

Greater Cambridge Local Development Scheme



July 2022

Cambridge City Council

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South Cambridgeshire District Council

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This updated Greater Cambridge Local Development Scheme was approved by:

Cambridge City Council

The Executive Councillor, Planning and Transport, following debate by the Planning and Transport Scrutiny Committee – 28 June 2022

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Cabinet – 11 July 2022

It took effect from XX July 2022.

Greater Cambridge Local Development Scheme 2022

Introduction

1. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) requires that Local Planning Authorities must prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS). This LDS provides information on the development plan documents that the Councils intend to produce to form their planning policy framework and sets out the timetable for their production.
2. The LDS is designed to help the local community and all our partners interested in development and the use of land and buildings in Greater Cambridge to understand what plans the Councils have and intend to produce.
3. Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council (“the Councils”) have committed to work together to prepare a new Local Plan for Greater Cambridge. They have also committed to prepare jointly an Area Action Plan for North East Cambridge.
4. This LDS is therefore prepared and agreed jointly by both Local Planning Authorities. As work has progressed on the two plans being prepared jointly by the Councils, issues and changes in circumstances have arisen that make it necessary to review the plan -making timetable for both plans. This LDS therefore updates and replaces the LDS adopted in 2020.

What are the current adopted Development Plan Documents?

5. The Councils have prepared a number of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) jointly or in parallel in recent years. The Development Plan for both authorities currently consists of the documents set out below:

Cambridge City Council

- Cambridge Local Plan (October 2018)

South Cambridgeshire District Council

- South Cambridgeshire Local Plan (September 2018)
- The Northstowe Area Action Plan (2007) (excluding Policy NS/3 (1g))
- Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan (2008)

Jointly prepared Area Action Plans

- Cambridge East Area Action Plan (February 2008) (excluding Policies CE/3 and CE/35)
- North West Cambridge Area Action Plan (October 2009)

Documents prepared by Cambridgeshire County Council which apply to the Greater Cambridge area

- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan (July 2021)

Neighbourhood plans

- Cottenham Neighbourhood Plan (2020)
- Great Abington Former Land Settlement Association Estate Neighbourhood Plan (2019)
- Histon and Impington Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Foxton Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan (2022)

6. Decisions on planning applications are to be taken in line with the policies of the above development plan documents unless there are significant matters ('material considerations') that indicate otherwise.

What new Development Plan Documents are to be prepared?

Context

7. The plans and timetables addressed in this version of the Local Development Scheme are based on the current plan-making system. The Government published the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill in May 2022, which proposes changes to the plan-making system. These proposals may have implications for the emerging plans, subject to the provisions of any final Act, including transitional arrangements. The Local Planning Authorities continue to prepare planning policies under the current system whilst monitoring the progress of these proposed changes.
8. The LDS uses seasons in the timetables for plan making. These are using standard definition as used by the Meteorological Office as set out below. Where a key stage falls in Winter of a particular year, it will be followed by brackets saying 'late' for December and 'early' for January to February to avoid confusion about the part of the year involved.

Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
March to May	June to August	September to November	December to February

Greater Cambridge Local Plan

9. The Councils previously committed to start work on a joint Local Plan in 2019 as part of the City Deal agreement with Government established in 2013. The Councils' adopted 2018 Local Plans both include a policy which makes a commitment to an early review of those Plans. The policies are for a new Local Plan to be prepared jointly by Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Councils for their combined districts (Greater Cambridge) and they include a timetable for this review, to commence before the end of 2019 and with submission to the Secretary of State for Examination anticipated at that time by the end of summer 2022.
10. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) updated in July 2021 continues to include a strong expectation that Local Planning Authorities will prepare plans that positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area. Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development, and make sufficient provision for a number of key land uses. These are housing (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development, infrastructure for transport and other key utilities, community facilities, and the 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.
11. There has been a clear desire from the Councils and key stakeholders to have an inclusive and engaging plan making process, particularly at the formative stages of the new local plan, when the development strategy and proposed sites are being identified. The Councils have completed a number of formal consultation and informal engagement stages in preparing the Greater Cambridge Local Plan to date that seek to support this approach, including:
 - Summer 2019: stakeholder workshops prior to the formal inception of the plan
 - January to February 2020: Issues and Options public consultation
 - November to December 2020: strategic options evidence publication and stakeholder engagement
 - November to December 2021: First Proposals (Preferred Options) public consultation - this additional stage sought feedback on the emerging preferred approach to be taken by the plan to key strategic issues, and for those views to be considered before detailed policies were drafted.
12. The First Proposals (Preferred Options) for the Greater Cambridge Local Plan, and the substantial suite of evidence that supports it, identified that issues facing the Greater Cambridge area are particularly complex for the new Local Plan, most significantly regarding water resource issues, and the confidence

