothing</p>		become tenants at the AAP.
8a. Housing	<p>Deliver more homes at a higher density in currently proposed sites</p> <p>Deliver more homes at a higher density in currently proposed sites</p> <p>Policy 8a to require an equal proportion of 1, 2, 3 and 4+ bedroomed dwellings across residential sites in NEC.</p>	See above	<p>This maximises delivery of homes on site while ensuring that homes are delivered to meet needs in line with latest evidence.</p> <p>Less prescriptive housing sizes means that the developers engage with planning and housing officers in pre-application discussions to identify and respond to</p>

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
	<p>Require a majority of 3+ bedroom homes as to accommodate family growth.</p> <p>Enable all affordable component to be provided off site.</p> <p>Define truly affordable as social rent only.</p> <p>Provide higher percentage of affordable homes – 60%.</p> <p>Policy 8a to require a higher proportion, say 10%, of all residential units to be self/custom finish.</p> <p>Policy 8a to require all non-flatted residential units at NEC to be self/custom finish.</p> <p>Status Quo – Rely on existing policy</p>		latest evidence.
8b. Affordable housing	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	This ensures that affordable homes are delivered on site to the highest quality and well

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			integrated with other tenures. Social/affordable rent vs. other affordable enables meeting of diverse affordability needs in Greater Cambridge
8c. Housing for local workers	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	Housing for local workers should be supported to ensure NEC AAP meets Greater Cambridgeshire housing needs while supporting internalisation trips
8d. Built to rent	<p>Will be promoted with no caveats</p> <p>Specify stronger limitations on build to rent</p>	See above	BTR provision helps deliver much needed homes for section of people in Cambridge, but given lower contribution of affordable housing it needs to be limited to support delivery of affordable housing targets.
8e. Custom finish	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	A smaller percentage is proposed here due to the limited potential of self-build and to help in addressing existing demand.

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
8f. Short Term & Corporate Lets / Visitor Accommodation	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	<p>Policy limits growth for visitor accommodation to that needed by NEC only, to avoid creation of a destination location.</p> <p>Conversion of properties to visitor accommodation only permitted if it does affect local amenity and social cohesion.</p>
9. Social and Community Infrastructure	New development only provides for the needs of new residents on site	See above	<p>North East Cambridge will provide social and cultural facilities for existing residents living in the surrounding areas, as well as new residents and workers. The Area Action Plan plans for three new primary schools, and sets aside space for one secondary school if it is needed in the future. We also expect development to provide a library, cultural facilities and a community centre. We want these to be located in the activity centres of the district</p>
	New social and community facilities are provided in a less dense format off site in neighbouring locations		
	No restriction on new social, community or sport uses either opening or closing		
	Secondary school expansion of Cambridge North Academy		
	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy		

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			where they can be best used at all times of the day and week.
10a. Retail	<p>No restriction on the proportion of each centre</p> <p>No minimum requirement for A1 convenience food store use</p> <p>Allow a large single convenience food store</p> <p>no retail impact assessment requirement for any retail developments outside an NEC centre</p> <p>Status Quo – Rely on existing policy</p>	See above	<p>The policy is intended to create vibrant and sustainable local centres that help people meet their day-to-day needs in terms of shops and local services without creating a need for extensive car parking facilities or creating a 'destination' location for people outside NEC.</p> <p>No restrictions on the proportion of each centre including A1 convenience food store use would undermine the Vision for NEC and adversely affect neighbouring centres.</p> <p>Allowing a large single convenience food store would create a need for large car parking areas and create a shopping 'destination' area.</p>

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			<p>Not requirement for a retail impact assessment for any retail developments outside an NEC centre, would potentially undermine the delivery of NEC's vision for creating vibrant and sustainable local centres.</p>
10b. Markets	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy (no additional provision on site)	See above	<p>A new District Square at the intersection of the District Centre will facilitate the provision of a local market to operate as well as other public events and informal use. It will support a range of creative local businesses in creating a sense of place in the District Square through the provision of flexible space for market stalls to operate.</p> <p>It will provide opportunity for local businesses to trade, on a weekly basis. In addition,</p>

