

Cambridgeshire Green infrastructure Strategy Appendix 4 Planning and Sustainable Growth

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1 Introduction

This technical appendix sets out the context for proposed growth in Cambridgeshire. The proposed growth has provided the impetus to complete the Green Infrastructure Strategy. Presented as “Baseline Information”, this appendix contains an assessment of various policy statements that are relevant to growth in Cambridgeshire and Green Infrastructure, from the national to local level. This includes the local authorities’ planning policies.

The assessment included here tells us that Green Infrastructure, whether comprising formal or informal areas, is valued and planning policies seek to protect and enhance these. The GI Strategy presents an opportunity to enhance the quality and multi-functionality of urban green spaces and the interpretation and enjoyment of the heritage of settlements. New residential, mixed use and to some extent commercial or industrial development both increases demand on existing GI and presents opportunities for new provision, creating a sense of place, providing opportunities for recreation, establishing links to urban centres and the rural hinterland, and off-setting carbon emissions.

2 Growing Cambridgeshire

The vision, stemming from the 2003 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Structure Plan, is:

*‘to continue to develop as a centre of excellence and world leader
in higher education and research, fostering the dynamism,
prosperity and further expansion of the knowledge-based*

economy spreading outwards from Cambridge. The historic character and setting of Cambridge should be protected and enhanced, together with the character and setting of the market towns and other settlements and the important environmental qualities of the surrounding area'.

The county's settlement pattern (Figure 4.1) is strongly influenced by the city of Cambridge, which accounts for nearly 20% of the total population of around 600,000. Cambridge plays an important regional role and is of national and international importance for its outstanding historic character, as a centre of learning and research, and because of its emergence as an internationally significant cluster for high technology industries. It lies at the heart of the Cambridge Sub Region, which includes Cambridge and the ring of market towns. The northern part of Cambridgeshire is primarily influenced by Peterborough, which lies just outside the county boundary. The larger market towns of Wisbech and March are the main focus for economic and social life within this area of Cambridgeshire.

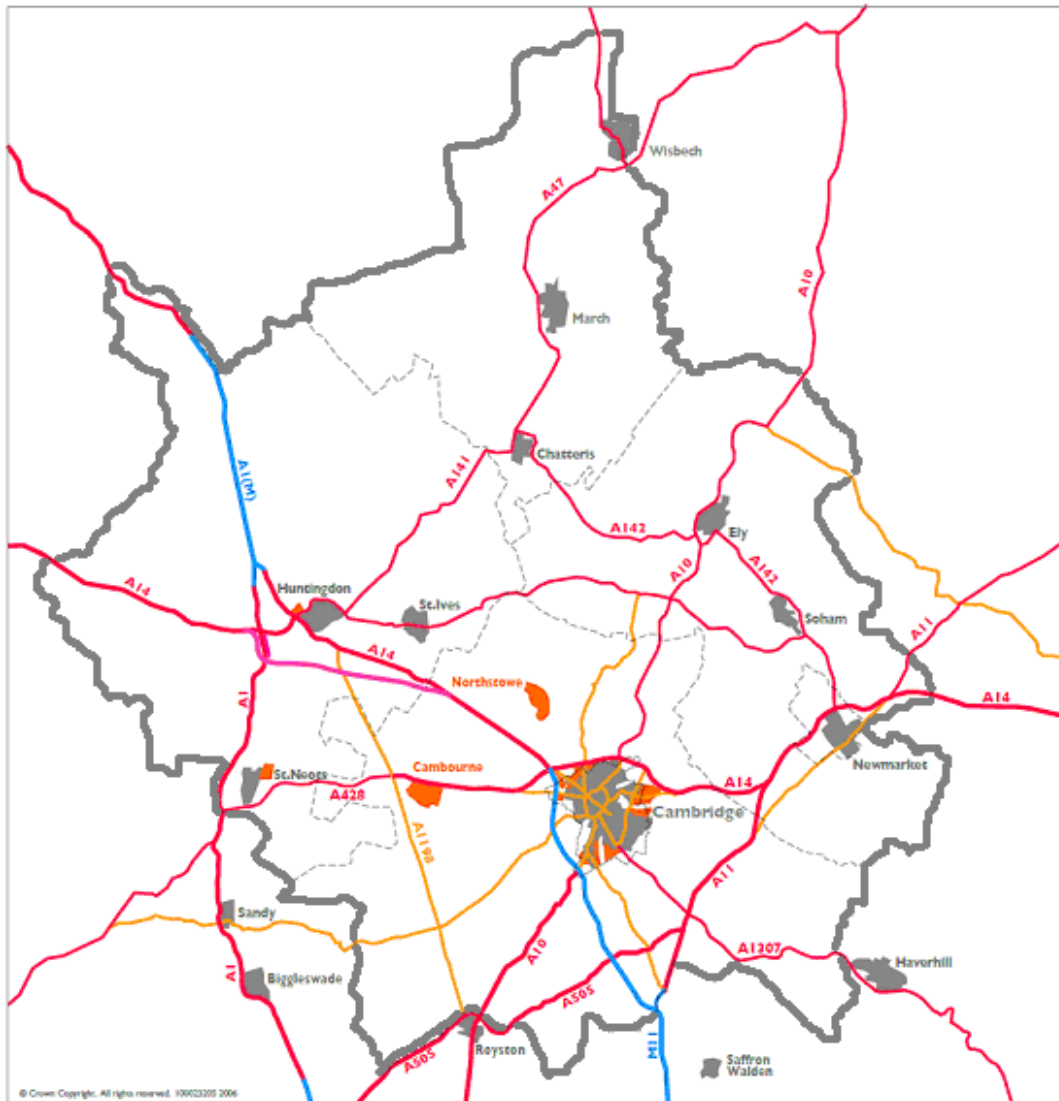


Figure 4.1 Major settlement locations in Cambridgeshire.

Cambridgeshire district housing trajectories were updated and included in Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Reports in December 2010. The trajectories illustrate when new housing development is expected to be completed looking ahead, typically over a 15 year period. They were prepared in consultation with developers, based on predictions of delivery. A summary trajectory for Cambridgeshire is included at Figure 4.2, showing each district's part of overall anticipated delivery to 2024/25 (*Note: this is currently based on 2009 trajectories and will be updated*). The Green Infrastructure Strategy addresses the delivery of Green Infrastructure up to 2031, in tandem with emerging planning timeframes for Local Development Frameworks.

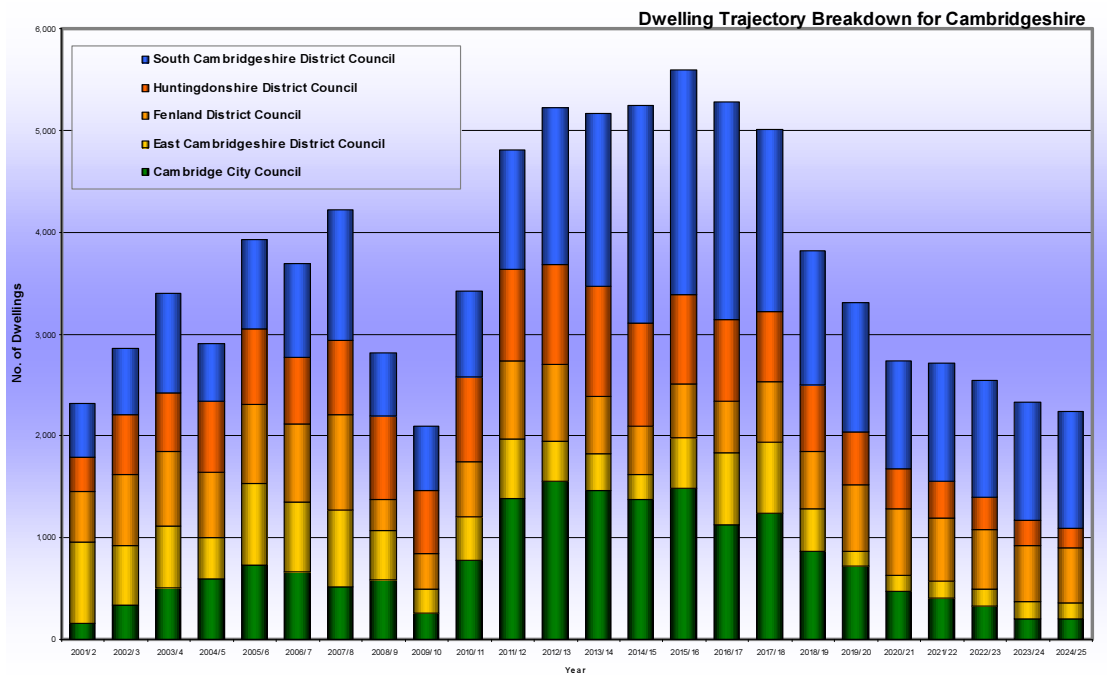


Figure 4.2 Dwelling trajectory for Cambridgeshire 2001 – 2025 (source: Cambridgeshire County Council)

