

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA): Greater Cambridge Local Plan: Development Strategy Update

Identifying Details

- 1.1** Officer completing EqIA:
Claire Spencer
- 1.2** Team and Service:
Planning Policy, Strategy and Economy Team, Greater Cambridge Shared Planning
- 1.3** Title of proposal:
Greater Cambridge Local Plan – Development Strategy Update
- 1.4** EqIA completion date:
December 2022
- 1.5** Proposal implementation date:
2025/ 2026 (approximate, depending on Local Plan adoption date)
- 1.6** Who will be responsible for implementing this proposal (Officer and/or Team):
Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service, other Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council Service areas and external stakeholders.

Proposal to be Assessed

This Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA): Development Strategy Update provides an update to, and should be read in conjunction with, the [GCLP First Proposals Equalities Impact Assessment](#) completed in July 2021. It has been prepared to assess the impacts of the GCLP Development Strategy Update, which includes only:

- Identification of updated objectively assessed needs for development
- Consideration of issues affecting delivery of jobs and homes; and
- Identification of priority sites for development within a potential wider development strategy yet to be determined

A full EQIA will be completed to support the draft plan consultation in 2023.

How will groups or individuals be affected by the GCLP Development Strategy Update?

Planning for additional development to respond to development needs provides opportunities to address the needs of people with different protected characteristics, for example with different types of homes that are needed and a greater range of jobs. The First Proposals assessment highlighted positive impacts related to age, disability, pregnancy and maternity, race, and issues related to Cambridge being an unequal city and south Cambridgeshire's rurality issues. Additional development would need to be accompanied by community facilities, green spaces and other infrastructure, helping to create more balanced and sustainable communities including by improving access to services and facilities locally. This could also have positive impacts if these supporting needs are met. The extent of benefits and impacts would depend on the scale and location of development, and policies put in place to secure supporting infrastructure and to avoid negative impacts.

Allocating development at the most sustainable strategic scale locations – thereby locating jobs, homes, and day to day facilities and services in close proximity -



should reduce the need to travel for all. It should also enable journeys that need to be made to be shorter and achievable by non-car modes, which are most inclusive for all and can improve air quality with associated health benefits for impacted communities.

If the Local Plan did not plan for the full development to meet identified needs the benefits to communities noted above may be reduced, as it could mean the full needs of those with protected characteristics could not be addressed, and there is a chance that current disadvantages arising from unequal access to jobs, homes and local services may be magnified. This would depend on scale of the difference between what the plan seeks to deliver and the identified needs, how the plan sites and policies were prioritised, planned and delivered.

Sign Off

When will this proposal next be reviewed and who will this be?

Summer 2023 (Planning Policy, Strategy and Economy Team, Greater Cambridge Shared Planning)

Approving officer signature:

Jonathan Dixon

Date of approval:

December 2022