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			farmers markets and seasonal markets may operate throughout the year alongside other events and everyday life activities in this space The District Square will also provide appropriate space for storage units within adjacent public buildings or facilities, support operations including electricity for pitches and designated loading and unloading spaces.
11. Meanwhile uses	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	To help develop a sense of place and new community from the start, through enabling timely delivery of services, facilities and community uses which will support local skills development and entrepreneurship, and meet short-term gaps in the delivery of permanent community infrastructure.
12. Employment and	No net additional employment	See above	The policy creates a range of

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
Training	floorspace to be proposed by the AAP.		<p>space supporting jobs across all forms of business and industry, and our studies show that this could create up to 20,000 new jobs in the area.</p> <p>The AAP proposes to intensify business use: B1a office, B1b research and development, B1c light industrial floorspace on site with the introduction of higher density development that increases employment opportunities.</p>
	The AAP to propose an intensification of industrial/employment floorspace on the site as opposed to a mixed-use development.		
	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy		
13. Aggregates/Waste	Defer to CS23	See above	<p>Required to ensure that site is able to deliver homes while protecting safeguarded sites. Built environment buffer enables homes to be built in line with environmental health concerns.</p>
	Relocate to east of Cam		
	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy		
14. Sustainable Connectivity	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	<p>To enable North East Cambridge to be designed around the principles of</p>
	even higher mode share		

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
	<p>targets</p> <p>Different mode share targets across individual sub areas</p> <p>Move towards car free development</p>		walkable neighbourhoods and healthy towns, to reduce the need to travel, and to encourage active travel choices.
15. Connecting to the wider network	<p>Status Quo – Rely on existing policy</p> <p>address some or all barriers with a different solution</p>	See above	To fully integrate North East Cambridge with its surroundings by sustainable modes to reduce the need to travel by car, by breaking down the existing barriers to movement.
16. Cycle Parking Infrastructure	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	To ensure the provision of sufficient and convenient cycle parking, for all types of cycles, at people’s homes, centres of employment, shops and other key community locations and transport hubs, to encourage high levels of cycle use.
17. Safeguarding for Cambridge Autonomous Metro and Public Transport	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	To enable the delivery of high quality public transport and seamless interchange

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			between modes at a series of travel hubs.
18. Last mile deliveries	To include only one consolidation hub	See above	To provide delivery hubs to reduce the number and impact of delivery vehicles.
	To not include any consolidation hubs		
19. User hierarchy for streets	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	To deliver place making objectives by ensuring streets are designed around active travel as the first choice, but ensuring that there is a functional road network for vehicular access, for emergency vehicles, servicing local businesses, and for people with mobility issues as well as community transport and taxis.
	located primary traffic route around the periphery of NEC		
	restrict all non-essential traffic		
20. Managing Motorised Vehicles	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	To enable development by carefully managing and reducing vehicular traffic, including through car parking controls, to ensure there is no unacceptable impact on the
	introduce vehicular trip budget and parking restraint		
	vehicular trip budget but no		

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
	parking restraint		highway network.
	parking budget but no parking restraint		
21. Biodiversity & Net Gain	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	The policy reflects the emerging biodiversity net gain requirements in the Environment Bill and identifies how this can be achieved, including mitigation measures.
22. Tree Protection and Coverage	rely on existing Cambridge local plan policy 71	See above	Different approaches to tree planting and protection requires an overall tree management strategy approach to ensure there are no discrepancies across NEC. It has been decided that this policy should be incorporated into Policy 7 Legible Street and Spaces as this is where it was felt to have the largest impact in landscaping and the areas wider setting.
	rely on existing south Cambridgeshire local plan policies NH/7, HQ/1, NH4		
23. Open Space, Sport and	Strict application of Cambridge City Local Plan	See above	The Cambridge City standards are based upon the

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
Recreation Standards	2018 – Appendix I		city’s urban density and population. Similarly, South Cambridgeshire’s standards are based upon the area’s predominantly rural setting. The delivery of formal indoor and outdoor sports facilities across Greater Cambridge use Sport England’s facilities planning model to calculate the need for strategic sports facilities, for applicable sports.
	Retention of South Cambridgeshire District Local Plan policy SC/7		
	making provision of green spaces at a district size		
24. Water Quality, Demand and Sustainable Urban Drainage	Requires retention of SCDC LP Policy CC/4 and CC/7	See above	The design of SuDS schemes will need to accord with adopted guidance and drainage to be assessed against the principles set out in this and the policy. In terms of discharge the policy identifies a hierarchy order.
	Retention of CCC policy 31		
	Requirements to make water recycling, stormwater and rainwater harvesting part of development design		
25. Flood Risk	Requires retention of SCDC LP policy CC/8 and CC/9	See above	The preferred option was taken as flood risk needs to be considered strategically and not at the plot scale level in order to manage flood risk
	Retention of CCC LP policy 32		