in delivery of solutions to ensure an adequate supply of water over the new plan period 2020 to 2041 that will not cause unacceptable adverse environmental harm. As such, the Preferred Options were explicitly contingent on there being evidence forthcoming that demonstrates that a sustainable water supply will be available to support the development identified. Water Resources East is due to consult on its draft regional Water Resources Plan for Eastern England to 2050 in autumn 2022; Cambridge Water and Anglian Water will also consult around the same time on their draft 25-year Water Resources Management Plans. The final plans are expected to be published in autumn 2023. Given the significance of these water resource plans in providing evidence to support the Local Plan, the LDS timetable needs revising to account for the anticipated timings of those plans.

13. The development strategy set out in the Preferred Options includes a substantial existing supply of land for homes and jobs to contribute towards meeting needs for the new plan period to 2041. It also identifies a limited number of new strategic sites focused in the most sustainable locations, in order to limit the number of trips that must be made by the private car as a key part of the objective to respond to the climate emergency and support new development that achieves net zero carbon emissions. These are: North East Cambridge, Cambridge East, Cambridge Biomedical Campus and Cambourne. The strategy also includes a limited number of smaller sites, focused on the most sustainable rural locations in Greater Cambridge to provide a flexible range of types and sizes of sites for new jobs and homes.
14. The Preferred Options identifies that key major infrastructure proposals being developed by other organisations are significant in the opportunities they provide for some of the new strategic sites identified to respond to identified needs for jobs and homes. The evidence available in terms of the timing, and certainty over delivery of these major infrastructure projects, is also important in the revised timetable for the new Local Plan. Taking each of these in turn:

North East Cambridge and Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant (CWWTP) Development Consent Order (DCO)

15. North East Cambridge has been identified in the evidence supporting the new Local Plan as the most sustainable location for development identified in Greater Cambridge Local Plan First Proposals (Preferred Options), in terms of its location within the urban area, and its excellent existing and proposed sustainable and active travel opportunities, recognising that that location is the biggest factor impacting on carbon emissions.
16. The 2018 adopted Local Plans both include policies supporting the principle of a mixed use, employment-led redevelopment at North East Cambridge, with amount, capacity, viability, timescales and phasing of development to be established via a joint Area Action Plan for the area. Given the unresolved (at the time) position on relocating the CWWTP, the adopted plans did not rely on any development on the North East Cambridge site to meet development needs up to 2031. The planning benefits of regeneration of the wider area around and

including the Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant (CWWTP) have long been recognised by the Councils. The efficient and effective development of this strategic brownfield site is nevertheless dependent on the relocation of the CWWTP, both to release the land on which the CWWTP is located and also due to the odour constraints associated with the CWWTP and their impact on potential housing and employment development in the area around the existing plant.