The East of England Plan currently provides the Regional Strategy for the county. The Coalition Government intends that regional plans will be abolished through the Localism Bill. Notwithstanding, the local authorities in the County have all adopted a Joint Interim Planning Statement that confirms their commitment to the strategy for planning in the County, including the provision of housing. The strategy in the East of England Plan is for 73,300 new homes in the period 2001 to 2021, of which xxxxx have already been built (*Note: figure to follow*). Table 4.1, prepared in September 2009, shows the housing targets included in adopted Development Plans. The timescales attached to these targets vary as they relate to the date at which the plan was prepared. Reviews of these plans are at different stages of preparation,

Table 4.1 Housing targets included in adopted Development Plans in Cambridgeshire (September 2009).

Local Planning Authority	Total to Build (Adopted Local Plan/Core Strategy)	Already Built (31 March 2010)	Still to Build (31 March 2010)
Cambridge City Council	12,500 (1999-2016)	4,724 (1999 – 2010)	7,776
East Cambridgeshire District Council	10,320 (2001-2025)	5,317 (2001 – 2010)	5,013
Fenland District Council	9,220 (1990-2001)*	5,595 (2001 – 2010)	-
Huntingdonshire District Council	14,000 (2001-2026)	5,928 (2001-2010)	8,073
South Cambridgeshire District Council	20,000 (1999-2016)	8,627 (1999 – 2010)	11,373

* Fenland DC is currently working on their emerging Core Strategy, based on the scale of growth set out in East of England Plan.

3 Baseline Information

Planning Policy and Guidance

European Landscape Convention

<http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/en/Treaties/Html/176.htm>)

Under this Defra and Natural England supervise the development of landscape policy in the UK. Green Infrastructure has a role in protecting, managing and promoting the value of (all) landscapes.

National Policy and Guidance

National policy for planning and the environment is set out in Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) and Planning Policy Guidance (PPG). The Government announced in December 2010 that these documents are to be replaced in due course by a National Planning Framework which would be used to enable the delivery of the Government's Objectives for the Planning System. Current policy which is relevant to green infrastructure includes:

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 1: Delivering Sustainable Development – this sets out the overarching planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system. Although it does not specifically reference Green Infrastructure, it requires planning authorities to ensure that development integrates urban form and the natural environment and creates and sustains an appropriate mix of uses, including green space.

Planning Policy Statement: Climate Change - Supplement to PPS 1 – this supplement to PPS1 sets out how planning should contribute to reducing emissions and stabilising climate change. In particular, it states that when selecting land for development planning authorities should take into account *"the contribution to be made from existing and new opportunities for open space and green infrastructure to urban cooling, sustainable drainage systems, and conserving and enhancing biodiversity"*.

Planning Policy Statement: Eco Towns - Supplement to PPS 1 – although there are currently no short-listed eco-towns in Cambridgeshire, and the standards set out in this supplement are more demanding than would normally be required for new development, it provides a useful overview of the role of Green Infrastructure: *"Forty per cent of the eco-town's total area should be allocated to green space, of which at least half should be public and consist of a network of well managed, high quality green/open spaces which are linked to the wider countryside. Planning applications should demonstrate a range of types of green space, for example community forests, wetland areas and public parks. The space should be multi-functional, e.g. accessible for play and recreation, walking or cycling safely, and support wildlife, urban cooling and flood*

management. Particular attention should be given to land to allow the local production of food from community, allotment and/or commercial gardens”.

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) 2: Green Belts – this defines the role of green belts. The fundamental aim of green belt policy is to protect the countryside by preventing urban sprawl and encouraging sustainable patterns of urban development and the Green Infrastructure Strategy may help deliver these objectives.

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 5: Planning for the Historic Environment - this sets out the Government's planning policies on the conservation of the historic environment.

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas – this sets out the Government’s planning policies for rural areas. A key objective is to raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas through good quality, sustainable development that respects the local distinctiveness and the intrinsic qualities of the countryside.

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 9: Biological and Geological Conservation – this highlights the role that functioning ecosystems can have in promoting sustainable development and contributing to rural renewal and urban renaissance.

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 12: Local Spatial Planning – this highlights the importance of spatial planning in ensuring the necessary social, physical and Green Infrastructure is delivered. It defines GI as “*a network of multi-functional green space, both new and existing, both rural and urban, which supports the natural and ecological processes and is integral to the health and quality of life of sustainable communities*”.

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) 17: Open Space, Sport and Recreation – this highlights the requirement to undertake open space audits and strategies which can inform provision at both the strategic and local scale. PPG17 doesn’t mention Green Infrastructure specifically as the term ‘Green Infrastructure’ had not emerged when PPG17 was written.

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 25: Development and Flood Risk – this refers to making the most of the benefits of Green Infrastructure for flood storage, conveyance and sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) and re-creating functional flood plains and setting back flood defences.

Consultation paper on a new Planning Policy Statement: Planning for a Natural and Healthy Environment, 2010 - this draft PPS, which was subject to public consultation in March 2010, was intended to replace the existing content of PPS 7 in relation to landscape, PPS 9 and PPG 17. Significantly it includes a

requirement for Local Development Frameworks to “set out a strategic approach for the creation, protection and management of networks of green infrastructure”. It requires Local Planning Authorities to prepare and keep up-to-date an assessment of existing and future need of communities for both open space and green infrastructure. It also requires Local Development Frameworks to identify where new or improved links to rights of way should be provided for walkers, cyclists and horse riders and that existing rights of way should be protected and enhanced.

Consultation paper on a new Planning Policy Statement: Planning for a Low Carbon Future in a Changing Environment, 2010 - this Draft PPS sets out an expectation that green infrastructure provided as part of Local Development Frameworks will contribute to the objective of adapting to climate change by optimising its benefits urban cooling, local flood risk management and access to shady outdoor space.

Housing Growth and Green Infrastructure, Natural England, 2008 - this document sets out Natural England’s expectations for protecting the environment whilst accommodating future growth. It makes several references to Green Infrastructure including:

“The quality of much new housing is mediocre and needs to be substantially improved, both in terms of design quality and resource efficiency. The provision of multi-functional green infrastructure as an integral part of all new development can considerably enhance the quality of development and deliver a wide range of benefits for people and the natural environment.

We believe....That the provision of green infrastructure should be an integral part of the creation of sustainable communities throughout England.

We call...for Networks of multi-functional green infrastructure providing a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits to be identified in regional and local plans and designed into all major development and regeneration schemes from the outset”.

Climate Change Adaptation by Design – A Guide for Sustainable Communities, TCPA, 2007 - this document outlines the role of the planning system, communities and other Stakeholders in ensuring development considers adaptation options. Green Infrastructure is regarded as mechanism for managing climate change:

“Built environment professionals should aim for integration of water, open space and built form through green space and blue space strategies, developed as part of a masterplan. This should consider a number of climate risk management options (bearing in mind the potential conflicts between options and with GHG mitigation efforts), including:

- *High quality green space, made up of a linked network of well-irrigated open spaces that can be used by a range of people (a 'green grid'), which has additional ecological, recreational and flood storage benefits. Green infrastructure in urban areas includes open spaces, woodlands, street trees, fields, parks, outdoor sports facilities, community gardens, village greens, private gardens, and green or living roofs and walls. It will also be important to consider subsidence risk, availability of water, longer growing seasons and changing species suitability under climate change.*
- *Bluespace, such as open bodies of water, including rivers, lakes and urban canals”.*

The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy, DEFRA, 2005 - this report outlines the principles and priorities for helping to deliver a better quality of life through sustainable development. Although there is no specific reference to Green Infrastructure, central to the Sustainable Development Strategy is the need to respond to the challenges of climate change, protect natural resources and enhance the environment. Furthermore it highlights the importance of green space and biodiversity networks to standard of living and quality of life.

Green Spaces, Better Places – Final Report of the Urban Green Spaces Taskforce, Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions, 2005 – whilst this report does not refer to green infrastructure, it identifies the importance of urban parks and green spaces in “*regenerating towns and cities, improving the health and wellbeing of local people and providing educational opportunities for children and communities*”.

The Countryside in and Around Towns: A vision for connecting town and country in the pursuit of sustainable development, Groundwork and the Countryside Agency, 2005 - this document sets out the (former) Countryside Agency and Groundwork’s vision for the countryside in and around towns, and how these can be used to produce “*truly sustainable, multi-functional landscapes that are visually pleasing, environmentally vibrant, functionally productive and socially useful and accessible*” including

- bridge to the countryside;
- gateway to the town;
- classroom;
- recycling and renewable energy centre; and
- engine for regeneration.

Biodiversity by Design - A Guide for Sustainable Communities, TCPA, 2004 - this provides guidance on how to maximise the opportunities for biodiversity in the planning and design process through the provision of Green Infrastructure stating that “*Green Infrastructure is defined as the Sub-regional network of protected sites, nature reserves, green spaces and greenway linkages. Green Infrastructure should provide (where possible) multi-functional uses, i.e., wildlife,*

recreational and cultural experience, as well as delivering ecological services, such as flood protection and microclimate control. It should also operate at all spatial scales from urban centres through to open countryside". The First Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy adopted this definition.

Regional Strategies, Guidance and Studies

The Regional Social Strategy: A strategy to achieve a fair and inclusive society in the East of England, EERA, ODPM and EEDA, 2007 – this sets out a vision and actions for achieving a fair and inclusive society for the East of England. Although it does not specifically mention Green Infrastructure, the report highlights the importance of the physical environment to an individual's health and sense of well-being.

Our environment, our future: The Regional Environment Strategy for the East of England, ERRA and EEEF, 2003 – this provides a summary of the current state of the environment, a description of the environmental challenges facing the region and a series of aims for responding these challenges. There is no specific reference to Green Infrastructure, however, the delivery and implementation of a Green Infrastructure Strategy will help deliver the following aims:

- Policy SA1: Accommodate population and economic growth whilst protecting and enhancing the environment;
- SA4: Reducing the vulnerability to the region to climate change;
- SA8: Promote the environmental economy;
- SA10: Maintain and enhance landscape and townscape character;
- SA11: Enhance biodiversity;
- SA12: Conserve and enhance the historic environment; and
- SA14: Increase the understanding and ownership of environmental issues.

Woodland for life: The Regional Woodland Strategy for the East of England, EERA and the Forestry Commission, 2003 – this provides a vision for the woodland in the East of England and sets out the benefits that trees and woodlands bring to the people who live and work in the region. The benefits of woodlands are discussed under key themes, including quality of life, spatial planning, economic development, renewable energy, education and learning and natural environment.

East of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy The Revision to the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the East of England, Go-East, 2008 – The Coalition Government moved swiftly to revoke RSSs including the East of England Plan in 2010, although they remain part of the Development Plan following a successful high court challenge.. However it is important to note that the Coalition Government remains committed to housing targets being set at the local level as part of which to RSSs will be repealed through the forthcoming Localism Bill which was published in draft in December 2010. The East of England Plan (the Regional Spatial Strategy), set the this context for the level of

housing proposed for Cambridgeshire Development Plans and which has been taken account of as part of this Green Infrastructure Strategy.

The RSS (2008) set out the intention that Cambridgeshire should provide at least 73,300 net additional dwellings over the plan period (2001-2021). The county figure was distributed across the five districts, with the scale of planned growth greatest in South Cambridgeshire (+23,500) and least in East Cambridgeshire (+8,600). The figure for Cambridgeshire as a whole was just under 15% of the regional total.

The RSS also provided a jobs growth target for the county: an increment of 75,000 jobs by 2021. The regional target was for 452,000 additional jobs and hence the intention was that Cambridgeshire should contribute around 17% of the total. In the published RSS, the jobs target was not apportioned between districts; however it was linked into the Employment Land Reviews prepared by each Cambridgeshire district.

County Policies and Studies

Joint Statement on the Development Strategy for Cambridgeshire, 2010 – A Joint Interim Planning Statement has been adopted by the Cambridgeshire authorities. This sets out the authorities' position following the Government's stated intention to abolish Regional Strategies and the effects of the recession on the delivery of key development sites.

The Cambridgeshire authorities remain committed to the strategy for planning in the County, including the provision of housing, as originally established by the Structure Plan and as now partially set out in saved Structure Plan policies and as reflected by the policies and site proposals in the Cambridge Local Plan and District Councils' Development Plan Documents and developing strategies for market towns.

The key objective of the strategy is to locate homes in and close to Cambridge, following a comprehensive review of the Cambridge Green Belt, and to other main centres of employment, while avoiding dispersed development which increases unsustainable travel and makes access to services and community facilities difficult. Further sustainable locations for growth focus mainly on Cambridgeshire's market towns.

This strategy makes provision for development:

- *Within Cambridge or as sustainable extensions to the urban area, subject to environmental capacity and compatibility with Green Belt objectives.*
- *at the new town of Northstowe, linked to the guided Busway;*

- *within, or as sustainable extensions to, the market towns of Wisbech, March, Ely, Huntingdon and St Neots, subject to the potential for regeneration and the provision of essential infrastructure and public transport improvements¹; and*
- *within, or as extensions to, other market towns, where development would increase the towns' sustainability and self-containment, improvements to infrastructure and services are planned or will be provided and high quality public transport provision can reduce the impacts of out-commuting.*

The Cambridgeshire Development Study, SQW Consulting, WSP, Pegasus Planning Group and Cambridge Econometrics, 2009 – this was commissioned on behalf of the Cambridgeshire local authorities to consider sustainable growth in Cambridgeshire and formulate an appropriate consultation response to The East of England Plan 2031. The study states that whilst there is potential for new growth, there is concern as to whether the county can accommodate growth beyond that already allocated in the Regional Spatial Strategy. Reference is made to the need for additional green infrastructure for all of the Growth Scenarios which were considered as part of the Study.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Structure Plan 2003: Planning for Success, Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, 2003 - after the approval of the East of England Plan in May 2008 all but 13 of the policies in the Plan have been superseded. Those policies of relevance to the Green Infrastructure Strategy include:

- P4/4 Water Based Recreation
- P9/2b Review of Green Belt Boundaries
- P9/2c Location and Phasing of Development Land to be released from the Green Belt
- P9/8 Infrastructure Provision

The Green Infrastructure Strategy will support the development agenda for Cambridgeshire, both within and outside the green belt, by providing sufficient infrastructure to contribute to the needs of the county's residents.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Local Plan, Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, 2003 and Cambridgeshire Aggregates (Minerals) Local Plan, Cambridgeshire County Council, 1991

The County Council's mineral and waste local plans do not refer to Green Infrastructure, however, both plans contain policies which seek to protect landscape, biodiversity, heritage assets through restoration and after-care. Policy CALP17 of the Aggregates (Minerals) Local Plan has been used to secure the provision of significant amounts of green infrastructure as part of the

¹ Huntingdon and St Neots in this policy refers to the Spatial Planning Areas as defined in the adopted Huntingdonshire Core Strategy

restoration proposals for mineral workings where there has been clear community benefits e.g. Needingworth quarry.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework- Submission, February 2010 Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council have consulted on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Submission Plan together with a number of Supplementary Planning Documents. Policy CS1 – Strategic Objectives for Sustainable Minerals Development states that a strategic objective of the Core Strategy is *“to maximise community and biodiversity benefits including additional green infrastructure through appropriate afteruses following mineral extraction, particularly in the Earith/Mepal area”*

Furthermore, Policy CS27 – Restoration and After Care of Workings set out the criteria against which restoration proposals will be assessed. It states that restoration proposals will be considered on a case-by-case basis but *“schemes must reflect the strategic and local objectives for countryside enhancement and green infrastructure including those set out in Local Development Frameworks and the Green Infrastructure Strategies for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough”*.

Policy CS3, mineral extraction followed by appropriate restoration is regarded as offering opportunities to create water bodies, thereby managing flood risk and providing formal recreational opportunities. It is also proposed to create a significant amount of new lowland wet grassland through restoration using inert waste and peat soils.

The draft Block Fen/Langwood Fen Master Plan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) published in February 2010 sets out the long-term vision for the Block Fen and establishes the use of the site for extraction, disposal and after-use.

The Refresh of Cambridgeshire’s Programme of Development for Housing Growth Funding (2009 – 2011) *“sets out the shared goals of Cambridgeshire’s local authorities, Cambridgeshire Horizons and key Stakeholders to deliver our housing targets whilst ensuring new development meets the highest standard of quality and minimises carbon impacts”*. It describes in detail the major areas of development in Cambridgeshire which are allocated in the Local Authorities Statutory Plans, the projects needed to help deliver new homes and how these will be funded. It also identifies the strategic projects that have sub-regional significance, including transport, sport facilities and Green Infrastructure. Major developments identified by the POD include:

- Northstowe;
- Cambridge Southern Fringe;
- Cambridge North West;
- Cambridge East; and
- Cambridge Northern Fringe East.

Integrated Plan: Creating communities where people want to live and work, now and in the future, Cambridgeshire County Council, 2009 – this sets out the county council's commitment to provide high quality and cost effective public services that reflect the needs of the people of Cambridgeshire. Although there is no specific reference to Green Infrastructure, relevant policies include:

- Creating healthy and attractive surroundings for communities;
- Improving access to services by public transport, walking and cycling; and
- Developing ways of helping people to stay healthy and active.

Cambridgeshire Quality Charter for Growth, Cambridgeshire Horizons, 2008 – this sets out principles for achieving high quality housing growth under four broad themes; community, connectivity, climate and character. The role of Green Infrastructure in achieving high quality growth is highlighted by the following principles:

- There should be a mixture of formal and informal green space, and interconnectivity between new and existing GI;
- New developments should contribute to the wider environmental goals for the Cambridge area and enhance the feasibility of walking and cycling;
- Biodiversity and wildlife should be encouraged through a network of green spaces and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS); and
- The creation of good landscapes is as important as the creation of good townscapes. Different kinds of spaces should be provided to give character to the neighbourhoods and improve biodiversity.

Cambridgeshire Vision: Countywide Sustainable Community Strategy 2007 – 2021, Cambridgeshire Together, 2007 – this sets out the collective vision and priorities of partner organisations to ensure that public services meet the needs of the people of Cambridgeshire. It focuses on 5 key themes; growth, economic prosperity, environmental sustainability, equality and inclusion and safer and stronger communities. Although there is no specific reference to Green Infrastructure, the Cambridgeshire Vision states that new development needs “*to provide infrastructure that encourages physical activity such as walking and cycling and environments that support social networks, which have a positive effect on mental and physical health*”.

The ***Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2008-2011*** is the three year delivery plan for the Cambridgeshire Vision described above. The LAA establishes county-wide priority areas and targets, using indicators from the national indicator set. Those of relevance to Green Infrastructure include:

- NI 5 – Overall/general satisfaction with the local area;
- NI 188 – Adapting to climate change; and
- NI 197 – Improved local biodiversity.

Cambridgeshire Corporate Asset Plan 2006 – 2011, Cambridgeshire County Council, 2006 The county council's property portfolio consist of over 600 assets

varying from schools to farm estates, and the Corporate Asset Management Plan is aimed at ensuring efficient, effective and sustainable use of land and buildings. As a major land owner, the county council has the ability to influence the provision of Green Infrastructure. Indeed, the strategic objective 'Building Cambridgeshire Communities' seeks to:

- *“Conserve and enhance Cambridgeshire’s landscape and biodiversity;*
- *Develop a Rights of Way improvement plan; and*
- *Increase access to green space, the countryside and rights of way”.*

Local Planning Policy

Infrastructure planning and provision

Green Infrastructure together with a range of requirements for additional infrastructure and community facilities is referred to in a number of adopted and emerging Cambridgeshire Development Plan Documents and developer contributions will be required for implementation. For example:

- Policy S4 (Developer Contributions) and relevant supporting text of the adopted East Cambridgeshire Core Strategy.
- Policy CS10 (Contributions to infrastructure requirements) of the adopted Huntingdonshire Core Strategy and policy D7 (Green Space, Play and Sport Facilities Contributions) of the Development Management Policies Proposed Submission 2010
- Policy DP/4 (Infrastructure and New Developments) and relevant supporting text of the South Cambridgeshire District Council Development Control policies – adopted July 2007

Cambridge

Cambridge Local Plan, Adopted 2006 - under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Cambridge City Council is required to replace the Cambridge Local Plan 2006 with a Local Development Framework (LDF), and work is progressing in this respect. However, until the documents comprising the LDF are prepared and their policies come into force, the Act makes provision for Councils to retain their Local Plan policies by application to the Secretary of State. Cambridge City Council has made this application and a number of policies remain in force. There are no policies relating directly to Green Infrastructure, however a number relate to the protection and enhancement of character, open space and nature conservation. These include:

- Policy 3/2 Setting of the City
- Policy 3/3 Safeguarding Environmental Character
- Policy 3/8 Open Space and Recreation Provision Through New Development
- Policy 4/2 Protection of Open Space
- Policy 4/3 Safeguarding Features of Amenity or Nature Conservation Value

- Policy 4/6 Protection of Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance

Cambridge City Core Strategy - Issues & Options 2007 - Cambridge City Council has consulted on their Core Strategy Issues and options and are currently preparing the informal Preferred Options Report. They are also in the process of reviewing the City's Open Space and Recreation Strategy. This work will form part of the evidence base for the development of the Council's Development Plan Documents, and may inform the implementation and delivery of the GI Strategy at the district level. The proposed vision for Cambridge is a city that:

- respects its environmental limits and adapts to the challenges of climate change;
- is successful, combining a high level of prosperity with socially mixed, healthy, safe and inclusive communities;
- is attractive, with a high quality natural and built environment;
- is compact, with a thriving historic city centre and a framework of attractive green spaces;
- excels as a world leader in higher education, research and the knowledge-based economy; and
- Functions as the heart of the Sub-region meeting the service and recreational needs of the city and surrounding area.

In relation to the landscape structure, the Core Strategy seeks to enhance and protect Cambridge's landscape setting, including:

- the network of central parks and commons;
- the river valley and green corridors that penetrate the city;
- the open countryside close to the historic city centre to the south and west, and
- The landscape setting of the city.

North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, Adopted 2009 - Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council have jointly prepared the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, which seeks to create a new University quarter. Policy NW1 describes the vision for this area. Policies relevant to the Green Infrastructure Strategy include:

- NW4 Site and Setting, which seeks to create a high quality built edge to the urban area and provide an appropriate setting to Cambridge;
- NW23 Open Space and Recreation Provision, which seeks to provide open space and links to the countryside;
- NW29 Strategic Landscaping, which seeks to encourage appropriate planting, including woodland, trees and hedgerows; and
- NW31 Infrastructure, which seeks to create appropriate physical and social infrastructure, including open space and provision for pedestrians and cyclists.

Cambridge East Area Action Plan, Adopted 2008 - Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council have jointly prepared the Cambridge

East Area Action Plan, which identifies the site for a sustainable new urban quarter of approximately 10,000 to 12,000 dwellings. Policy CE/1 describes the vision for Cambridge East. In relation to Green Infrastructure, Policy CE/4 the Setting of Cambridge East describes the creation of a 'green corridor':

"A green corridor will be retained through the new urban quarter connecting the green spaces of Cambridge to the surrounding countryside, linking from Coldham's Common to a new country park located to the east of Airport Way and south of Newmarket Road, and also to the National Trust's Wicken Fen Vision. The green corridor will have width of about 300m, and be significantly narrower only where particular justification is provided and the green corridor function is not inhibited. It will open up to a greater width at the Teversham end of the corridor, where an informal countryside character will be provided to help to maintain the individual identity of the village.

It will have landscaping and biodiversity value and also perform a recreational function for both informal recreation and children's play.

The green corridor will have a high degree of public access compatible with its function in serving the needs of the development and the uses of Green Belt land.

Road, public transport, footpath, cycleway and bridleway crossings across the green corridor will be well designed to limit any safety implications and be low key in character or designed as a landscape feature in order to limit adverse effects on the landscape. This may involve the use of cuttings, bridges across water features and tunnelling. Any roads crossing the green corridor must be in a north-south direction only".

In addition, CE/21 Countryside Recreation seeks to create a new country park on land north of Teversham and create links with new and existing rights of way. Other policies of relevance include:

- CE/14 Landscaping within Cambridge East, which seeks to create a series of green fingers will be created into and through the urban area, which will offer landscape and biodiversity value as well as recreational use;
- CE/15 Linking Cambridge East to its Surroundings, which seeks to link the landscape areas and green fingers within Cambridge East to the green areas on the periphery of the urban quarter and the wider countryside to create a comprehensive green network; and
- CE/17 Existing Biodiversity Features, which seeks to retain existing features, whilst creating new assets with proposed green fingers and the county park (see above);
- CE/19 Built Heritage, which seeks to identify which buildings and structures should be retained for their heritage value, and establish the extent and character of their settings;

- CE/20 Public Open Space and Sports Provision, which seeks to ensure there is adequate open space to enable residents lead a healthy lifestyle; and
- CE/33 Infrastructure Provision, which seeks contributions to necessary infrastructure, including open space, landscaping and biodiversity.

Southern Fringe Area Development Framework, Approved 2006 Cambridge City Council has prepared the 'Southern Fringe Area Development Framework', a non-statutory planning guidance which will help to direct future development. While there is no specific reference to Green Infrastructure, the plan proposes to retain and enhance the strategic green corridor adjacent to the London to Cambridge railway line.

East Cambridgeshire

East Cambridgeshire Core Strategy, Adopted 2009 The vision for East Cambridgeshire is, by 2025, to have *“retained its distinct identity as a predominantly rural area of villages and market towns whilst accommodating the development of new homes and jobs required as part of being a major growth area. The district will have taken advantage of the economic vitality of the Cambridge sub-region, and have a diverse and thriving economy, with vibrant and attractive towns and villages which act as employment and service centres for their surrounding rural areas. More residents will have a high quality of life, with increased access to affordable housing, a wider range of local better skilled jobs, and good quality services and facilities”*.

In relation to Green Infrastructure, Policy CS6 seeks to protect and enhance the natural and built environment, and the local distinctiveness of the district. The policy refers to Strategic Areas of Green Space Enhancement, where it will be particularly important to improve biodiversity and landscape value. These areas reflect the target areas for habitat creation in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Structure Plan (2003) and the priority areas for strategic Green Infrastructure creation identified in the First Green Infrastructure Strategy (2006).

Policy CS7: Infrastructure sets out key requirements for infrastructure and community services. This includes the provision of a Country Park in Ely and public realm enhancements in the Market Towns.

Policy CS8: Access describes the need to improve accessibility for the whole community and reduce the need to travel by car. This includes the creation of attractive environments which are accessible and provide opportunities for cycling and walking.

Ely Masterplan: Devising a City for Everyone, Adopted February 2010 This refers to development of recreational and biodiversity linkages from Ely to the wider rural area as part the establishment of a 'joined up' Green Infrastructure network. Including the phased development of a Country Park to serve Ely and

implementation of the Green Corridors identified in the First Green infrastructure Strategy.

Soham Masterplan Vision: Reshaping Soham a 21st Century Market Town, Adopted May 2010 – this refers to the establishment of a Green Infrastructure network for Soham that supports existing green corridors and provide additional local corridors which extend throughout Soham and connect to the ‘Wicken – Chippenham’ and ‘River Lark’ Green Infrastructure Corridors.

Draft Littleport Masterplan, January 2011 – this refers to the creation of additional ‘green fingers’ and new and improved green spaces within Littleport to provide improved access to the countryside and an integrated network of green spaces.

Fenland

Fenland District Local Plan, Adopted 1993 The majority of policies in this local plan are saved until they are replaced by policies in forthcoming Development Plan Documents. Although there is no reference to Green Infrastructure, the plan seeks to conserve and enhance the character and quality of the unique Fen countryside, including important landscape, wildlife and heritage features.

Fenland District Core Strategy and Development Policies, Preferred Options 2, 2007 The vision for Fenland is a “*district where there is a high quality of life for all, now and in the future and that Fenland is known as a great place to live, work, learn and visit*”. This will be achieved by, among other actions, securing significant infrastructure provision in association with major development proposals and ensuring that growth and development does not compromise the natural and built environment or the quality and character of the Fens.

In relation to Green Infrastructure, the Core Strategy states that Fenland district has no strategic areas of public open space, and country parks should be promoted for March, Chatteris and Wisbech. In addition, there are aspirations to enhance and extend the existing network of rights of way, including the consideration of gaps in the network, and protect and enhance landscape character and biodiversity value.

Huntingdonshire

Huntingdonshire Core Strategy Adopted 2009 The Spatial vision for Huntingdonshire states: “*In 2026 Huntingdonshire will have retained its distinct identity as a predominantly rural area with vibrant villages and market towns. Residents will be happier, healthier and more active and will enjoy an improved quality of life with improved access to a wider range of local jobs, housing, high quality services and facilities and green infrastructure*”. Policy CS9 specifically

relates to Green Infrastructure stating that the Council will actively support Green Infrastructure projects which demonstrate increased access for quiet recreation and increased provision for biodiversity. Areas of Strategic Green Space Enhancement are identified as follows:

- The Great Fen area with links to the Peterborough Green Parks, Ramsey and Huntingdon;
- The Grafham Water / Brampton Woodlands area with links to Huntingdon and St Neots; and
- The Great Ouse Valley area with links between St Neots and Earith.

The policy continues to say that *“within these areas and along the corridors coordinated action will be taken via consultation with statutory and other agencies to:*

- *safeguard existing and potential sites of nature conservation value, including ancient woodlands and historic landscape features;*
- *create new wildlife habitats to increase biodiversity;*
- *contribute to diversification of the local economy and tourist development through enhancement of existing and provision of new facilities;*
- *create appropriate access for a wide range of users to enjoy the countryside; and*
- *Contribute where possible to enhanced flood protection.*

It is particularly important that resources are concentrated in these areas in the early part of the plan period in order to create opportunities for additional outdoor recreation facilities for the growth in population expected and the early creation of new green corridors.

In the longer term the enhancement of the following green corridors will provide additional corridors and connections with key areas across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and enhancement of a coherent network:

- *Grafham Water area with the Great Fen Project area;*
- *The Great Fen project area with the Hanson RSBP Wetland Project and South Peterborough Green Park;*
- *The Great Ouse and the East of St Neots area with the proposed Forest of South Cambridgeshire”. (Now known as the West Cambridgeshire Hundreds)*

Huntingdonshire Development Management Policies: Proposed Submission, 2010_three proposed policies have specific significance for Green Infrastructure:

E1 Development Context

E6 Great Fen and E7 Protection of Open Space

Huntingdon West Area Action Plan, Proposed Submission 2009 (as amended by Schedule of Changes 2010) the vision states that *“it is intended that by 2026 Huntingdon West will be a vibrant quarter of the town, enjoyed by residents, workers and visitors. Huntingdon West will have a distinctive identity*

with a series of innovative exemplar development that interconnect providing a transformed community with opportunities for living, working and leisure”.

“Hinchingsbrooke Country Park will be enhanced and enlarged to provide a major community and recreational and biodiversity resource and this together with other green space, including Views Common, will link Huntingdon West to strategic open space around the town and strengthen the habitat network for wildlife”.

In relation to Green Infrastructure one of the objectives of the AAP seeks to *“facilitate healthy and active lifestyles by contributing to a network of improved and new high quality green spaces which link to strategic green spaces and routes around the area, including an improved Hinchingsbrooke Country Park and View Common”.*

Huntingdonshire Local Plan, Adopted 1995 The majority of policies in the local plan are saved until they are replaced by policies in forthcoming Development Plan Documents. Some of the policies have been superseded by the Huntingdonshire Local Plan Alteration (Adopted 2002), however, none of these of these directly relate to the provision of Green Infrastructure.

Relevant saved policies in the local plan include R13, supporting the provision of facilities for informal countryside recreation, particularly the promotion of Grafham Water as a major destination; and R15, improving access to the countryside. The environment chapter further affords protection to the countryside, with policies to conserve and enhance features of amenity, landscape, wildlife, archaeological and historic importance.

South Cambridgeshire

South Cambridgeshire Core Strategy - Adopted 2007 – this set out the vision and over-arching policies for South Cambridgeshire. It states:

“The vision for South Cambridgeshire is that it will contribute to satisfying the development needs of the Cambridge Sub-Region rather than those generated by pressures to the south, or elsewhere, while preserving and enhancing its rich built and natural heritage and distinctive character. The district will plan for enhanced infrastructure to meet the needs of the expanded population. It will continue to provide an attractive rural hinterland and setting for the historic city of Cambridge. Those parts closer to Cambridge will be protected by a Green Belt. It will prosper in its own right as a rural district that makes up the largest part of the Cambridge Sub-Region. It will continue to develop as part of the home of the largest cluster of research and development activity in Europe whilst maintaining and where possible improving the character, environment, economy and social fabric of its villages and countryside”.

With regard to the Green Infrastructure Policy ST/1 Green Belt states that regard should be given to the special character of Cambridge and its setting, including,

- A soft green edge to the city;
- Green corridors penetrating into the city; and
- A landscape which retains a strong rural character.

Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document - Adopted 2009 – this expands on district-wide policies, ensuring that biodiversity is adequately protected and enhanced throughout the development process.

In relation to Green Infrastructure, the SPD identifies the role of Green Infrastructure in contributing to the network of wildlife corridors. The SPD also identifies 'Countryside Enhancement Areas' where significant projects, such as the West Cambridgeshire Hundreds Project, "*will provide significant areas of land for both people and biodiversity, thus meeting the aim of green infrastructure provision*".

North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, Adopted 2009 and Cambridge East Area Action Plan, Adopted 2008 - this joint plan is covered above under Cambridge City.

Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan - Adopted 2008 Policy CSF/1 describes the vision for the Cambridge Southern Fringe:

"Cambridge Southern Fringe will be a modern, high quality, vibrant, innovative and distinctive urban extension of Trumpington, which will complement and enhance the character of the city. Development will secure a Countryside Enhancement Strategy comprising landscape, biodiversity and public access enhancements in the surrounding countryside, which will complement the existing landscape character of the area and protect and enhance the setting of Cambridge.

As with the aspirations for Cambridge East, the AAP seeks to create a series of green fingers, which link the urban area and the wider countryside, providing a range of landscape, biodiversity and recreational benefits. Furthermore, Policy CSF/5 describes the components for a Countryside Enhancement Strategy, which includes the "creation of a country park, comprising new meadow grassland, to the east of the River Cam, both north and south of the M11, from Grantchester Road to Hauxton Mill".

Policy CSF/5 specifies the details of the 'Countryside Enhancement Strategy', which will comprise the creation of a country park, new footpaths, cycle paths and bridleways, and measures to protect and enhance wildlife habitats, including managing public access to the river banks.

Policy CFS/14 is also of relevance describing how the development will be linked to its surroundings. In relation to Green Infrastructure *“green fingers will be designed to connect to each other and to other green areas on the periphery of the urban extension including the green corridor along the River Cam, the country park and the wider countryside beyond to create a comprehensive green and landscaped network”*.

Northstowe Area Action Plan - Adopted 2007 Policy NS/1 describes the vision for Vision for Northstowe:

“Northstowe will be a sustainable and vibrant new community that is inclusive and diverse with its own distinctive local identity which is founded on best practice urban design principles, drawing on the traditions of fen-edge market towns, which encourages the high quality traditions and innovation that are characteristic of the Cambridge Sub-Region”.

In relation to Green Infrastructure, Policy NS/4 requires green separation between Northstowe and existing communities, containing playing fields, allotments and cemeteries with public access, and as described by Policy NS/ 14 and NS/15, a series of Green Corridors will be created into and through the urban area and will connect to the green areas on the periphery of the town and the wider countryside beyond.

Policy NS/13 sets out proposals for the Eastern Water Park, a landscaped water park designed to create a landscape buffer to the countryside, create wildlife habitats and attenuate surface water. In addition, Policy NS/17 sets out proposals for the Southern Parkland Country Park, a landscape between Northstowe and Oakington to provide a substantial resource of trees, grassland and other areas of semi-natural vegetation.

Policy NS/25 highlights the importance of strategic landscaping, and its role in the early establishment of woodland, tree and hedgerow planting, and to ensure the green separation of Oakington and Longstanton.

Land Use Data Area Calculations

The Cambridgeshire Land Use Analysis (LUA), completed in November 2010 is a comprehensive overview of land use types in the county. Statistical analysis of the data provides a guide to the various land use types across the county and the spatial coverage and extent of these uses. Table 4.3 gives some selected outputs from this analysis.

Table 4.3 Cambridgeshire Land Use Analysis output for selected land use categories

Land Use Category	Total Hectares	% of total area of land in Cambridgeshire
Agricultural Land	251,055	81.80
Urban and Built Development	36,934	12.03
Woodland	10,022	3.27
Semi Natural Habitat (Non-Woodland)	6,214	2.02
Minerals/Landfill	655	0.21
Unknown or Unclassified	2,023	0.66
County Total	306,904	100

4 What this baseline information tells us

Green Infrastructure, whether comprising formal or informal areas, is valued and planning policies seek to protect and enhance these.

In terms of population, Cambridgeshire is one of the fastest growing counties in England² with Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire the focus for housing growth. However, the attractiveness of the surrounding market towns and villages has led to strong housing demand in parts of East Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire.

The 2003 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Structure Plan sets out the approach to deliver development in and around existing settlements, particularly the larger ones. Large scale development is proposed in and on the edge of Cambridge at North West Cambridge, Cambridge Northern Fringe East, Cambridge Southern Fringe and Cambridge East. Details of these schemes are included in the corresponding Area Action Plans. Outside of the city of Cambridge, the main area of growth is at the new town of Northstowe, which adjoins Oakington and Longstanton, within South Cambridgeshire.

Elsewhere growth is targeted at market towns, and the key development areas are

- East Cambridgeshire – majority of housing growth to be located at Ely, Soham and Littleport.
- Fenland – growth directed to the larger towns of March and Wisbech, with some development at Chatteris and Whittlesey.
- Huntingdonshire – majority of housing growth to be located at Huntingdon, St Neots and St Ives.

Due to continued development in Cambridgeshire, there is a growing need for minerals which will generally be met through continued working/extensions of existing sites. Minerals and waste sites across the county provide opportunities for future Green Infrastructure provision in the long-term as part of restoration. Sites are generally located within central Cambridgeshire, with a number of sites around Huntingdon, St Ives and Chatteris.

² ARUP, Regional Scale Settlement Study, January 2009

5 Spatial analysis

Population Growth

Figure 4.3 details of population growth in Cambridgeshire between 2001 and 2021. This takes into account both natural population growth and growth that will result from new developments. As populations who will use Green Infrastructure will increase so Green Infrastructure will need to be improved or developed to meet this need and to protect valuable habitats and species from any detrimental impacts.

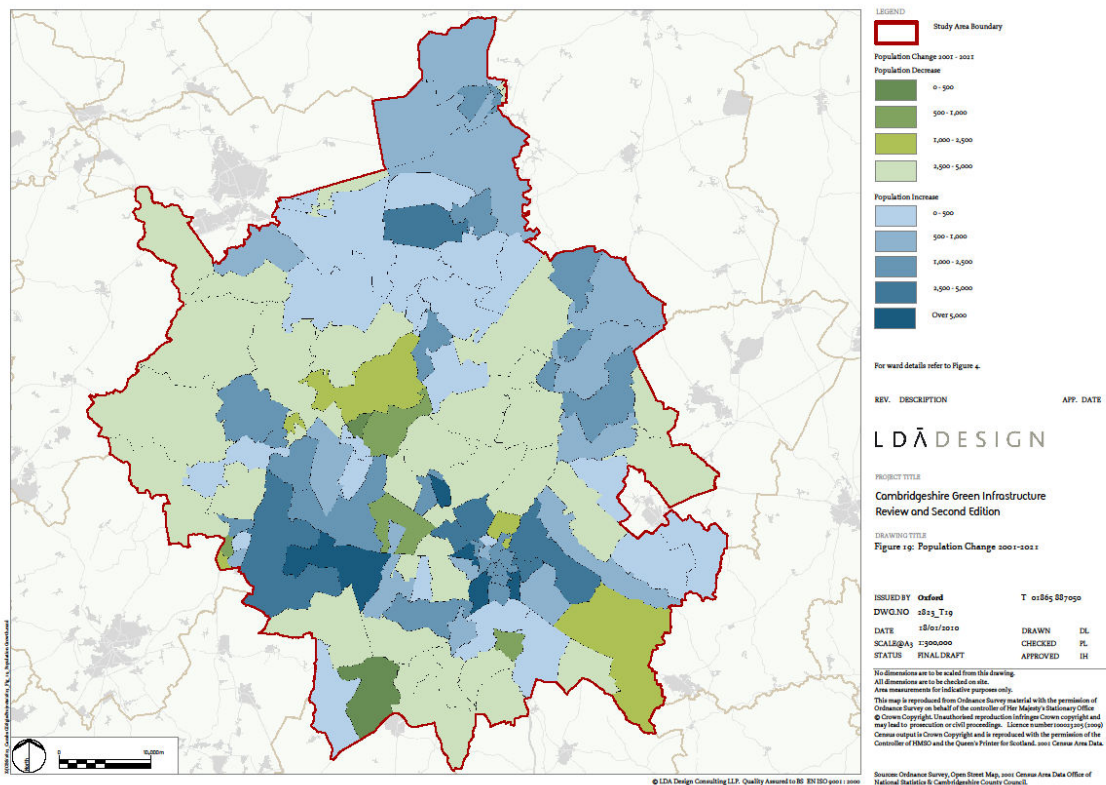


Figure 4.3 Population growth in Cambridgeshire 2001 – 2021.

Major Development Sites

Figure 4.4 details major development sites across Cambridgeshire of 100 dwellings or more, using data supplied by the Cambridgeshire County Council Research and Monitoring team around July 2010. Development sites are predominantly located around the fringes of Cambridge and the market towns, Cambourne and at the proposed new settlement of Northstowe. Development offers opportunities for providing new or improving existing Green Infrastructure for health, wellbeing and a range of other services, including flood alleviation and food production.

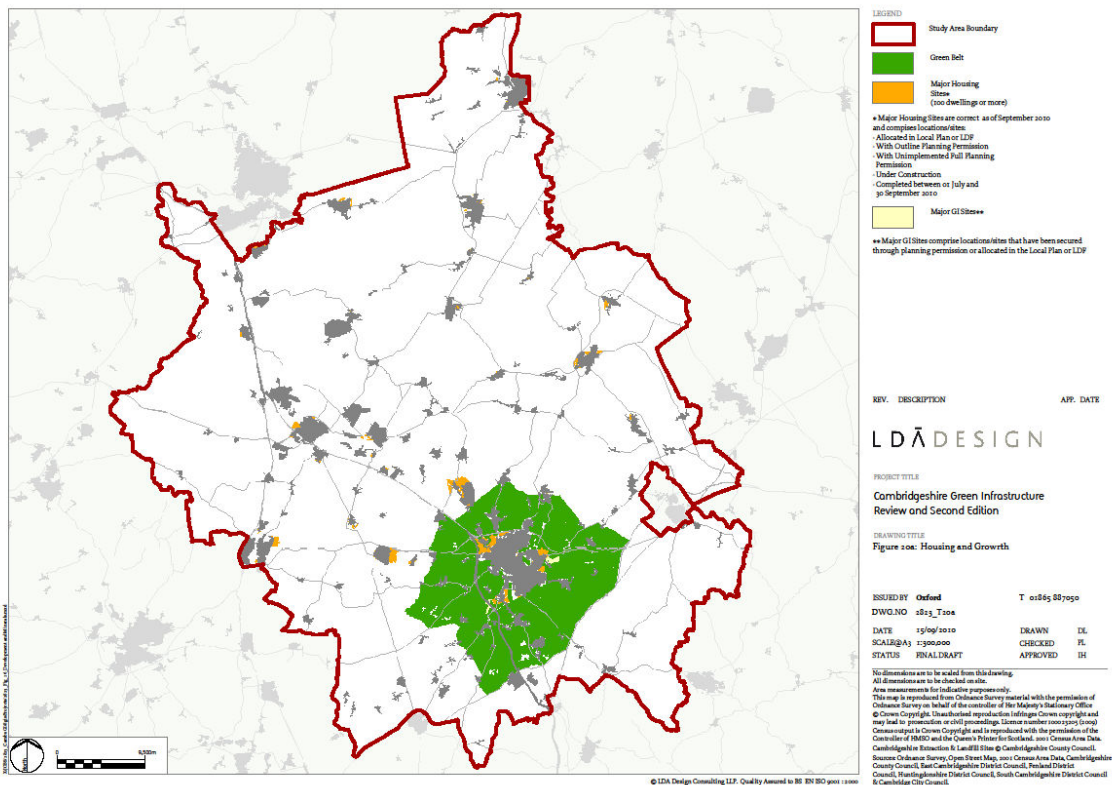


Figure 4.4 Major development sites across Cambridgeshire of 100 dwellings or more.

Note: This map is currently incorrect and will be replaced in the consultation version.

Major Development Sites – Cambridge Insert

Figure 4.5 provides more geographic detail on development sites around Cambridge and shows the boundary of the Cambridge Green Belt.

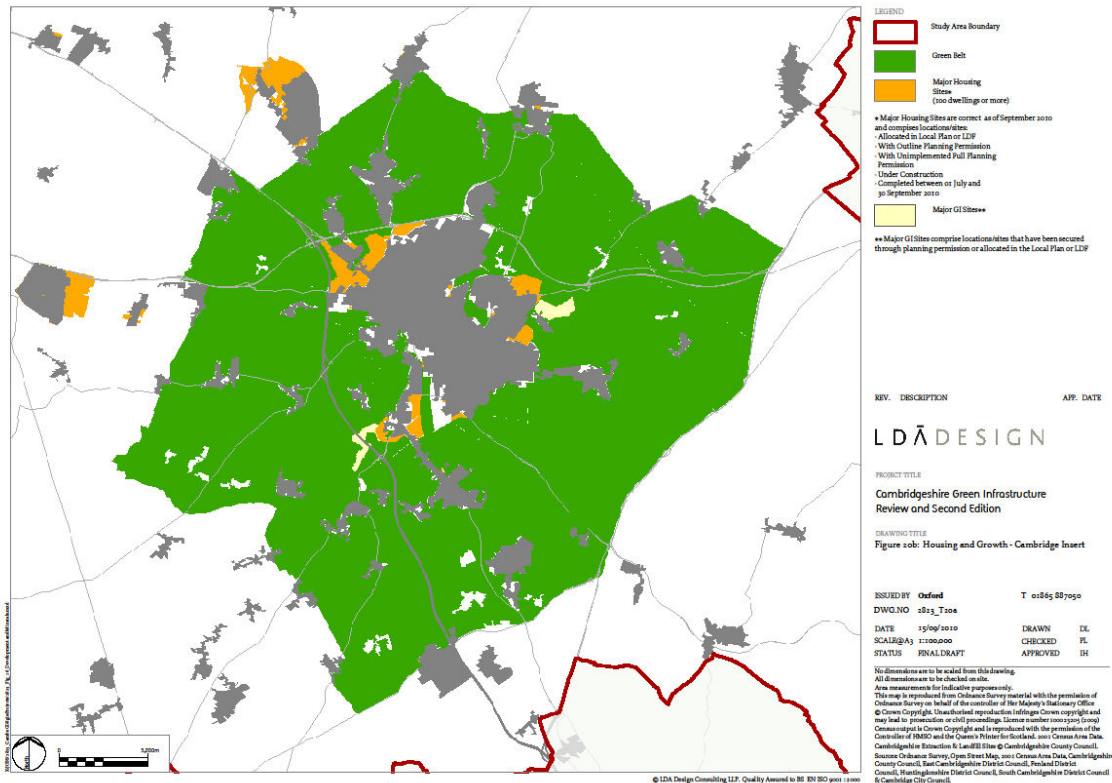


Figure 4.5 Major development sites of 100 dwellings or more around Cambridge.

Note: Map to be presented more clearly in consultation draft so that major green infrastructure sites can be clearly identified.

Minerals and Waste Sites

Figure 4.6 details mineral extraction sites and landfill sites in Cambridgeshire. Restoration of minerals and landfill sites can create valuable Green Infrastructure sites for local communities and wildlife and can provide opportunities for tourism.