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
	<p>Predicates requirement for whole site strategic sustainable urban drainage system</p>		<p>holistically through SuDS schemes that ensure land is used efficiently and for dual purpose such as biodiversity, green infrastructure and informal open space where required.</p>
<p>25b. Environmental Protection</p>	<p>Leave mitigation of impact up to the applicant and for them to demonstrate this through the dev management processes.</p>	<p>See above</p>	<p>The policy is proactive and holistic in its approach to obligate the developer to assess fully and mitigate impacts of proposals on environmental health. The policy also ensures that existing business operations are not negatively impacted by inappropriately located sensitive uses without reasonable mitigation. Finally the policy stipulates the requirements for a noise barrier to be integrated into the masterplan to ensure its design and delivery are not compromised, something which could be at risk through piecemeal proposals that</p>

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			would lack the same sort of are not afforded through a masterplan approach.
26. Creating a high quality, distinctive new City District	Status Quo – Rely on the CLP allocation and existing Local Plan Policies (without the proposed defined framework)	See above	The policy identifies the importance of taking a design led and placemaking approach to the creation of NEC. Such an approach recognises the importance of Cambridge's unique character but also that NEC has the potential to create its own identity. The approach is underpinned by clearly setting out the expectations for achieving a high quality and well-designed place.
27. Creating a comprehensive streets and spaces network	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	The approach to create a comprehensive street and spaces network allows for a permeable district that maximises easy accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists supported by a good public transport network. The emphasis on streets and

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			spaces reinforces the need to create high quality and low speed public realm at NEC.
28. Building heights, scale and massing	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	An evidence and assessment based approach is proposed that has informed building heights at NEC. Further assessment and justification will be required, as set out in the policy wording, as future schemes are designed. In addition to overall heights, the policy sets out expected requirements for creating well design ‘human scale’ street environments as well as creating a well-articulated and varied skyline.
29. Good design at higher densities	Do nothing – Revert to the NPPF	See above	The policy, in conjunction with the Housing Design Standards policy, seeks to ensure that well designed developments are created that understand fully and respond appropriately to the challenges of building at

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			higher densities.
30. Mixed use forms	Status Quo – Rely on existing policy	See above	The approach set out in the policy emphasises the need to consider both horizontal and vertical mixing of uses. It identifies the need to consider future reuse and adaptation to reflect the changing nature of the district over coming years and decades. The policy also highlights the need to ensure that uses are compatible and that amenity and functional needs are well resolved as part of development proposals.
31. Sub-Area principles	Piecemeal approach to intensified uses – plot promotion managed through DM process	See above	Identifies what the centres should contain to create areas of interest and vibrancy within the Area Action Plan area. Their locations mark the intersection of key routes for pedestrians and cyclists entering North East Cambridge from the residential communities to both the north
	Do Nothing – NPPF development principles		

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			and south in order for them to serve the daily needs of those living and working beyond the Area Action Plan boundary. A set of development criteria to be applied to all centres will help to achieve coordinated and consistently high quality developments.
32. District Centre Sub-Area	<p>Retention of Veolia Waste Transfer Station on-site</p> <p>On-site relocation of the Golf driving range</p> <p>Retail and residential led, no employment floorspace</p> <p>Retail provision greater than 5,000sqm to create a destination shopping location</p> <p>Do nothing – NPPF development principles</p>	See above	<p>The location, mix of uses and development criteria identified will enable the district centre to be delivered in a coherent manner which will act as the central hub for the NEC AAP area. Retail provision has been informed by evidence to ensure the AAP trip budget is managed and to avoid negative retail impacts on existing town centres and retail locations.</p> <p>The location marks the intersection of key routes for pedestrians and cyclists.</p>
33. Science Park Local	Development to consist of	See above	The location, mix of uses and