17. The relocation of the CWWTP is now, however, being taken forward via a separate Development Consent Order (DCO) process being undertaken by Anglian Water. This is possible with the benefit of a substantial agreed Housing Infrastructure Fund allocation from government, announced in 2019 and formally awarded in 2020. This will enable the efficient and effective redevelopment of North East Cambridge, and the long recognised planning benefits of redevelopment of the area to be realised. The DCO has now completed its consultation stages and the next stage is submission of the DCO to the Planning Inspectorate for the formal stages of the process, including public examination. The submission is now anticipated to be made in Autumn 2022 rather than Summer 2022 as anticipated at the time of the 2020 LDS.
18. In the knowledge that the efficient and effective redevelopment of the North East Cambridge area can now be realised, through national funding and a viable DCO process to relocate the CWWTP, the Councils have prepared a North East Cambridge Area Action Plan that identifies the area for 8,350 homes (with around 4,000 to be provided in the plan period), 15,000 jobs (some of which would be provided in the plan period) and new physical, social and environmental infrastructure that meets the needs of new and existing residents and workers as well as delivering tangible benefits for surrounding communities. The plan has progressed to an advanced stage. A Proposed Submission (Regulation 19) Area Action Plan was agreed by the Councils in January 2022 as being ready for publication and consultation, to take place upon the DCO for the new CWWTP being approved, given that the AAP is dependent on the relocation of the CWWTP.
19. In parallel with the latest stages of the Area Action Plan, the Greater Cambridge Local Plan has been progressing. As indicated above, the First Proposals (Preferred Options) for the new Local Plan and the evidence supporting it, including the Strategy Topic Paper, Transport evidence and Sustainability Appraisal, have identified North East Cambridge as the most sustainable location for development in Greater Cambridge. The Climate Change evidence confirms that where development is located is the most significant factor in reducing carbon emissions; as set out above North East Cambridge provides significant opportunities to access jobs and services by non-car modes. The emerging Local Plan therefore progresses the strategy and confirms the significant planning merits of the North East Cambridge area established in the policies contained in the 2018 Local Plans. The Area Action Plan process and evidence has defined the development potential of the area, which is reflected in the proposals for the site in the Local Plan Preferred Options. The strategy of the Local Plan, so far as North East Cambridge is

concerned, is also predicated on the relocation of the CWWTP taking place and the vacated site being available for housing development from 2028, such that publication of the Proposed Submission (Regulation 19) version of the Local Plan is dependent upon the DCO approval.

20. The timetable for the CWWTP relocation DCO has been amended since the assumptions underpinning the 2020 LDS, with the outcome of the DCO process now anticipated in Winter (early) 2024 rather than Autumn 2023. Anglian Water is preparing a more detailed design of the proposed facility in the DCO than had originally been intended, which means submission of the DCO is later but will enable quicker delivery of the new plant on completion of the DCO process. Given the Local Plan outcomes are predicated on evidence of the whole site being available for redevelopment following relocation of the CWWTP, the LDS timetable has been amended to account of the revised DCO timetable.
21. The 2020 LDS included two options for the timetable for the GCLP, one that relied on North East Cambridge as part of the strategy for the plan (Option 2) and an alternative option that did not rely on North East Cambridge and could be progressed ahead of a decision on the DCO (Option 1). Given the central role of North East Cambridge identified in the Preferred Options and the supporting evidence, the Councils need to align the Local Plan timetable to follow the outcome of the DCO (an update to the Option 2 timetable).
22. Officers are mindful of the role that the emerging Local Plan and Area Action Plan will play in the Development Consent Order process to relocate the CWWTP, by indicating the substantial planning benefits that relocation of the WWTP will enable. This is acknowledged in the 2020 LDS (paragraph 10). From officers' consideration thus far of the representations received to the Local Plan Preferred Options consultation, it does not appear that any new substantive issues have been raised that the Councils were not aware of in making the decision to agree the Proposed Submission Area Action Plan (Regulation 19) that go to the principle of the planning merits of the site and the soundness of the reliance placed on it to meeting development needs, although there are representations addressing the details of the proposed development, some of which propose further development within the North East Cambridge area. These will be given further consideration as the plan progresses. As such, it is not anticipated that the results of consultation would impact on the LDS timetable for the Local Plan and Area Action Plan, or indeed the role that North East Cambridge can play as a strategic site at the heart of the development strategy, reflecting the evidence supporting the emerging Local Plan that North East Cambridge is the most sustainable location for development in Greater Cambridge. This is subject to a full consideration of the representations as part of the Local Plan process, plus updating of relevant evidence including reviewing and as necessary updating the Sustainability Appraisal. However, at this point, officers take the view that from the review of the representations so far carried out, there is no material risk to progressing the Area Action Plan as set out in the updated LDS, or including North East Cambridge as a key part of the development strategy in

the Local Plan to make an important contribution to meeting development needs, subject to the DCO being approved.