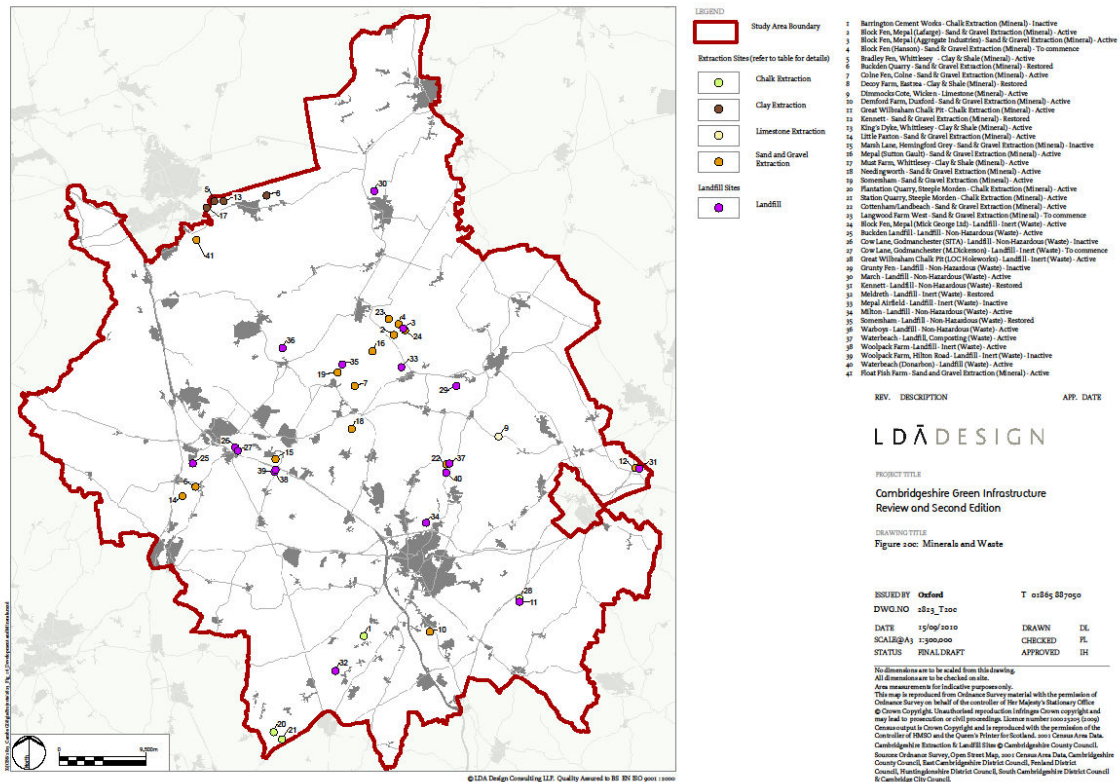


Figure 4.6 Mineral extraction sites and landfill sites in Cambridgeshire.

6 Issues and Opportunities

Existing Development

The GI Strategy presents an opportunity to enhance the quality and multi-functionality of urban green spaces and the interpretation and enjoyment of the heritage of settlements. In particular, parks and intensively managed areas such as cemeteries and sports pitches present a significant opportunity to enhance urban biodiversity habitat through revised management regimes. Opportunities for urban green spaces to have enhanced educational benefit also exist, possibly through low key interpretation covering cultural heritage and biodiversity themes. Any proposals should be coordinated with existing plans and policies, such as Conservation Area Appraisals and Biodiversity Action Plans.

GI has the potential to enhance rural-urban landscapes which are often under conflicting pressure for new development, provision of recreational assets and acting as an attractive setting for new and existing development.

The value of a park or green space within urban areas increases when it is connected to other similar assets in close proximity as part of a network. The GI Strategy should seek to identify opportunities for linking existing green spaces through a strategic network of pedestrian routes and streetscapes.

New development

New residential, mixed use and to some extent commercial or industrial development both increases demand on existing GI and presents opportunities for new provision, creating a sense of place, providing opportunities for recreation, establishing links to urban centres and the rural hinterland, and off-setting carbon emissions.

Some of the Green Infrastructure projects identified in this Strategy are being developed in response to growth. New development presents an opportunity for the provision of new Green Infrastructure. Coordination of development Masterplans in line with recommendations and guidance in the GI Strategy will ensure new GI can deliver maximum benefit through planning, design and management.

The GI Strategy has a role in the coordination and delivery of development Masterplans. This will be essential to ensure that development delivers maximum benefit across the full range of GI objectives, whether through on-site or off-site provision. For example, the provision of parks and open spaces to meet minimum standards set by local authorities, may benefit from being located alongside existing semi natural habitats such as woodland and river corridors to create a single large open space within the heart of new development. Green Infrastructure can also accommodate enhanced access networks and also provide the route for communications infrastructure, Sustainable Drainage

Systems and utilities, adding significantly to the multi-functionality of green spaces.

A deficiency of open space has been identified in a number of areas across Cambridgeshire. GI provision as part of development Masterplans can help increase the amount of accessible green space, for both existing and future residents, whilst also seeking to improve access to the rural hinterland.

The scale of development planned in the county in the Strategy period will inevitably result in the loss of, and mitigation for, some landscape and environmental features. It is also expected that some development proposals will, for various reasons, not be able to meet on-site all of the necessary obligations in terms of GI-related features, therefore requiring some form of off-site mitigation. The combination of these increasing demands for off-site mitigation may create the opportunity to encourage the supply of GI projects in appropriate locations across the county to meet demand.

The mechanism for 'habitat/environmental banking' is one way in which off-site mitigation can be achieved. The concept is common in parts of the USA, and is being explored in the UK context by DEFRA and Natural England under the title 'biodiversity off-setting'³. This mechanism seeks to encourage the supply of GI mitigation projects through a financial incentive. This financial contribution is provided by those developments required to mitigate their impact. Whilst it is not thought possible to replicate all of the legal and financial mechanisms used elsewhere, it may be possible to use existing means to bring about the same outcomes. This could be investigated further as the Strategy progresses and as both potential demand and supply are quantified and located.

Growth and Green Infrastructure Opportunities.

Enhance the quality and multi-functionality of urban green spaces.

Enhance rural-urban landscapes which are often under conflicting pressure.

Identify opportunities for linking existing green spaces through a strategic network of pedestrian routes and streetscapes.

New residential, mixed use and to some extent commercial or industrial development presents opportunities for new Green Infrastructure provision – creating a sense of place, providing opportunities for recreation, establishing links to urban centres and the rural hinterland, and off-setting carbon emissions.

Having a role in the coordination and delivery of development Masterplans - ensuring that developments deliver maximum benefit and multi-functionality

³ Defra, An introductory guide to valuing ecosystem services, 2007

across the full range of GI objectives, whether through on-site or off-site provision.

Increasing demands for off-site mitigation may create opportunities to encourage the supply of GI projects in appropriate locations across the county – including through the mechanism of ‘habitat/environmental banking’.

Minerals and Landfill

The extraction industry provides continuing economic and social benefits and post-extraction restoration provides opportunities for landscape enhancement, biodiversity enhancement and provision of access and recreation opportunities.

In particular many mineral extraction sites are located within river valleys where sand and gravel can be worked. Restoration of such sites has the opportunity to restore traditional riparian features, such as water meadows and ponds, and strengthen habitat connectivity. There is a strong precedent for restoration of former sand and gravel extraction sites for GI benefit throughout the county, and notably along the River Great Ouse.

Some mineral extraction sites are also located in agricultural landscapes, such as the Block Fen, near Chatteris. Restoration of such sites typically provides opportunities to create new water bodies, which can be used for habitat enhancement, water storage and recreation and leisure activities.

Waste management provides an opportunity to create new GI provision. The Forest Research group⁴, funded by the Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG), has completed a 10 year research project that shows restoring landfill sites by turning them into green space such as woodland, parkland or farmland is achievable.

Minerals and Landfill and Green Infrastructure Opportunities.

Opportunities exist around landscape enhancement, biodiversity enhancement and provision of access and recreation opportunities through restoration of Mineral extraction sites to Green Infrastructure.

Opportunities exist around restoring landfill sites into Green Infrastructure such as woodland, parkland or farmland.

⁴ <http://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/>