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
Centre Sub-Area	residential uses only		<p>development criteria identified will enable the local centre to be delivered in a coherent manner which will act as the hub for this part of the NEC AAP area. The provision of some retail floorspace in this location will serve a catchment beyond the AAP area, supporting the day to day needs of local residents, employees and students.</p> <p>The location marks the intersection of key routes for pedestrians and cyclists.</p>
	Development to consist of office uses only		
	Do nothing – NPPF development principles		
34. Station Approach Sub-Area	Development to consist of residential uses only	See above	<p>The location, mix of uses and development criteria identified will enable the local centre to be delivered in a coherent manner which will act as the hub for this part of the NEC AAP area. The provision of a range of uses maximises the centre's excellent proximity to Cambridge North Station.</p> <p>The location marks the</p>
	Development to consist of office uses only		
	Do nothing – NPPF development principles		

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			intersection of key routes for pedestrians and cyclists.
35. Cowley Road Neighbourhood Centre Sub-Area	<p>No primary and/or secondary school in this location</p> <p>Development to consist of residential and retail uses only</p> <p>Retail provision in excess of indicative development capacity</p> <p>Do nothing – NPPF development principles</p>	See above	<p>The location, mix of uses and development criteria identified will enable the local centre to be delivered in a coherent manner which will act as a small hub for this part of the NEC AAP area. The provision of some retail floorspace in this location will serve the day to day needs of local residents and employees in this area without creating the over proliferation of retail floorspace within North East Cambridge.</p> <p>The location marks the intersection of key routes for pedestrians and cyclists, reducing the need to travel to the educational facility by private vehicle.</p>
36a. Land assembly	Piecemeal approach to land assembly managed through	See above	It is important that regeneration and development of NEC delivers

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
	DM process		<p>upon the key interventions set out in the spatial framework. In the absence of a policy that addresses the requirement for land assembly, it is highly doubtful that market factors alone would secure the redevelopment of all land or buildings that are inconsistent with the new spatial layout and that could frustrate the realisation of the development potential of individual sites and/or the area as a whole.</p>
36b. Relocation	Piecemeal approach to relocation managed through DM process	See above	<p>NEC currently contains a number of 'bad neighbour' uses that are constraints to introducing a different mix, quantum and quality of development and to the</p>

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
			realisation of the new place-making narrative for NEC. A reliance on market factors alone is unlikely to secure the appropriate relocation of these uses. The preferred option's section is necessary to secure the positive intervention of landowners, developers and delivery partners in the relocation of these uses to more suitable locations within and outside of NEC.
37. Planning Contributions	<p>Developer contribution required through local infrastructure tariff</p> <p>in-kind contributions to be sought by developers to achieve infrastructure on site</p> <p>limited to CAM metro</p> <p>Limited to affordable housing</p>	See above	Planning contributions retained within the AAP boundary are needed to provide the significant infrastructure to deliver the site and provide the level of affordable homes required.

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
	<p>No major development granted consent without contributions in line with AAP viability</p> <p>Status Quo – Rely on existing policy</p>		
38. Digital Infrastructure and Open Innovation	<p>Green roofs with high vegetation required to cool buildings</p> <p>Buildings must replicate natural cooling airflows</p> <p>No digital street furniture</p> <p>Open data not a planning decision</p> <p>requirement to maximise a building's off grid potential by exploring decentralised utilities and energy production: including rainwater harvesting, photovoltaic panels, microgrids, and domestic wind</p>	See above	<p>Leverage technologies and data to support open innovation and the provision of new infrastructure, services and amenities.</p> <p>Developments need to contribute to 'digital public realm' by providing high speed broadband and publicly accessible Wi-Fi where possible.</p> <p>3D models helps the council make informed design decisions and ensure that the Spatial Framework is brought forwards in a coherent manner.</p>

Preferred policy	Reasonable alternatives	How reasonable alternatives were identified	Why the preferred policy was selected in light of reasonable alternatives
	<p>turbines where appropriate</p> <hr/> <p>Developments must contribute to and accommodate new autonomous pod system</p> <hr/> <p>Status Quo – Rely on existing policy</p>		<p>Personal and non-personal held data can serve the councils, but will be held and republished in line with GDPR recommendation.</p>