Cambridge East and Cambridge Airport relocation

23. The Local Plan Preferred Options propose allocating Cambridge Airport for strategic scale development. This reflects the vision for a new sustainable urban quarter to Cambridge originally planned in the joint Cambridge East Area Action Plan 2008, but unable to come forward in the 2018 Local Plans because Marshall advised at that time that the Airport site would not be available for development in the period covered by the adopted plans to 2031. The earlier allocation was therefore converted in the 2018 Local Plans to safeguarded land for future development if the site became available, that could only come forward through a review of the Local Plans. The proposed allocation in the Preferred Options comprises the safeguarded land and reflects advice from Marshall that it intends relocating its aerospace and defence business to a preferred site at Cranfield Airport. Marshall supports the proposed allocation and has advised that it is confident that the proposed allocation can be delivered as envisaged in the First Proposals, noting that it aims to submit a planning application at Cranfield in autumn 2022. This issue has not affected the dates in the revised LDS.

Cambourne Expansion and East West Rail

24. The Local Plan Preferred Options identifies Cambourne as a broad location for future growth in the 2030's to respond to the opportunity that would be provided by the proposed East West Rail Bedford to Cambridge line that includes a station at Cambourne. Noting the uncertainty about the exact station location and timing of delivery, the First Proposals says that future work would need to be completed to confirm the exact location, scale and type of development. The consultation assumed that 1,950 homes would be delivered here to 2041.

25. The Councils will monitor progress with the EWR project and will need to keep under review implications for any potential uncertainty around EWR on the Preferred Options development strategy as we progress the plan. This issue has not affected the dates in the revised LDS.

North East Cambridge Area Action Plan

26. The adopted 2018 Local Plans include a policy allocating an area of land on the northern fringe of Cambridge to enable the creation of a revitalised, employment focussed area centred on the new transport interchange created by Cambridge North Station. The policies, covering the area around the Cambridge North Station and east of Milton Road, say that "the amount of development, site capacity, viability, timescales and phasing of development will be established through the preparation of an Area Action Plan (AAP) for

the site”. They also say that “The final boundaries of land that the joint AAP will consider will be determined by the AAP”.

27. The Councils have completed the following consultation and plan-making stages in preparing the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan:

- December 2014 - February 2015: Issues and Options consultation – this asked a series of questions about how best the Councils should plan for development on land to east of Milton Road. At this time the site was known as Cambridge Northern Fringe East.
- February 2019 - March 2019: second Issues and Options consultation - the Councils completed this stage to reflect proposed changes in the site boundary, in particular to include Cambridge Science Park to the west of Milton Road, opening up the area for more comprehensive regeneration. Following consultation on Issues and Options in 2019, the Councils confirmed that the plan would be renamed the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan and that the geographical coverage would be enlarged to include the Cambridge Science Park. A map of the area is included at Appendix 1.
- July – October 2020: Draft Area Action Plan (Regulation 18) consultation
- January 2022: Councils agreed the Proposed Submission AAP for future Regulation 19 publication, having considered representations received to the previous Regulation 18 stage. However, as the proposals contained in the Area Action Plan are predicated on the relocation of the CWWTP taking place, actually carrying out the Regulation 19 publication and consultation will be subject to the successful completion of the DCO process.

28. The Area Action Plan process is now awaiting the conclusion of the DCO process. See also the North East Cambridge sub-section of the Greater Cambridge Local Plan section at paragraphs 15 – 22 above. If the DCO is approved, the Councils would then proceed with the publication of the Proposed Submission Area Action Plan for the making of representations (Regulation 19), subject to a health check to confirm if any updates to the Area Action Plan are required to reflect any material changes in circumstances given the lengthy pause, following which the Area Action Plan would progress to Submission and independent Examination.

Revisions to the LDS timetable

29. As identified in the Greater Cambridge Local Plan and North East Cambridge Area Action Plan sections above, there is a need to revise the 2020 Local Development Scheme timetables to account in particular for changes in circumstances in relation to: evidence to demonstrate an appropriate water supply, change to the timetable of the CWWTP DCO, and allow for appropriate time in the process to deal with the stages following each consultation, noting the complexity of issues and the volume of comments raised by Preferred Options consultation. The changes are as follows:

