

Schedule of responses to the Sustainability Appraisal

Site Specific Policies - Responding to Housing Shortfall - Sustainability Appraisal

Public Participation Report

Chapter 3 - Stage B

Cumulative Impacts

Representations

Nature Representation Summary

Council's Assessment

Chapter 3 - Stage B

Cumulative Impacts

23271 - Natural England

Object

Paragraph 3.5.4 of the Sustainability Appraisal suggests there is limited scope for mitigation at these sites due to development pressure. If sufficient mitigation cannot be provided it is likely that development will result in negative impacts, making the sites unsustainable. It is therefore imperative that adequate appropriate mitigation can be provided to off-set any negative impacts.

South Cambridgeshire lies within a growth area and clearly high levels of development will have environmental impacts. However the development strategy with its urban focus and proposals for a significant proportion of housing development to be through major developments does provide the opportunity to make development as sustainable as possible in terms of accessibility to services and facilities by sustainable travel modes and ensure that adequate new services and facilities can be provided as part of these larger new developments. The site assessments for the housing shortfall work have taken a holistic approach to the sites assessed and included environmental, social and economic factors into account. High priority has been given to environmental considerations where there are identified issues affecting additional sites and the preferred sites are those that best fit with the development strategy and where the Council is confident that development will be able to mitigate any impacts it may have in a satisfactory way.

Appendix I - Sustainability Objectives and links to Site Assessment Criteria

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22899 - Great Shelford Ten Acres Limited

Object

An assessment table has been completed for Site 27 - Land off Cambridge Road, Great Shelford. It clearly demonstrates that this site is in a very sustainable location for housing development. It is comparable with other sites in the final 16 that have undergone the SA.

It is noted that the respondent has prepared their own assessment for their site at Great Shelford. The Council's approach in respect of Green Belt sites at Rural Centres, ie. not to include them in the detailed assessments, is addressed in response to separate representations and is the reason why this site has not been subject to SA.

Assessment table for land between Huntingdon Road, Histon Road and the A14, North West Cambridge (South Cambs Revision)

Representations**Nature Representation Summary****Council's Assessment****Appendix II - Options assessment matrices****Assessment table for land between Huntingdon Road, Histon Road and the A14, North West Cambridge (South Cambs Revision)**

22959 - Barratt Strategic	Object	An amendment to the site boundary of Site 6 has been put forward for consideration and has been assessed against the SA framework with the aim of highlighting the relative sustainability strengths and weaknesses of this location.	It is noted that the respondent has provided an assessment of their site. The Council has put forward a modified boundary for this site as a preferred site for development and that site has been subject to SA.
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Assessment table for Bourn Airfield (1), Cambourne

22812 - Countryside Properties (Special Projects) Limited	Object	There are inconsistencies and inaccuracies in the scoring with the Sustainability Appraisal for the two Bourn Airfield sites. A review of the scoring for the Bourn Airfield sites raises questions on the scoring of objectives 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.2, 3.3, 4.3, 5.2, 5.3, 6.1, 6.4, 7.1 and 7.2. A revised matrix is submitted.	The respondent has commented on the detailed sustainability appraisal of the Bourn Airfield site and explained either why they disagree the appraisal or why its proposals will address any issues. The appraisal was carried out by independent consultants for the Council against consistent sustainability criteria that enables a comparison of the relative sustainability merits of the site options tested, and is the consultant's view of the impact that development on a particular site would have on the sustainability criteria. Neither the SA nor the Council's own site assessments can or should have significant regard to the details of a specific proposal which have no weight in the plan making process and are only one example of how a site could be developed. The SA and the site assessments must consider in principle whether development would be appropriate on a particular site and for those sites where development is found to be appropriate, the policy requirements necessary to ensure that any site specific considerations will be taken into account in whatever specific proposal may come forward. The Council remains confident that the SA is a sound tool to inform the assessment of the appropriate new housing allocations to address the housing shortfall.
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Assessment table for Bourn Airfield (2), Cambourne

22813 - Countryside Properties (Special Projects) Limited	Object	There are inconsistencies and inaccuracies in the scoring with the Sustainability Appraisal for the two Bourn Airfield sites. A review of the scoring for the Bourn Airfield sites raises questions on the scoring of objectives 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.2, 3.3, 4.3, 5.2, 5.3, 6.1, 6.4, 7.1 and 7.2. A revised matrix is submitted.	The respondent has commented on the detailed sustainability appraisal of the Bourn Airfield site and explained either why they disagree the appraisal or why its proposals will address any issues. The appraisal was carried out by independent consultants for the Council against consistent sustainability criteria that enables a comparison of the relative sustainability merits of the site options tested, and is the consultant's view of the impact that development on a particular site would have on the sustainability criteria. Neither the SA nor the Council's own site assessments can or should have significant regard to the details of a specific proposal which have no weight in the plan making process and are only one example of how a site could be developed. The SA and the site assessments must consider in principle whether development would be appropriate on a particular site and for those sites where development is found to be appropriate, the policy requirements necessary to ensure that any site specific considerations will be taken into account in whatever specific proposal may come forward. The Council remains confident that the SA is a sound tool to inform the assessment of the appropriate new housing allocations to address the housing shortfall.
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