Appendix E – Councils' Response to Recommendations

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
Vision	<p>The vision focuses on social and economic factors, with minimising carbon as the only environmental factor mentioned. Whilst environmental enhancement, such as green and blue infrastructure, biodiversity and water quality, is mentioned in the 'how vision will be delivered' text, it is recommended this is incorporated into the vision itself.</p>	<p>Any modifications to the preferred approach will be considered as part of the response to Reg 18 consultation.</p> <p>No change.</p>
Objectives	<p>Whilst the objectives address many topics, they do not address water quality and quantity, therefore it is recommended this is explicitly referred to in the sub-objectives for Strategic Objective 1.</p> <p>The objectives refer to minimising climate change mitigation but only touch lightly on climate change adaptation. It is recommended that the sub-objective to Strategic Objective 1 '...embed the challenge of climate change resilience' is strengthened by rewording to 'ensure the NEC is resilient to the effects of climate change'. Similarly, the importance of climate change adaptation could be recognised in other objectives, for example with regards to ensuring the economy is resilient to this and minimising the effects of climate change on people's health.</p>	<p>Low water consumption and improved water quality has been incorporated into objective 1.</p> <p>Change incorporated into draft AAP in objective 1.</p>
Draft Spatial Framework	Archaeological surveys should also be carried	A desktop archaeological survey is being

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	<p>out prior to redevelopment of any part of the site.</p> <p>It is recommended that the effects of proposed development on the AQMA along the A14 Corridor should be subject to assessment, including through traffic and air quality modelling, and mitigated as appropriate. In addition, it is recommended soft landscaping is used along the A14 and alongside the railway (and any other significant sources of noise) to buffer the site from noise and air pollution. A construction environmental management plan should also be produced to avoid, minimise and mitigate environmental pollution in the construction phase. Furthermore, developers should be encouraged to register with The Considerate Constructors Scheme which includes guidelines for considering the impact on neighbours, and for protecting and enhancing the environment.</p> <p>Opportunities to improve habitat corridors through BOAs should also be realised as far as possible. Furthermore the recommendations set out in the Biodiversity Assessment should be included in the AAP.</p> <p>New and enhanced active travel routes (walking and cycling) should be fully segregated from each other and vehicular</p>	<p>undertaken as part of HIA.</p> <p>Spatial Framework will show noise contours and reflected appropriately in the updated spatial framework.</p> <p>Many of these recommendations are validation requirements and will be requested as a matter of the development management process.</p> <p>Soft landscaping will be part of the updated spatial framework plan.</p> <p>The A14 green buffer will be maintained.</p> <p>Policy 61 covers archaeological advice.</p> <p>Policy 25 environmental protection now includes new text in the reasoned justification section under the policy itself relating to the considerate construction scheme and identifies guidelines on minimising development impact of construction on neighbours and protection and enhancement of the environment.</p> <p>This is also covered in general policy in policy 61 but might want to revisit as part of the outcomes of the HIA.</p> <p>Vast majority of the Ecology study recommendations have been incorporated into the framework plan.</p> <p>Active travel picked up in relevant chapters.</p>

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	<p>traffic to ensure a safe environment for all. Ideally, active travel links should be prioritised over roads and should be suitable for all users, including wheelchair users. Proposed interventions set out in the Transport Study should also be included.</p> <p>In terms of equalities, affordable housing provision should include a mix of type and tenure to meet local demand. Furthermore, a large proportion of employment opportunities should be available for local people.</p>	<p>Proposed transport interventions have been incorporated into the transport strategy.</p> <p>Affordable Housing should not be covered in spatial framework plan and tenure variety is incorporated in relevant policy.</p> <p>Employment is covered in homes jobs and services section.</p> <p>Change incorporated into draft AAP in Policy 25.</p>
1: Overarching Principles	<p>This policy reiterates the vision and much of what is set out in the Strategic Objectives but could be enhanced by specifically referring to the Strategic Objectives and requiring the measures set out in the objectives and sub-objectives to be brought forward.</p>	<p>Recommendations have now been incorporated into the policy justification.</p>
2: Comprehensive and Co-ordinated Development	<p>The policy could be strengthened to address the uncertainties highlighted in the assessment above. For example, with regards to responding to the impacts of climate change, the policy could specify the need to include SuDS, green infrastructure and consider layouts that allow for temperature regulation. With regards to mitigating environmental constraints, the policy should refer to the mitigation hierarchy and be more specific about</p>	<p>Policy 23 comprehensive and coordinated development already covers these recommendations.</p>