- a. An additional stage is proposed to bring a report to members in January 2023 to confirm the Preferred Options for the Greater Cambridge Local Plan strategy and sites – this will include consideration of the representations on those issues received to the 2021 Preferred Options consultation, evidence provided by the draft water resource plans, an update to the evidence of needs for jobs and homes, more detailed work on capacity and design principles for the new strategic sites, and an update to other key evidence including the Sustainability Appraisal. This provides the opportunity for the Councils to confirm their preferred options for the strategy and sites before the full draft Greater Cambridge Local Plan is prepared and brought to Members.
- b. Draft Greater Cambridge Local Plan (Regulation 18) consultation will take place in Autumn 2023 (rather than Summer 2022) – this would follow the confirmation of the preferred strategy and sites in January 2023 and will be a full draft plan, and in addition to the strategy and sites, would include all the themes covered in the Preferred Options: climate change, biodiversity & green spaces, wellbeing & social inclusion, great places, homes, jobs and infrastructure. A report will be considered by each Councils decision-making processes in Summer 2023 with public consultation taking place in Autumn 2023.
- c. As both the Greater Cambridge Local Plan and the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan are predicated on the relocation of the CWWTP, the timing of both Proposed Submission plans must be amended to follow the anticipated date of the outcome of the DCO. If the DCO is approved in Winter (early) 2024, rather than Autumn 2023 as informed the 2020 LDS, it is anticipated that the Proposed Submission Greater Cambridge Local Plan and the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan will be published for consultation in Autumn 2024. This allows for undertaking the Member process in Summer 2024, preparing for publication, and avoiding the summer holiday period with consultation starting in Autumn 2024. This would also follow the anticipated publication of the final Water Resources East Plan and the local water companies' Water Resources Management Plans in Autumn 2023, which is key evidence necessary to demonstrate delivery of the plan.
- d. Following the Proposed Submission plan publications and consultations, the formal representations received will be registered and considered. Assuming no new issues are raised in representations that would require material changes to be made, the plans would then be Submitted for Examination in Summer/Autumn 2025. Note: The Councils have already indicated in the 2020 LDS the intention to keep under review whether it is appropriate to merge the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan into the Local Plan at the Proposed Submission stage.
- e. Following submission of the plans, the timing of the remainder of the plan-making processes are in the hands of the Inspectors, including how the examinations for the separate plans would be sequenced. Officers propose to seek discussions with the Planning Inspectorate in due course to explore

a number of key procedural issues relating to the examination of both plans, including this issue. The changes to the national plan making system may also result in changes to the approach, process and timetable.

30. The key stages in the plan making process for both Greater Cambridge Local Plan and the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan are contained in the tables below.

Development Plan Documents to be produced

Document title	Subject matter and geographical area	Chain of Conformity	Consultation	Publication of Proposed Submission DPD and public consultation	Submission and Examination of DPD	Adoption and publication of DPD
Greater Cambridge Local Plan	Includes the Vision, Objectives and Spatial Development Strategy and policies for Greater Cambridge Prepared for the whole of the administrative areas covered by Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council	Conformity with the NPPF	Issues and Options (Reg 18) January 2020 Preferred Option Consultation (Reg 18) Autumn 2021 Draft Plan Consultation (Reg 18) Autumn 2023	Proposed Submission Consultation (Reg 19) Autumn 2024 Note: to follow the outcome of Cambridge WWTP DCO	Submission to Secretary of State for independent Examination (Reg 22) Summer/ Autumn 2025 Note: subject to the outcome of Cambridge WWTP DCO	Subject to progress of independent Examination

Document title	Subject matter and geographical area	Chain of Conformity	Consultation	Publication of Proposed Submission DPD and public consultation	Submission and Examination of DPD	Adoption and publication of DPD
North East Cambridge Area Action Plan	Vision and planning framework to ensure the coordination of development in the Cambridge Northern Fringe East development site and the Cambridge Science Park (see map at Appendix 1)	Conformity with the NPPF Compatibility with the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2021	Issues and Options 1 (Reg 18) Winter 2014/2015 Issues and Options 2 (Reg 18) Spring 2019 Draft Area Action Plan (Reg 18) Summer 2020	Proposed Submission Consultation (Reg 19) Autumn 2024 Note: Proposed Submission plan agreed in January 2022 for consultation to follow the outcome of Cambridge WWTP DCO	Submission to Secretary of State for independent Examination (Reg 22) Summer/ Autumn 2025 Note: subject to the outcome of Cambridge WWTP DCO	Subject to progress of independent Examination

Neighbourhood Planning

31. Local communities have the power to influence the future of the places they live and work by preparing neighbourhood plans. Neighbourhood plans are led and prepared by the community, not the Council, although the Council has a statutory role to provide advice and support to those producing a plan and at prescribed stages in the plan making process. When a neighbourhood plan has been successful at examination which is carried out by an independent examiner and a local referendum voted in support of the plan, the Council must adopt it as a 'made' neighbourhood plan as part of its development plan framework, and take it into account when it makes decisions on planning applications in the area, alongside other adopted development plan documents.
32. As neighbourhood plans are not prepared by the Council and their timetables are dependent on the progress made by the community, timetables for their preparation are not included in the LDS. However, the section below provides the status of neighbourhood plans in Greater Cambridge as at June 2022.

Cambridge

33. Within Cambridge City there is one designated neighbourhood area and its associated neighbourhood forum:
- South Newnham – approved in March 2017 – National legislation states that a neighbourhood forum ceases to have effect after 5 years. The South Newnham forum has been in existence for 5 years and has applied to be redesignated. A public consultation on their application ends on 21 June 2022.
34. There is a [neighbourhood planning](#) page on the Cambridge City website.

South Cambridgeshire

35. There are a total of nineteen designated neighbourhood areas in South Cambridgeshire. This includes those parishes where the neighbourhood plans have been 'made' (adopted), which are also listed separately underneath. In chronological order the designated neighbourhood areas are:
- Linton and Hildersham (designated jointly) – these two parishes have joined together to form a single neighbourhood area that was approved in May 2014
 - Histon and Impington (part of the parish excluded) – this covers the area of the two parishes to the north of the A14 and was approved in September 2014
 - Gamlingay – this covers the parish and was approved in February 2015

- Waterbeach – this covers the parish and was approved in August 2015
- Cottenham - this covers the parish and was approved in November 2015
- Foxton - this covers the parish and was approved in November 2015.
- West Wickham - this covers the parish and was approved in November 2015
- Melbourn – this covers the parish and was approved in May 2016
- Whittlesford – this covers the parish and was approved in August 2016
- Great Abington Former Land Settlement Association Estate – this covers the former Land Settlement Association estate, which only forms part of the parish of Great Abington and was approved in September 2016
- Stapleford and Great Shelford – these two parishes have joined together to form a single neighbourhood area that was approved in November 2016
- Swavesey – this covers the parish and was approved in November 2016
- Thriplow – this covers the parish and was approved in August 2017
- Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth – this covers the parish and was approved in December 2017
- Pampisford – this covers the parish and was approved in March 2018
- Sawston – this covers the parish and was approved in June 2018
- Babraham – this covers the parish and was approved in June 2018
- Fulbourn – this covers the parish and was approved in August 2018.

36. The following neighbourhood plans have been made (adopted) by South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) as at the end of May 2022:

- Great Abington Former Land Settlement Association Neighbourhood Plan was made in February 2019.
- Cottenham Neighbourhood Plan was made in May 2021
- Histon & Impington Neighbourhood Plan was made in May 2021.
- Foxton Neighbourhood Plan was made in August 2021
- Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan was made in March 2022.

37. Gamlingay Neighbourhood Plan has had an examination carried out by an independent examiner and the examiner's report published. SCDC is currently working with the parish council to prepare a Referendum version of the neighbourhood plan before formally deciding whether the plan can proceed to referendum.

38. West Wickham Neighbourhood Plan is at a similar stage to the Gamlingay Neighbourhood Plan where the examiner's report has been completed but no formal decision has been made by SCDC for the plan to proceed to referendum.

39. Fulbourn Neighbourhood Plan is currently going through an examination and the examiner has requested that a hearing be held on some matters. A hearing date has been set for 4 July 2022.

40. The remainder of parish councils with designated neighbourhood areas

are working towards the consultation required by Regulation 14.

41. For further information on Neighbourhood Planning, including the current status of the neighbourhood forums and plans being prepared, there are [neighbourhood planning](#) pages on the Greater Cambridge website which provide more information about the progress of each neighbourhood plan.

Supporting evidence and other planning documents

42. The Councils produce other supporting documents to aid in the preparation or implementation of development plan policies:

- Evidence base
- Statement of Community Involvement
- Sustainability Appraisal & Strategic Environmental Assessment
- Policies Map
- Supplementary Planning Documents and Guidance
- Authority Monitoring Reports

43. Further details can be found on [Greater Cambridge Shared Planning \(greatercambridgeplanning.org\)](http://greatercambridgeplanning.org)

Evidence Base

44. In order to carry out the preparation of the new joint Greater Cambridge Local Plan, the councils continue to develop and maintain a sound evidence base. Necessary research and studies are being conducted and are supplemented by research undertaken by others as appropriate. Providing a sound and comprehensive evidence base is fundamental to developing sound planning documents. The key evidence base documents completed to date are available to view and download from the relevant Local Plan webpage.

45. A full evidence base has also been prepared to support the Proposed Submission North East Cambridge Area Action Plan and can also be found on the website.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

46. A significant concern of planning is to improve community and stakeholder engagement from the outset, ensuring people's views can be taken into account. This commitment is reinforced by the requirement for all LPAs to produce a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The SCI is not a DPD, and is not subject to public Examination.

47. A Greater Cambridge Statement of Community Involvement was adopted

by both councils in June 2019. It details how the community and stakeholders will be involved in the preparation, alteration and review of all local plan documents as well as the consideration of minor and major planning applications. An Addendum and Updated Addendum were published to the SCI in May and December 2020 respectively, in light of changing COVID-19 restrictions. The need for these temporary measures will be kept under review. The updated addendum should be read alongside the original documentation.

48. To ensure the SCI remains relevant and has regard to new methods of engagement, the councils will keep this under review, updating it as necessary.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

49. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is required for all DPDs. It is an integral component of all stages of plan-making. The purpose of the SA is to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans. The SA embraces economic, environmental and social objectives, including equalities and health impacts, the therefore has a wider scope than Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) which is primarily concerned with environmental impacts.

50. Work on producing a DPD cannot proceed without corresponding work on the SA. Therefore, each DPD will be accompanied by a supporting SA. Both the draft document and the SA will be made available for consultation at the same time and comments invited. The findings of the SA, will inform the DPD and will be a material consideration in determining soundness of the document at the Examination.

Policies Map

51. The Policies Map identifies sites allocations and areas of planning constraint, such as Green Belt and other local and national designations. The policies map is updated as new DPDs are prepared or revised so as to provide a clear visual illustration of the application of policies across the area.

Supplementary Planning Documents

52. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) provide further information and guidance on the implementation of Local Plan policies and can be given substantial weight in planning decisions. A list of adopted SPDs, as well as those the councils are intending to review or prepare, are set out on the councils' websites.

Authority Monitoring Reports (AMR)

53. The AMR is a 'state of the environment' report published at least annually. It assesses the effectiveness of the Local Plan policies in managing development and achieving the outcomes and strategic objectives of the planning framework. It also monitors the implementation of the LDS, highlighting whether revisions are necessary.
54. AMRs are particularly useful in identifying development trends, patterns of land use, as well as reporting on transport, housing and population/socio-economic trends in order to provide a 'baseline' context for reviewing and amending existing policies.
55. The latest versions of the AMRs are available to view on the [Greater Cambridge Shared Planning website](#).

Community Infrastructure Levy

56. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a tax on new development, which helps fund a wide range of strategic infrastructure, such as public transport, parks and community facilities, needed to support growth. Both councils had previously sought to introduce a CIL and had submitted draft charging schedules for Examination in 2014. The intention was for these to be Examined following the conclusion of the Examinations into the Local Plans. The councils each agreed to withdraw their CIL draft charging schedules in 2017 reflecting a number of changes in circumstances and to jointly reassess the position.
57. The Councils will update this Local Development Scheme if they intend to commence preparation of a CIL scheme.

Monitoring and Review

58. The councils will monitor the progress of the work set out in this LDS and will publish the results as part of the annual AMR.
59. The LDS will be updated or reviewed where the need to do so is identified.

Appendix 1:

Geographic extent of North East Cambridge Area Action Plan