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	<p>whether this relates to air, water, biodiversity, noise or landscape issues etc.</p> <p>The policy refers to biodiversity net gain but could be strengthened by specifying how this should be measured, e.g. through the DEFRA metric.</p>	
3: Designing for the Climate Emergency	No recommendations	N/A
4: Energy and Associated Infrastructure	<p>It is recommended that additional text is added to promote local energy communities and local collaboration to encourage community ownership of any decentralised energy network opportunities that may arise from the Energy Masterplan. This will add significant positive effects for the longevity and vitality of the local economy and reduce inequalities.</p> <p>It is also recommended that the policy clearly states the key outcomes required as a result of implementing the energy masterplan, in terms of achieving net zero carbon emissions and energy efficiency.</p>	<p>Additional text has now been incorporated in to first paragraph of the justification for this policy.</p> <p>Net zero carbon deliveries has now been incorporated into the policy as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.</p>
5: Water Efficiency	No recommendations.	N/A
6: Business	It is recommended that the policy cross-refers to the requirement of Policy 25b (Environmental Protection) to prevent risks to adverse effects on health as a result of land	Policy 12a Business now refers to Policy 25b Environmental Protection as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	contamination.	
7: Industry	No recommendations.	N/A
8a: Housing	Whilst the policy states that new dwellings should be accessible and adaptable, it could refer to relevant standards, including the requirement for all housing to meet at least Building Regulation requirement M4(2) 'accessible and adaptable dwellings' and an appropriate proportion of housing to meet Building Regulation requirement M4(3) 'wheelchair user dwellings'.	Policy 11 now identified the Building Regulation standards under Approved Document M4.
8b: Affordable Housing	No recommendations.	N/A
8c: Housing for Local Workers	No recommendations.	N/A
8d: Build to Rent	No recommendations.	N/A
8e: Custom Finish	No recommendations.	N/A
8f: Short Term & Corporate Lets/ Visitor Accommodation	With regard to landscape and townscape, the policy could require all visitor accommodation to be sympathetic to the character of the area.	This is now covered under policy 9 density, heights scale and massing as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.
9: Social and Community Infrastructure	It is recommended that additional text is added to the policy minimising the impact of development of community, cultural and leisure facilities on climate change. This could be through the implementation of sustainable construction practices and/or renewable energy	Policy 10a-10e District centres and Policy 14 Sustainable connectivity along with the spatial framework already cover sustainable transport. Open Spaces will be defined in a glossary to ensure there is a clear distinction with sport

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	<p>technologies. The policy could also specify the need for high quality development that is sympathetic to the surrounding landscape and townscape. With regard to sustainable transport, the policy could specify that all facilities must be located in close proximity to sustainable transport links (e.g. bus stops and cycle ways). Additionally, the policy could explicitly state whether open space is considered to fall within the definition of social and community infrastructure or not. It is also recommended that the words 'Where possible' are removed from the final paragraph, in order to strengthen the policy's commitment to affordable facilities provision.</p> <p>It is noted that the policy safeguards land on the site to deliver a secondary school if needed. In many other parts of the country, developments of around 5,000 new homes would often require a secondary school to be provided. Therefore, as the NEC provides for over 8,000 homes, it is surprising that this is not the case for this site as well. It is therefore recommended that this evidence is checked to make sure it is robust.</p>	<p>and recreation and community facilities. Currently Open space is not considered a community facility but it is considered within Policy 8 Open spaces for recreation and sport.</p> <p>Education evidence so far suggests that the strategy which is still in development doesn't conclude that a secondary school is required on site but instructs that land should be safeguarded in case it is required at a later date.</p> <p>Point noted about strengthening the policy wording.</p>
10a: Retail	As required by the preferred policy, it is recommended that each of the centres includes some convenience food shopping, as this will reduce the need for residents to travel	As a result of the Sustainability Appraisal points around convenience food shopping have been fully incorporated into Policy 15 shops

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	<p>for day to day needs.</p> <p>The policy could do more to recognise the positive role community facilities (D2), particularly meeting places, can play in local centres, as it would be beneficial for such uses to be located in areas where people can access easily and are likely to visit anyway.</p>	<p>and local services to avoid duplication.</p> <p>As a result of the Sustainability Appraisal additional wording in policy 10a criteria stipulates that facilities should be identified in the centres.</p> <p>D2 is already covered in Policy 14.</p>
10b: Markets	It is recommended that the preferred policy is taken forward but ensures that consideration is given to townscape and to ensure that the market prioritises local businesses and people.	<p>This addition is now incorporated in 10b District Centre. Criteria identified provision of opportunities for local business under (b) as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.</p> <p>Policy 9 already covers townscape.</p>
11: Meanwhile Uses	No recommendations.	N/A
12: Employment and Training	In order to strengthen this policy, reference could be made to the specific groups that the employment, skills and training initiatives would be directed towards.	Policy 29 – Employment and Training now includes local residents, students and apprentices as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal. Current evidence suggests there are no preferential group to direct initiatives towards.
13: Aggregates / Waste	It is recommended that additional text is added to the policy on mitigating adverse effects on air quality, the landscape as a result of development, including the relocation of the Waste Transfer Station. This could include vehicle routeing, screening, consideration of	Policy 25 now covers air quality as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal. Landscape mitigation is already covered under Policy 7.

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	topography and landscape character.	
14: Sustainable Connectivity	<p>It is recommended that additional text is added to require active travel to be tied in with the green infrastructure network thereby providing additional positive effects for access to green spaces and wildlife habitats. Also, by including all green spaces within the site and around within the wider connectivity figure could help to show potential connections that should be executed though the policy.</p> <p>It is recommended that alternative options C and/or E are incorporated into the preferred policy, for example by requiring car free zones within NEC, as they are expected to have additional significant positive effects compared to the current preferred policy.</p>	<p>The text has been amended in the policy as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal to include 'integrated with green and open space network'.</p> <p>The Spatial framework now shows new connections and the new landscape plan show wider network. New diagrams cover these points. These changes are all a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.</p> <p>Car free neighbourhoods is already within the policy text for sustainable connectivity. The policy is now tweaked to identify car free neighbourhoods as a suite of sustainable movement opportunities as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.</p>
15: Connecting to the Wider Network	It is recommended that the policy requires active travel links to be tied in with the green infrastructure network thereby providing additional positive effects for access to green spaces and wildlife habitats.	This is already covered within Policy 17 - Connecting to the Wider Network
16: Cycle Parking Infrastructure	It is recommended that cycle parking infrastructure be stationed throughout the area, but specifically in more deprived areas to encourage the use of active sustainable travel and allow for additional ways to access	Wording now includes cycle parking infrastructure must be provided in a manner that is convenient to both new and adjacent residential and business communities as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	employment options, services and facilities.	
17: Safeguarding for Cambridge Autonomous Metro and Public Transport	No recommendations.	N/A
18: Last Mile Deliveries	It is recommended that this policy strengthens its wording to require, rather than encourage, use sustainable modes of transport as the 'last mile' delivery. This will provide additional positive effects for the SA objectives discussed above.	This policy has now been amended to included stronger wording around sustainable modes.
19: User Hierarchy for Streets	It is recommended that text be added that requires at least part of the site to be car free, which would provide additional benefits to resident health and well-being, air pollution and combating climate change. The user hierarchy could also be amended to include car sharing and electric vehicles at the same level as car share and taxis.	New Policies 16 and 21 cover these points and were made prior to the Sustainability Appraisal. A user hierarchy is covered in the reasoned justification in policy 7
20: Managing Motorised Vehicles	It is recommended that the policy makes it clear that the trip budget and parking restrictions are maximum figures and that vehicle movements within NEC should be minimised as far as possible. It could also cross-refer to Policy 19.	These point have already been covered under policy 22 maximising motorised vehicles. It is felt that as Policy 19 is a proceeding policy no cross reference is necessary
21: Biodiversity and Net Gain	It is recommended that the policy further emphasises that 10% is a minimum value and encourages a higher level of biodiversity net	Minimum value has already been stipulated in the opening sentence. The encouraging element has now been incorporated into the

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	gain where possible.	justification after the NPPF paragraph as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.
22: Tree Protection and Coverage	It is recommended that additional text be added to ensure the policy emphasises the importance of the inclusion of native tree species being included on site.	Policy 7 now states that native trees should be considered in the first instance as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.
23: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Standards	It is recommended to combine Option D with the preferred policy as making provision for green space at a district size, including a number of walkable and cyclable neighbourhood level parks with large green corridors in common would have additional significant positive effects.	The policy has been amended to differentiate district, neighbourhood and local open spaces and ensure these are interconnected and legible as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.
24: Water Quality, Demand and Sustainable Urban Drainage	The preferred policy could incorporate water recycling and rainwater harvesting, as set out in option D.	These points are now addressed in Policy 4a water efficiency as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.
25: Flood Risk	It is recommended that the policy requires SUDS to be naturalised, where possible and therefore enhance green and blue infrastructure in NEC.	The recommendation has now been incorporated in Part I of Policy 4c
25b: Environmental Protection	No recommendations identified.	N/A
26: Creating a High Quality, Distinctive new City District	No recommendations identified.	N/A
27: Creating a Comprehensive Streets	No recommendations identified.	N/A

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
and Spaces Network		
28: Building Heights, Scale and Massing	The policy could require proposals to undertake a landscape and visual impact assessment and heritage impact assessment prior to development, to ensure that any key views in and out of the city are maintained. The policy could also add a requirement for proposals to ensure the settings of heritage assets are maintained and enhanced.	These points around LVIA and HIA have already been incorporated in Policy 9 proceeding the Sustainability Appraisal advice.
29: Good Design at Higher Densities	No recommendations identified.	N/A
30: Mixed Use Forms	No recommendations identified.	N/A
31: Sub-Area Principles	No recommendations identified.	N/A
32: District Centre Sub—Area	No recommendations identified.	N/A
33: Science Park Local Centre Sub-Area	<p>If the local centre includes a logistics hub, the policy should encourage last mile deliveries to be undertaken by zero-carbon means.</p> <p>Development should maximise green infrastructure provision in order to adapt to the effects of climate change, including provision of green roofs and walls. The policy should require runoff rates to be kept at greenfield levels or below, and encourage the use of SUDS to achieve this.</p>	<p>Logistics Hub./zero carbon now incorporated into policy 10c as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.</p> <p>Second paragraph is already covered between polices 2 – 5. All centres should be consistent in their approach to delivering carbon efficiencies and suds and biodiversity and not differentiate standards between them.</p>
34: Station Approach Sub-Area	The policy could be further enhanced by	Points around high quality walking and cycling

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	<p>requiring high-quality walking and cycling connectivity to the rest of the AAP area and to the southwest of the sub-area.</p> <p>The area contains land with potential biodiversity value, therefore it is recommended a detailed ecological assessment is undertaken for this part of the site to identify the biodiversity value present and recommend a strategy for minimising loss and maximising biodiversity gain – this should be committed to in the policy.</p>	<p>connectivity has already been covered under sustainable connection policy due to requirements of enhancement walking and cycling connectivity to centres.</p> <p>The second paragraph is already covered in policy 5 - biodiversity</p>
35: Cowley Road Neighbourhood Centre Sub-Area	<p>It is recommended that additional text be added to the policy to require the neighbourhood centre to be an exemplar of how increased density of development can minimise contribution to climate change. This could be through for example the implementation of sustainable construction practices and / or renewable energy technologies, for example solar PV panels on roofs. Denser development in a neighbourhood centre may also offer the opportunity for decentralised energy and district heating networks.</p>	<p>Do not agree that the smallest centre should be exemplar, they should all be exemplary in terms of efficiencies, public realm, design.</p> <p>Solar panels, decentralised energy etc already covered under policy 2-4.</p>
36a: Land Assembly	No recommendations	N/A
36b: Relocation	It is recommended that additional text be added to the policy which would help to	Under b) we have included the following: Engagement with affected business of

Policy	SA Recommendations	How Recommendations have been considered
	mitigate the potential impact on those uses that would need to be relocated. This could form part of the Relocation Strategy and be in addition to the engagement with affected businesses. It could include the requirement for discussions to take place regarding the mitigation of disruption and the re-imburement of costs.	occupiers Including distribution to existing users/tenants. Reimbursement is not a planning matter.
37: Planning Contributions	Additional wording could be added to the policy to be clearer in what is covered by strategic infrastructure. For example this could include: open space, recreation and green infrastructure; drainage; active travel links; improvements to roads and public transport; funding for schools, training and community facilities; renewable energy and / or carbon offsetting.	Open space is already covered in Policy 27 Planning Continuities. The policy now includes reference to education facilities, drainage training and community facilities and strategic public transport.
38: Digital Infrastructure and Open Innovation	It is recommended that the reasonable alternatives that set out the requirement for green roofs, natural cooling airflows and maximising a buildings off-grid potential, are incorporated into the policy, due to the additional positive effects that these measures add, particularly on SA objectives 5 (biodiversity), 7 (greenhouse gas emissions) and 8 (climate change resilience).	Policy 30 – off grid energy potential and natural cooling airglow has now been covered in policy 30 as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal.