

Intended for

South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council

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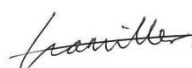
Project Number

UKP15-24929/1700000667

**SOUTH
CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND
CAMBRIDGE CITY
COUNCIL
CAMBRIDGE AND SOUTH
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
LOCAL PLANS:
SUSTAINABILITY
APPRAISAL OF MAIN
MODIFICATIONS**

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PLANS: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF MAIN
MODIFICATIONS**

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This Screening Report forms part of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) for the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan and the Cambridge Local Plan.

This Screening Report provides a screening of each of the Local Plan Main Modifications, to consider whether they would impact on the results of the SA, including on the likely significant cumulative effects of the Local Plan.

The South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge Local Plans have been subject to SA at each stage of their preparation. Please see the list of all reports below:

Table 1.1: Local Plan SA documents that have been produced by each council¹	
South Cambridgeshire District Council	Cambridge City Council
SA Scoping	
South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (South Cambridgeshire District Council, June 2010). (Ref: RD/Sub/SC/070)	Cambridge Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (URS Limited, June 2012) (Ref: RD/LP/210)
SA of Issues and Options 1	
South Cambridgeshire Local Plan: Initial Sustainability Appraisal Report (South Cambridgeshire District Council, July 2012) (Ref: RD/LP/040)	Cambridge Local Plan Interim SA of the Issues and Options Report (URS Limited, May 2012) (Ref: RD/LP/220)
SA of Issues and Options 2	
Issues and Options 2: Part 1 Interim Sustainability Appraisal, (includes SA of the Development Strategy and sites on the edge of Cambridge). Carried out by officers from Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council (January 2013) (Ref: RD/LP/160)	
Supplementary Initial Sustainability Appraisal Report (South Cambridgeshire District Council, January 2013) (Ref: RD/LP/050)	Interim SA Report 2. Issues and Options 2 Part 2 Site Options (URS Limited, January 2013) (Ref: RD/LP/280)
SA of Draft Local Plans	
South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Submission. SA report (ENVIRON, March 2014). (Ref: RD/Sub/SC/060)	Sustainability Appraisal of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 – Proposed Submission (URS Limited, July 2013) (Ref: RD/LP/290)
	Sustainability Appraisal of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014. Final Appraisal for Submission to the Secretary of State (March 2014) (Ref: RD/Sub/C/030 – Part 1 and RD/Sub/C/040 – Part 2).

¹ Reference numbers refer to the Local Plan Examination Reference Document Library referencing system. See <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/local-plan-review-reference-documents-library>

Table 1.1: Local Plan SA documents that have been produced by each council¹	
South Cambridgeshire District Council	Cambridge City Council
Further Joint Sustainability Appraisal of the Development Strategy. Carried out by officers from Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council and reviewed by independent consultants ENVIRON, contained within the report "Reviewing the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Cambridge Area (May 2013). (Ref: RD/LP/180)	
Sustainability Appraisal Addendum	
Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Report (November 2015) (Revised March 2016) (RD/MC/021) Non-technical Summary; Main Report; Annex 1 – Part 1; Annex 1 – Part 2; Annex 1 – Part 3; Annex 1 – Part 4; Annex 1 – Part 5; Annex 1 – Part 6; Annex 1 – Part 7; Annex 1 – Part 8; Annex 1 – Part 9; Annex 2	
Further Proposed Modifications SA screening	
Further Proposed Modifications SA screening (November 2016). (RD/FM/012)	Proposed Modifications to the Cambridge Local Plan – Sustainability Appraisal Screening (January 2017). (RD/CFM/020)

1.2 The Local Plan processes

The Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Local Plans will set out the planning framework to guide the future development of Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire to 2031. On adoption, the Cambridge Local Plan will replace the current Cambridge Local Plan 2006 and policies CE/3 and CE/35 of the Cambridge East Area Action Plan. On adoption, the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan will replace the South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy 2007, Development Control Policies 2007, Site Specific Policies DPD 2010, saved policy CNF6 from the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2004 and specific policies in the Cambridge East Area Action Plan and the Northstowe Area Action Plan.

The plans have been in development for a number of years and both have been subject to an assessment which complies with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the SEA Regulations (see Table 1.1 above for the various stages of assessment that have been carried out).

The Councils submitted their Local Plans for Examination in March 2014, along with accompanying Draft Final Sustainability Appraisal Reports. The Local Plans and their supporting documents are being examined by the independent Planning Inspectors. Given the close relationship between the two plans, key shared issues were considered by the Inspectors at joint hearings. This reflects the close joint working on the plans throughout, in conformity with the duty to cooperate and reflecting the close functional relationship between the tightly drawn city boundary and its rural surroundings.

Following the close of the Hearings, the Local Plan Inspectors have now asked that consultation be carried out on the Main Modifications they consider may be necessary in order for the Local Plans to be found 'sound', and that SA is carried out as necessary. The Main Modifications have been subject to SA screening and this process is explained in the remainder of this report.

The consultation does not include those Modifications that were the subject of formal consultation in 2015 in response to the Inspectors' preliminary findings. A Joint Sustainability Appraisal Addendum was produced in 2015 to accompany the Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire

Modifications Consultation Report November 2015 (and updated in 2016 following consultation). The Inspectors have already considered comments made to the consultation on the 2015 Modifications during the examination process, and are expected to address those 2015 Modifications, to the extent necessary, in their final report.

Further Sustainability Appraisal screenings were carried out on behalf each of the Councils in 2016 and 2017, to consider modifications being proposed by the Councils to the Examination. Where the modifications proposed have been included in the current Main Modifications, these have been included in the screening that forms part of this document.

The Main Modifications to the Local Plans will now be subject to consultation, accompanied by this SA report. The Councils invite responses to the SA report alongside Main Modifications proposed to the Local Plans. Representations will be reported to the Inspectors.

Once the plans are adopted the final stage of the SA process is the production of SA adoption statements for each plan. The SA adoption statements will need to be published in accordance with the SEA Regulations. The regulations state that as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Local Plan a statement should be produced and published setting out how environmental considerations and opinions expressed through consultation have been taken into account in the planning process.

The SEA Regulations set out the particulars that should be covered by the statement as follows:

- How environmental (sustainability) considerations have been integrated into the Local Plan;
- How the Environmental (SA) Report has been taken into account;
- How opinions expressed in response to consultation have been taken into account;
- The reasons for choosing the Local Plan as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and
- The measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental (sustainability) effects of the implementation of the Local Plan.

1.3 This report

This section of the report is Section 1: Introduction. This section sets out the purpose of this report and an introduction to the Local Plans and Sustainability Appraisal processes. The other sections of the report are as follows:

- Section 2: How the modifications are screened and assessed;
- Section 3: Screening and assessment results;
- Section 4: Cumulative effects assessment; and
- Section 5: Other assessments.

2. HOW THE MODIFICATIONS ARE SCREENED AND ASSESSED

2.1 Introduction

The SEA regulations do not require SA reports to be updated after Examination. However, Government Planning Practice Guidance states that it is up to the local planning authority to decide whether the SA report should be amended following proposed changes to an emerging plan.

If the local planning authority assesses that necessary changes are significant, and were not previously subject to sustainability appraisal, then further sustainability appraisal may be required and the sustainability appraisal report should be updated and amended accordingly ([Planning Practice Guidance](#) Paragraph: 023 Reference ID: 11-023-20140306).

2.2 Screening

A screening exercise has been undertaken of the Main Modifications to both plans identified in the 'Cambridge Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Main Modifications Consultation Report – January 2018', and updated conclusions drawn where necessary. Screening of the changes is shown in Appendix A. Appendix A contains two tables, one which sets out the proposed Main Modifications to the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan and one which sets out proposed Main Modifications to the Cambridge Local Plan.

Please note that both policies and supporting text have been screened. The screening of each of these modifications results in one of three results, as follows:

- The change is so minor that it is not likely to lead to different sustainability effects. In this case a standardised form of wording has been included in the screening table and the following (or a slight variation thereof) stated: *This is a minor change to supporting text which would not change the sustainability performance of the plan. **Screening conclusion: no change to the results of the SA.*** No further assessment is carried out in this case;
- The change is more significant and could potentially change the results of the SA. In these cases the latest SA results are reviewed to ensure that the modification will not change these conclusions. In these cases the main results of the latest SA are summarised. If the conclusion is drawn that the modification will not cause changes to the SA results the following is stated: *The modification could potentially cause changes to the results of the SA. Therefore, the results of the SA have been validated below. This policy was subject to SA and this is reported in ... A summary of this assessment is as follows ...The modification does not change these conclusions. **Screening conclusion: no change to the results of the SA.*** No further assessment is carried out in this case;
- However, if the conclusion is drawn that the more significant modification above will cause changes to the SA results the following is stated: *The modification could potentially cause changes to the results of the SA. Therefore, the results of the SA have been validated below. This policy was subject to SA and this is reported in ... A summary of this assessment is as follows... The modifications could cause changes to these results because of ...**Screening conclusion: Potential change to the results of the SA which requires re-assessment / reporting.*** In these cases the modifications are then re-assessed and this is reported in Section 3.2 of this report.

2.3 Policy assessment

Each modification to the plan that has required re-assessment has been assessed using methodologies consistent with earlier SA work. For assessment of modifications to policies, please refer to the following reports for confirmation of the full methodology used:

- For modifications to South Cambridgeshire policies, please refer to Section 2 of [South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Submission. SA report \(ENVIRON, March 2014\)](#). **(Ref: RD/Sub/SC/060)**; and
- For modifications to Cambridge policies, please refer to Section 4.6 of [Sustainability Appraisal of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014. Final Appraisal for Submission to the Secretary of State \(March 2014\)](#). **(Ref: RD/Sub/C/030 – Part 1 and RD/Sub/C/040 – Part 2)**.

However, a summary of the pertinent parts of the methodologies is described below.

2.3.1 South Cambridgeshire

Policy modifications have been assessed against the South Cambridgeshire SA framework which is shown in Table 2.2 (overleaf). Each policy assessment is shown in a matrix (table) and has been scored according to the following key (see Table 2.1 below).

Table 2.1: Assessment Key	
Symbol	Likely effect against the SA Objective
+++	Potentially significant beneficial impact, option supports the objective
+	Option supports this objective although it may have only a minor beneficial impact
0	Option has no impact or effect is neutral insofar as the benefits and drawbacks appear equal and neither is considered significant
?	Uncertain or insufficient information on which to determine the assessment at this stage
-	Option appears to conflict with the objective and may result in adverse impacts
---	Potentially significant adverse impact, conflict with the objective

2.3.2 Cambridge

Policy modifications have been assessed against the South Cambridgeshire SA framework which is shown in Table 2.3 (overleaf). Rather than assessing each policy individually in a table, the approach to assessment for Cambridge policies has been to assess the effects of the plan as a whole on each sustainability theme in a descriptive way, highlighting the policies that will have a particular effect. Significance scores are not given.

Table 2.2: South Cambridgeshire SA framework		
Themes	Sustainability objective	Decision making criteria
LAND	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land, economic mineral reserves, productive agricultural holdings, and the degradation / loss of soils	Will it use land that has been previously developed?
		Will it use land efficiently?
Will it protect and enhance the best and most versatile agricultural land?		
Will it avoid the sterilisation of economic mineral reserves? Will it minimise the degradation/loss of soils due to new development?		
	2. Minimise waste production and support the reuse and recycling of waste products	Will it encourage reduction in household waste, and increase waste recovery and recycling?
POLLUTION	3. Improve air quality and minimise or mitigate against sources of environmental pollution	Will it maintain or improve air quality?
		Will it minimise, and where possible improve on, unacceptable levels of noise, light pollution, odour and vibration?
		Will it minimise, and where possible address, land contamination?
		Will it protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment?
BIODIVERSITY	4. Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	Will it conserve protected species and protect sites designated for nature conservation interest, and geodiversity?
	5. Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	Will it reduce habitat fragmentation, enhance native species, and help deliver habitat restoration (helping to achieve Biodiversity Action Plan Targets)?
	6. Improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and green spaces	Will it improve access to wildlife and green spaces, through delivery and access to green infrastructure, or access to the countryside through public rights of way?

Table 2.2: South Cambridgeshire SA framework

Themes	Sustainability objective	Decision making criteria
LANDSCAPE, TOWNSCAPE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE	7. Maintain and enhance the diversity and local distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	Will it maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape character?
		Will it maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of townscape character?
	8. Avoid damage to areas and sites designated for their historic interest, and protect their settings.	Will it protect or enhance sites, features or areas of historical, archaeological, or cultural interest (including conservation areas, listed buildings, registered parks and gardens and scheduled monuments)?
	9. Create places, spaces and buildings that work well, wear well and look good	Will it lead to developments built to a high standard of design and good place making that reflects local character?
CLIMATE CHANGE	10. Minimise impacts on climate change (including greenhouse gas emissions)	Will it support the use of renewable energy resources?
		Will it promote energy efficiency?
		Will it minimise contributions to climate change through sustainable construction practices?
	11. Reduce vulnerability to future climate change effects	Will it use water in a sustainable manner, and enable and encourage high levels of water efficiency?
		Will it minimise risk to people and property from flooding, and incorporate sustainable drainage measures?
		Will it minimise the likely impacts on future development of climate change through appropriate adaptation?
HEALTH	12. Maintain and enhance human health	Will it promote good health, encourage healthy lifestyles, and reduce health inequalities?
	13. Reduce and prevent crime and reduce fear of crime	Will it reduce actual levels of crime, and will it reduce fear of crime?

Table 2.2: South Cambridgeshire SA framework		
Themes	Sustainability objective	Decision making criteria
	14. Improve the quantity and quality of publically accessible open space.	Will it increase the quantity and quality of publically accessible open space?
HOUSING	15. Ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	Will it support the provision of a range of quality housing of appropriate types and sizes, including affordable housing, to meet the identified needs of all sectors of the community?
		Will it result in quality homes for people within the district to live in?
		Will it provide for housing for the ageing population?
		Will it provide for the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople?
INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES	16. Redress inequalities related to age, disability, gender, race, faith, location and income	Will improve relations between people from different backgrounds or social groups?
		Will it redress all the sections of inequality included in the Council's Single Equality Scheme which are as follows - Age Disability Gender Reassignment Marriage and Civil Partnership Pregnancy and Maternity Race Religion or Belief Sex Sexual Orientation
		Will it redress rural isolation - rurality?
	17. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	Will it provide accessibility to key local services and facilities, including health, education and leisure (shops, post offices, pubs etc?)

Table 2.2: South Cambridgeshire SA framework		
Themes	Sustainability objective	Decision making criteria
		Will it improve quality and range of key local services and facilities including health, education and leisure (shops, post offices, pubs etc?)
	18. Encourage and enable the active involvement of local people in community activities	Will it increase the ability of people to influence decisions, including 'hard to reach' groups?
		Will it encourage engagement in community activities?
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy.	Will it support business development and enhance competitiveness, enabling provision of high-quality employment land in appropriate locations to meet the needs of businesses, and the workforce?
		Will it promote the industries that thrive in the district – the key sectors such as research and development /high tech/ Cambridge University related particularly through the development and expansion of clusters?
		Will it protect the shopping hierarchy, supporting the vitality and viability of Cambridge, town, district and local centres?
	20. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence	Will it contribute to providing a range of employment opportunities, in accessible locations?
		Will it encourage the rural economy and diversification, and support sustainable tourism?
	21. Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and other infrastructure	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services and infrastructure, including communications infrastructure and broadband?
Will it improve access to education and training, and support provision of skilled employees to the economy?		
TRANSPORT	22. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable transport choices.	Will it enable shorter journeys, improve modal choice and integration of transport modes to encourage or facilitate the use of modes such as walking, cycling and public transport?

Table 2.2: South Cambridgeshire SA framework

Themes	Sustainability objective	Decision making criteria
		Will it support movement of freight by means other than road?
	23. Secure appropriate investment and development in transport infrastructure, and ensure the safety of the transport network.	Will it provide safe access to the highway network, where there is available capacity?
		Will it make the transport network safer for all users, both motorised and non-motorised?

Table 2.3: Cambridge SA framework

Sustainability theme	Key sustainability issues. Will the Local Plan
Communities and well being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrest the trend in increased deprivation particularly within wards to the north and east of Cambridge; • improve the health and well-being of Cambridge residents and reduce inequalities in health particularly in the north and east of Cambridge; • reduce inequalities in the education achievement level of economically active adults and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in work; • capitalise on the ethnic diversity of the city and its contribution to vibrant and inclusive communities; • protect and enhance community, leisure and open space provision, particularly in wards anticipated to experience significant population growth including Trumpington, Castle and Abbey; • ensure the timely provision of primary and secondary education in the locations where it is needed; • increase delivery of affordable and intermediate housing, in particular one and two bedroom homes; • ensure that the design and size of new homes meets the needs of the existing and future population, including the elderly, disabled people and those in poor health; • improve air quality in and around Cambridge City Centre AQMA and along routes to the city including the A14.
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain and capitalise on Cambridge’s position as one of the UK’s most competitive cities; • address pockets of income and employment deprivation particularly in Abbey Ward and Kings Hedges; • capitalise on the value that language schools/specialist tutorial colleges contribute to the local economy, but balance this against the increased impact this may have on the housing market; • ensure provision of appropriate office space for small and growing high tech businesses and research sectors; • consider the need for high-tech headquarters and high-tech manufacturing; • consider whether and how to address the on-going loss of industrial floorspace; • encourage more sustainable growth of tourism which recognises the pressure that it places on the city’s transport infrastructure and accommodation need; • ensure the continued vitality and viability of the City Centre and safeguard the diversity of independent shops in areas such as along Mill Road; • protect local shopping provision in District and Local Centres which provide for people’s everyday needs; • ensure adequate convenience shopping in the north west of Cambridge.
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build on the high modal share of cycling in the City Centre and encourage cycling for journeys over one mile; • reduce the use of the private car and ensure greater access to frequent public transport;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> capitalise on the opportunity of new development to discourage private car use and promote the use of more sustainable forms of transport.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure development implement the highest standards of water efficiency and place no additional pressure on water scarcity in the region; improve the water quality of Cambridge's water courses in line with the Water Framework Directive requirements; ensure new developments take sewerage infrastructure into account.
Flood risk including climate change adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> account for the potential environmental, economic and social cost of flooding for all development proposals; protect and enhance existing natural flood risk management infrastructure and ensure all development incorporates sustainable drainage systems to minimise surface water flood risk; ensure that new and existing communities are capable of adapting to climate change with consideration given to the role of green and blue infrastructure as well as the layout and massing of new developments.
Climate change mitigation and renewable energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reduce transport emissions by encouraging cycling and promoting infrastructure for zero emissions vehicles; reduce carbon emissions from all aspects of new developments and ensure development meets the highest standards in low carbon design; account for the whole life carbon cost of new development and transport infrastructure ensure greater deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies.
Landscape, townscape and cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure the protection and enhancement of the historic environment through appropriate design and scale of new development; actively promote the character and distinctiveness of the Conservation Areas; ensure the scale of new development is sensitive to the existing key landmark buildings and low lying topography of the City.
Biodiversity and green infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> maintain and build on the success of positive conservation management on local wildlife sites and SSSIs; maintain and improve connectivity between existing green infrastructure in order to provide improved habitats for biodiversity and ensure no further fragmentation of key habitats as a result of new or infill development; capitalise on the opportunity for green infrastructure to help Cambridge adapt to the threats posed by climate change (particularly flooding), and to improve water quality; ensure new development does not impact on biodiversity including no further loss of biodiversity rich farmland to development.
City centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure the centre capitalises on the opportunities for growing business sectors; maintain and improve the quality of the centre as a place to live, work and spend leisure time, while ensuring a safe and welcoming environment; ensure opportunities to reduce energy demand through renewable and low carbon technologies are maximised.
North Cambridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> address deprivation across quite expansive areas of the city's northern and north-eastern extents; address flood risk issues;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • capitalise on opportunities to encourage use of public transport and walking/cycling (including access to Cambridge Science Park); • increase access to high quality open space, particularly within Arbury; • support the achievement of identified priorities within the Chesterton/Ferry Lane and De Freville Conservation Areas; • encourage high quality design and improve the quality of the public realm within some areas; and • develop a coordinated policy with South Cambridgeshire District Council for the development of Northern Fringe East.
South Cambridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • address flood risk issues; • consider the potential to address deprivation associated with areas to the East; • work with developers to facilitate the achievement of successful new communities within the urban extensions; • maintain and enhance open spaces and green space within the urban area and the Green Belt setting; • support the achievement of identified priorities within Conservation Areas; and • capitalise on opportunities to encourage use of public transport and walking/cycling.
East Cambridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain and enhance open spaces and green space within the urban area, and the Green Belt setting; • address deprivation issues across quite expansive areas; • maintain the character of particular neighbourhoods; and • capitalise on opportunities to encourage use of public transport and walking/cycling.
West Cambridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain and enhance open spaces and green space within the urban area, and the Green Belt setting; • maintain the exceptional character of the built environment and address priorities identified within the designated Conservation Areas; and • capitalise on opportunities to encourage use of public transport and walking/cycling.

2.4 Site assessment

As part of the [Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Report \(November 2015\) \(Revised March 2016\) \(RD/MC/021\)](#), a modified joint site assessment framework was developed that was used to re-assess all sites (please see Section 6 and Appendix 6 of the above report for full details of the methodology). The modified SA framework is shown in Table 2.4 overleaf. This assessment framework has been used to assess the sites that have required re-assessment due to modifications.

2.5 Difficulties encountered in the assessment

The SEA regulations require that a description of any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in undertaking the assessment is set out. Both of the Local Plan Submission Draft SA reports set out difficulties that have been encountered during the assessment and these are set out in the following places in those reports:

- South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Submission SA report - Difficulties encountered are set out in Section 2.7 of Part 3; and
- Cambridge Final SA for Submission to the Secretary of State - Difficulties encountered are set out in Section 4.7 of Part 4.

The majority of the difficulties encountered during this stage of the assessment are similar to those noted in the reports above and the most relevant are:

- The assessment has been carried out and reported using an expert judgment-led qualitative assessment. A precautionary approach has been taken, especially with qualitative judgments;
- At a strategic level of assessment a broad assessment needs to be undertaken and the identification of absolute impacts can be difficult. Because of this a more comparative approach is often taken;
- When considering which potential effects to highlight (along with a discussion of uncertainty) or not to highlight, a foremost consideration is that the aim of SA is to have a focused discussion regarding those effects that are most likely and significant (and how they should be avoided or mitigated), rather than a potentially endless discussion relating to all of possible plan effects. Ultimately, it is a matter of professional judgement as to those effects that are highlighted and those that are not. This approach is justified by the SEA Directive (i.e. through its reference to 'technical deficiencies or lack of know-how'); and
- The SEA Regulations state that effects assessment should include assessment of secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects. At this strategic level the information is often not available to assess to this level of detail. However, where information is available on the likelihood of different types of impacts this has been included in the assessment matrices.

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria			
Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
Land			
Previously Developed Land	<p>Will it use land that has been previously developed?</p> <p>0 = 0% to 24% Previously Developed Land (PDL) + = 25% to 74% Previously Developed Land (PDL) +++ = 75% or more Previously Developed Land (PDL)</p>	<p>Would development make use of previously developed land?</p> <p>RED = Not on PDL AMBER = Partially on PDL GREEN = Entirely on PDL</p>	<p>Will it use land that has been previously developed?</p> <p>RED = Not on PDL AMBER = Partially on PDL GREEN = Entirely on PDL</p>
Agricultural Land	<p>Will it protect and enhance the best and most versatile agricultural land? Will it minimise the degradation/loss of soils due to new development?</p> <p>--- = Significant loss (20 hectares or more) of best and most versatile agricultural land (Grades 1 and 2)</p> <p>- = Minor loss of best and most versatile agricultural land (Grades 1 and 2)</p> <p>0 = Development would not affect best and most versatile agricultural land (Grades 1 and 2)</p>	<p>Would development lead to the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land?</p> <p>RED = Significant loss (20 ha or more) of grades 1 and 2 land</p> <p>AMBER = Minor loss of grade 1 and 2 land</p> <p>GREEN = Development would not affect grade 1 and 2 land.</p>	<p>RED = Significant loss (20 ha or more) of grades 1 and 2 land</p> <p>AMBER = Minor loss of grade 1 and 2 land</p> <p>GREEN = Development would not affect grade 1 and 2 land.</p>
Minerals	<p>Will it avoid the sterilisation of economic mineral reserves?</p>	N/A	<p>Will it avoid the sterilisation of economic mineral reserves?</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria			
Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
	<p>--- = Site falls within a designated area in the Minerals and Waste LDF, development would have significant negative effect on identified Minerals Reserves</p> <p>- = Site falls within a designated area in the Minerals and Waste LDF, development would have minor negative impacts on identified Minerals Reserves</p> <p>0 = Site not within a designated area identified in the Minerals and Waste LDF, development would not have negative impact.</p>		<p>RED = Site or a significant part of it falls within an allocated or safeguarded area, development would have significant negative impacts</p> <p>AMBER = Site or a significant part of it falls within an allocated or safeguarded area, development would have minor negative impacts</p> <p>GREEN = Site is not within an allocated or safeguarded area.</p>
Environmental quality and pollution (incorporating water and air SEA topics)			
Air Quality / AQMA	<p>Will it maintain or improve air quality, including in AQMA?</p> <p>--- = Site lies near source of air pollution, or development could impact on air quality, with significant negative impacts incapable of adequate mitigation</p> <p>- = Site lies near source of air pollution, or development could impact on air quality, with minor negative impacts incapable of mitigation.</p> <p>0 = Development unlikely to impact on air quality. Site lies in an area where air quality acceptable. Development unlikely to impact on air quality.</p>	<p>Would the development of the sites result in an adverse impact/worsening of air quality?</p> <p>RED = Significant adverse impact</p> <p>AMBER = Adverse impact</p> <p>GREEN = Minimal, no impact, reduced impact</p> <p>Is the site within or near to an AQMA, the M11 or the A14?</p>	<p>Will it maintain or improve air quality?</p> <p>RED = Site lies near source of air pollution, or development could impact on air quality, significant adverse impact</p> <p>AMBER = Site lies near source of air pollution, or development could impact on air quality with minor negative impacts incapable of mitigation.</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria			
Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
	<p>+ = Would remove existing source of air pollution. +++ = Would remove existing source of air pollution.</p>	<p>RED = Within or adjacent to an AQMA, M11 or A14 AMBER = <1000m of an AQMA, M11 or A14 GREEN = >1000m of an AQMA, M11, or A14</p>	<p>GREEN = Minimal, no impact, reduced impact DARK GREEN = Would remove existing source of air pollution, significant positive impact.</p> <p>Is the site within or near to an AQMA, the M11 or the A14? RED = Within or adjacent to an AQMA, M11 or A14 AMBER = <1000m of an AQMA, M11 or A14 GREEN = >1000m of an AQMA, M11, or A14</p>
Pollution	<p>Will it minimise, and where possible improve on, unacceptable levels of noise, light pollution, odour, and vibration (including compatibility with neighbouring uses)?</p> <p>--- = Significant adverse impacts incapable of appropriate mitigation - = Minor negative impacts 0 = No adverse impacts (or capable of full mitigation)</p>	<p>Are there potential noise and vibration problems if the site is developed, as a receptor or generator? Are there potential light pollution problems if the site is developed, as a receptor or generator? Are there potential odour problems if the site is developed, as a receptor or generator?</p> <p>RED = Significant adverse impacts incapable of appropriate mitigation AMBER = Adverse impacts capable of</p>	<p>Will it minimise, and where possible improve on, unacceptable levels of noise, light pollution, odour, and vibration?</p> <p>RED = Significant adverse impacts incapable of appropriate mitigation</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
	<p>+ = Would remove existing source of pollution. +++ = Would remove existing significant source of pollution.</p>	<p>adequate mitigation GREEN = No adverse effects or capable of full mitigation</p>	<p>AMBER = Adverse impacts capable of adequate mitigation GREEN = No adverse effects or capable of full mitigation DARK GREEN = Would remove existing significant source of pollution.</p>
<p>Contamination</p>	<p>Will it minimise, and where possible address, land contamination? --- = Land likely to be contaminated, which due to physical constraints or economic viability cannot be satisfactorily remediated during the plan period. 0 = Development not on land likely to be contaminated + / +++ = Site partially within or adjacent to an area with a history of contamination, or capable of remediation appropriate to proposed development (benefits of contamination remediation)</p>	<p>Is there possible contamination on the site? RED = All or a significant part of the site within an area with a history of contamination which, due to physical constraints or economic viability, is incapable of appropriate mitigation during the plan period AMBER = Site partially within or adjacent to an area with a history of contamination, or capable of remediation appropriate to proposed development GREEN = Site not within or adjacent to an area with a history of contamination</p>	<p>Is there possible contamination on the site? RED = All or a significant part of the site within an area with a history of contamination which, due to physical constraints or economic viability, is incapable of appropriate mitigation during the plan period AMBER = Site partially within or adjacent to an area with a history of contamination, or capable of remediation appropriate to proposed development (potential to achieve benefits subject to</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
			appropriate mitigation) GREEN = Site not within or adjacent to an area with a history of contamination
Water	Will it protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment? --- = Development has potential to effect water quality, with significant negative impacts incapable of mitigation. - = Development has potential to affect water quality, with minor negative impacts incapable of mitigation. 0 = No impact / Capable of full mitigation + = Would remove existing source of water pollution with minor positive impact +++ = Would remove existing source of water pollution with significant positive impact	Would development be within a Source Protection Zone? RED = Within SPZ 1 GREEN = Not within SPZ1 or allocation is for greenspace	Will it protect and where possible enhance the quality of the water environment? RED = Development has potential to effect water quality, with significant negative impacts incapable of mitigation. AMBER = Development has potential to affect water quality, with minor negative impacts incapable of mitigation. GREEN = No impact / Capable of full mitigation or minor positive impact DARK GREEN = Would remove existing source of water pollution with significant positive impact
Biodiversity			

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
<p>Designated Sites</p>	<p>Will it conserve protected species and protect sites designated for nature conservation interest, and geodiversity?</p> <p>--- = Significant negative impact on protected sites and species incapable of mitigation. - = Minor negative impact on protected sites and species incapable of mitigation. 0 = No impact on protected sites and species (or impacts could be mitigated) + = Minor positive impact on protected sites and species +++ = Significant positive impact on protected sites and species</p>	<p>Would allocation impact upon a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)?</p> <p>Would development impact upon a locally designated wildlife site i.e. (Local Nature Reserve, County Wildlife Site, City Wildlife Site)?</p> <p>RED = Contains or is adjacent to an existing site and impacts incapable of appropriate mitigation</p> <p>AMBER = Contains or is adjacent to an existing site and impacts capable of appropriate mitigation</p> <p>GREEN = Does not contain, is not adjacent to, or local area will be developed as greenspace. No or negligible impacts</p>	<p>Will it conserve protected species and protect sites designated for nature conservation interest, and geodiversity, including positive conservation management on local wildlife sites and SSSIs?</p> <p>RED = Contains or is adjacent to an existing site designated for nature conservation or recognised as containing protected species and impacts incapable of appropriate mitigation</p> <p>AMBER = Contains or is adjacent to an existing site designated for nature conservation or recognised as containing protected species and impacts capable of appropriate mitigation</p> <p>GREEN = Does not contain, is not adjacent to site designated for nature conservation or recognised as containing protected species, or local area will be developed as greenspace. No or negligible impacts</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
			DARK GREEN = Significant positive impact on protected sites and species
Biodiversity / TPO	<p>Will it deliver net gains in biodiversity? Will it help deliver habitat restoration, and reduce habitat fragmentation (helping to achieve Biodiversity Action Plan Targets and maintain connectivity between green infrastructure)?</p> <p>--- = Significant Negative Impact (loss of existing features, significant impacts unlikely to be capable of satisfactory mitigation)</p> <p>- = Minor Negative Impact (Existing features unlikely to be retained in their entirety, impacts cannot be fully mitigated)</p> <p>0 = Existing features that warrant retention can be retained or appropriate mitigation</p> <p>+ = Minor Positive Impact (opportunity for enhancement and new features.)</p> <p>+++ = Significant Positive Impact (opportunity for enhancement and new features.)</p>	<p>Would development reduce habitat fragmentation, enhance native species, and help deliver habitat restoration (helping to achieve Biodiversity Action Plan targets?)</p> <p>RED = Development would have a negative impact on existing features or network links incapable of appropriate mitigation</p> <p>AMBER = Development would have a negative impact on existing features or network links but capable of appropriate mitigation</p> <p>GREEN = Development could have a positive impact by enhancing existing features and adding new features or network links</p> <p>Are there trees on site or immediately adjacent protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO)? RED = Development likely to have a significant adverse impact on the protected trees incapable of appropriate mitigation</p> <p>AMBER = Any adverse impact on protected</p>	<p>Will it deliver net gains in biodiversity? Will it help deliver habitat restoration, and reduce habitat fragmentation (helping to achieve Biodiversity Action Plan Targets)?</p> <p>RED = Development would have a negative impact on existing features or network links incapable of appropriate mitigation</p> <p>AMBER = Development would have a negative impact on existing features or network links but capable of appropriate mitigation</p> <p>GREEN = Development could have a positive impact by enhancing existing features and adding new features or network links</p> <p>Are there trees on site or immediately adjacent protected</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
		trees capable of appropriate mitigation GREEN = Site does not contain or adjoin any protected trees	by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO)? RED = Development likely to have a significant adverse impact on the protected trees incapable of appropriate mitigation AMBER = Any adverse impact on protected trees capable of appropriate mitigation GREEN = Site does not contain or adjoin any protected trees
Green Infrastructure	Will it improve access to wildlife and green spaces, through delivery and access to green infrastructure, or access to the countryside through public rights of way? --- = Development would result in significant loss of Green Infrastructure, No satisfactory mitigation measures possible. - = Development would result in minor loss of Green Infrastructure, incapable of mitigation. 0 = No impact (existing features retained, or appropriate mitigation possible) + = Development would create minor opportunities for new Green Infrastructure. +++ = Development would deliver significant new Green Infrastructure	Does the site offer opportunity for green infrastructure delivery? RED = Development involves a loss of existing green infrastructure which is incapable of appropriate mitigation. AMBER = No significant opportunities or loss of existing green infrastructure capable of appropriate mitigation GREEN = Development could deliver significant new green infrastructure SUB INDICATOR: How far is the nearest accessible natural green space of 2ha? RED =>800m	Will it improve access to wildlife and green spaces, through delivery of and access to green infrastructure? RED = Development involves a loss of existing green infrastructure which is incapable of appropriate mitigation. AMBER = No significant opportunities, or loss of existing green infrastructure capable of appropriate mitigation

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria			
Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
		AMBER =400 -800m GREEN = <400m	GREEN = Development could deliver significant new green infrastructure
Landscape, townscape and cultural heritage (incorporating landscape and cultural heritage SEA topics)			
Landscape	<p>Will it maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape character?</p> <p>--- = Significant negative impact on landscape character, no satisfactory mitigation measures possible.</p> <p>- = negative impact on landscape character, incapable of mitigation.</p> <p>0 = No impact (generally compatible, or capable of being made compatible with local landscape character)</p> <p>+ = Development would relate to local landscape character and offer opportunities for landscape enhancement.</p> <p>+++ = Development would relate to local landscape character and offer significant opportunities for landscape enhancement</p>		<p>Will it maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape character?</p> <p>RED = Significant negative impact on landscape character, no satisfactory mitigation measures possible.</p> <p>AMBER = negative impact on landscape character, incapable of mitigation.</p> <p>GREEN = No impact (generally compatible, or capable of being made compatible with local landscape character, or provide minor improvements)</p> <p>DARK GREEN = Development would relate to local landscape character and offer significant opportunities for landscape enhancement</p>
Townscape	<p>Will it maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of townscape character?</p>		<p>Will it maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of townscape character including</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
	<p>--- = Significant negative impact on townscape character, no satisfactory mitigation measures possible.</p> <p>- = negative impact on townscape character, incapable of mitigation.</p> <p>0 = No impact (generally compatible, or capable of being made compatible with local landscape character)</p> <p>+ = Development would relate to local townscape character and offer opportunities for townscape enhancement.</p> <p>+++ = Development would relate to local townscape character and offer significant opportunities for landscape enhancement</p>		<p>through appropriate design and scale of development?</p> <p>Will it ensure the scale of development is sensitive to the existing key landmark buildings and low lying topography of the City?</p> <p>RED = Significant negative impact on townscape character, no satisfactory mitigation measures possible.</p> <p>AMBER = negative impact on townscape character, incapable of mitigation.</p> <p>GREEN = No impact (generally compatible, or capable of being made compatible with local townscape character, or provide minor improvements)</p> <p>DARK GREEN = Development would relate to local townscape character and offer significant opportunities for townscape enhancement</p>
Green Belt	(Addressed in Landscape and Townscape criteria)	Will allocation lead to a loss of land within the Green Belt?	Will it recognise the role of the Green Belt in maintaining the

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
		<p>RED = Site is in the Green Belt GREEN = Site is not in the Green Belt</p> <p>Joint assessment included 9 criteria regarding impact on Green Belt purposes and matter important to the setting of Cambridge, and an overall conclusion on Green Belt:</p> <p>RR = Very high and high impacts R = High/medium impacts A = Medium and medium/minor impacts G = Minor and minor/negligible impacts GG = Negligible impacts</p>	<p>character of the City and the quality of its historic setting?</p> <p>DARK RED: Very high and high impacts on Greenbelt purposes (very significant negative impact)</p> <p>RED = High / medium impacts on Greenbelt purposes (significant negative impact)</p> <p>AMBER = Medium and medium/minor impacts on Greenbelt purposes</p> <p>GREEN = No or negligible impact or positive impact on Green Belt purposes</p>
<p>Heritage</p>	<p>Will it protect or enhance sites, features or areas of historical, archaeological, or cultural interest (including conservation areas, listed buildings, registered parks and gardens and scheduled monuments)?</p> <p>--- = Significant negative impact, no satisfactory mitigation measures possible. - = negative impact , incapable of mitigation. 0 = No impact or capable of full mitigation</p>	<p>Will allocation impact upon a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM)? Would development impact upon Listed Buildings? Would allocation impact upon a historic park/garden? Would development impact upon a Conservation Area? Would development impact upon buildings of local interest?</p>	<p>Will it protect or enhance sites, features or areas of historical, archaeological, or cultural interest (including conservation areas, listed buildings, registered parks and gardens and scheduled monuments, buildings of local interest and archaeology)?</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
	+ = Minor opportunities for enhancement. +++ = Significant opportunities for enhancement	RED = Site contains, is adjacent to, or within the setting of such sites with potential for significant negative impacts incapable of appropriate mitigation AMBER = Site contains, is adjacent to, or within the setting of such sites with potential for negative impacts capable of appropriate mitigation GREEN = Site does not contain or adjoin such buildings or sites, and there is no impact to the setting	RED = Site contains, is adjacent to, or within the setting of such sites, buildings and features with potential for significant negative impacts incapable of appropriate mitigation AMBER = Site contains, is adjacent to, or within the setting of such sites buildings and features with potential for negative impacts capable of appropriate mitigation GREEN = Site does not contain or adjoin such sites, buildings and features, and there is no impact to the setting DARK GREEN = Significant opportunities for enhancement
Climate change			
Renewables	Will it support the use of renewable energy resources? 0 = Standard requirements for renewables would apply + = Development would create minor additional opportunities for renewable energy. +++ = Development would create significant additional opportunities for renewable energy.	N/A	Will it support the use of renewable energy resources? AMBER = Standard requirements for renewables would apply GREEN = Development would create significant opportunities for renewable energy.

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria			
Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
			DARK GREEN = Development would create significant additional opportunities for renewable energy.
Flood Risk	<p>Will it minimise risk to people and property from flooding, and incorporate sustainable drainage measures?</p> <p>--- = Flood Zone 3 / high risk - = Flood Zone 2 / medium risk 0 = Flood Zone 1 / low risk</p>	<p>Is site within a flood zone? Is site at risk from surface water flooding?</p> <p>RED = Flood Zone 3 / high risk. AMBER = Flood Zone 2 / medium Risk GREEN = Flood Zone 1 / low Risk</p>	<p>Will it minimise risk to people and property from flooding?</p> <p>RED = Flood Zone 3 / high risk. AMBER = Flood Zone 2 / medium risk GREEN = Flood Zone 1 / low risk</p>
Human health and well being			
Open Space	<p>Will it increase the quantity and quality of publically accessible open space?</p> <p>--- = Development would result in significant loss of public open space. - = Development would result in loss of public open space, minor impacts incapable of mitigation. 0 = No impact (existing features retained or appropriate mitigation) + = Development would create minor opportunities for new public open space +++ = Development would deliver significant new public open space</p>	<p>If the site does not involve any protected open space would the development increase the quantity and quality of publically accessible open space /outdoor sports facilities and achieve minimum standards of onsite public open space provision?</p> <p>DARK RED = No, the site by virtue of its size is not able to provide the minimum standard of open space and is located in a ward or parish with identified deficiency. RED= No, the site by virtue of its size is</p>	<p>Will it increase the quantity and quality of publically accessible open space (particularly in areas anticipated to experience significant population growth)?</p> <p>RED = The site by virtue of its size is not able to provide the minimum standard of open space and is located in a ward or parish with identified deficiency, or would lead to loss of open space without suitable replacement. AMBER = The site by virtue of its size is not able to provide the</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
		<p>not able to provide the minimum standard of open space. GREEN = Assumes minimum on-site provision to adopted plan standards is provided onsite DARK GREEN = Development would create the opportunity to deliver significantly enhanced provision of new public open spaces in excess of adopted plan standards.</p> <p>Would development lead to a loss of open space? RED =Yes GREEN =No</p> <p>SUB INDICATORS How far is the nearest outdoor sports facilities? RED = >3km AMBER = 1-3km GREEN = <1km or allocation is for or includes a significant element of employment or is for another non-residential use</p> <p>How far is the nearest play space for children and teenagers? RED =>800m</p>	<p>minimum standard of open space. GREEN = Assumes minimum on-site provision to adopted plan standards is provided onsite DARK GREEN = Development would create the opportunity to deliver significantly enhanced provision of new public open spaces in excess of adopted plan standards.</p> <p>SUB INDICATORS How far is the nearest outdoor sports facilities? RED = >3km AMBER = 1-3km GREEN = <1km or allocation is for or includes a significant element of employment or is for another non-residential use</p> <p>How far is the nearest play space for children and teenagers? RED =>800m</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria			
Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
		AMBER =400 -800m GREEN =<400m	AMBER =400 -800m GREEN =<400m
Gypsy & Traveller	Will it provide for the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople? --- = Loss of 5 or more pitches / plots - = Loss of less than 5 pitches 0 = No impact + = Gain of less than 5 pitches +++ = Gain of 5 or more pitches	N/A	Will it provide for the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople? RED = Would result in loss of existing sites AMBER = No Impact GREEN = Would deliver additional pitches
Access to Services	Will it provide accessibility to and improve quality of key local services and facilities, including health, education and leisure (shops, post offices, pubs etc?) Settlement Hierarchy --- = Infill / Group Village - = Minor Rural Centre 0 = Rural Centre + = New Settlement +++ = Edge of Cambridge SUB INDICATORS	How far is the site from edge of defined Cambridge City Centre? How far is the nearest health centre or GP service? How far is the nearest primary school? RED =>800m AMBER =400 - 800m GREEN =<400m	How far is the site from the nearest District or Local centre? How far is the site from edge of defined Cambridge City Centre? How far is the nearest health centre or GP service? RED =>800m AMBER =400 - 800m GREEN =<400m

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
	<p>How far is the site from the nearest District or Local centre? --- = Greater than 1000m - = Within 1000m 0 = Within 800m + = Within 600m +++ = within 400m (or site large enough to provide new)</p>		
KEY LOCAL FACILITIES	<p>Will it improve quality and range of key local services and facilities including health, education and leisure (shops, post offices, pubs etc?)</p> <p>--- = Development would result in loss of an existing facilities, major negative impact. - = Development would result loss of existing facilities, minor negative impact. 0 = No impact on facilities (or satisfactory mitigation proposed). + = New facilities or improved existing facilities are proposed of minor benefit +++ = New local facilities or improved existing facilities are proposed of significant benefit</p>		<p>Will it improve quality and range of key local services and facilities including health, education and leisure (shops, post offices, pubs etc?)</p> <p>RED = Development would result in loss of an existing facilities, major negative impact.</p> <p>AMBER = No impact on facilities (or satisfactory mitigation proposed), or minor benefits</p> <p>GREEN = New local facilities or improved existing facilities are proposed of significant benefit</p>
Community Facilities	Will it encourage engagement in community activities?	Would development lead to a loss of community facilities?	Will it encourage engagement in community activities?

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
	<p>--- = Development would result in loss of an existing local community / village hall. No satisfactory mitigation proposed. 0 = No facilities would be lost. + = New local community / village hall or improved existing facility is proposed of minor benefit (and is viable and sustainable) +++ = New local community / village hall or improved existing facility is proposed of significant benefit (and is viable and sustainable)</p>	<p>RED = Allocation would lead to loss of community facilities GREEN = Development would not lead to the loss of any community facilities or replacement /appropriate mitigation possible</p>	<p>RED = Allocation would lead to loss of community facilities GREEN = Development would not lead to the loss of any community facilities or replacement /appropriate mitigation possible</p>
Integration with Existing Communities		<p>How well would the development on the site integrate with existing communities? RED = Limited scope for integration with existing communities / isolated and/or separated by non-residential land uses AMBER = Adequate scope for integration with existing communities GREEN = Good scope for integration with existing communities / of sufficient scale to create a new community.</p>	<p>How well would the development on the site integrate with existing communities? RED = Limited scope for integration with existing communities / isolated and/or separated by non-residential land uses AMBER = Adequate scope for integration with existing communities GREEN = Good scope for integration with existing communities / of sufficient scale to create a new community.</p>

Economy and Infrastructure (incorporating material assets SEA topic)

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria			
Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
Deprivation (Cambridge)	N/A	<p>Does it address pockets of income and employment deprivation particularly in Abbey Ward and Kings Hedges? Would allocation result in development in deprived wards?</p> <p>AMBER = Not within or adjacent to the 40% most deprived Super Output Areas within Cambridge according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010. GREEN = Within or adjacent to the 40% most deprived Local Super Output Areas (LSOA) within Cambridge</p>	<p>Does it address pockets of income and employment deprivation particularly in Abbey Ward and Kings Hedges? Would allocation result in development in deprived wards?</p> <p>AMBER = Not within or adjacent to the 40% most deprived Super Output Areas within Cambridge according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010. GREEN = Within or adjacent to the 40% most deprived Local Super Output Areas (LSOA) within Cambridge</p>
Shopping	<p>Will it protect the shopping hierarchy, supporting the vitality and viability of Cambridge, town, district and local centres?</p> <p>--- = Development would have significant negative effect on vitality or viability of existing centres. - = Development would have negative effect on vitality or viability of existing centres. 0 = Development would have no effect on vitality or viability of existing centres.</p>	<p>Would development protect the shopping hierarchy, supporting the vitality and viability of Cambridge, Town, district and local centres?</p> <p>RED = Significant negative effect AMBER = Negative effect GREEN = No effect or would support the vitality and viability of existing centres</p>	<p>Will it protect the shopping hierarchy supporting the vitality and viability of Cambridge, town, district and local centres?</p> <p>RED = Significant negative effect on vitality or viability of existing centres. AMBER = Negative effect on vitality or viability of existing centres.</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
	+ = Development would support vitality or viability of existing centres. +++ = Development would significantly add to vitality or viability of existing centres.		GREEN = No effect or would support the vitality and viability of existing centres
Employment Accessibility	Will it contribute to providing a range of employment opportunities, in accessible locations? --- = Public Transport Accessibility to Nearest Area of Employment with 2000+ Employees - Greater than 60 minutes - = Public Transport Accessibility to Nearest Area of Employment with 2000+ Employees - Between 45 and 60 minutes 0 = Public Transport Accessibility to Nearest Area of Employment with 2000+ Employees - Between 30 and 45 minutes + = Public Transport Accessibility to Nearest Area of Employment with 2000+ Employees - Between 15 and 30 minutes +++ = Public Transport Accessibility to Nearest Area of Employment with 2000+ Employees - Less than 15 minutes	How far is the nearest main employment centre? RED = >3km AMBER = 1-3km GREEN = <1km or allocation is for or includes a significant element of employment or is for another non-residential use	Will it contribute to providing a range of employment opportunities, in accessible locations? RED = >3km AMBER = 1-3km GREEN = <1km or allocation is for or includes a significant element of employment or is for another non-residential use Note: Accessibility to Nearest Area of Employment with 2000+ employees has been updated to use the 2011 census data which is now available, as before using Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA). Major new developments, which could include employment hubs, will be considered to be highly accessible. Where assumptions are made regarding site options this will be highlighted.

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
			Accession modelling has not been available, but a distance threshold has been applied.
Employment Land	<p>Will it support business development and enhance competitiveness, enabling provision of high-quality employment land in appropriate locations to meet the needs of businesses, and the workforce?</p> <p>--- = Development would have significant negative effect on employment opportunities, as a result of the loss of existing employment land. - = Development would have a minor negative effect on employment opportunities, as a result of the loss of existing employment land. 0 = Development would have no effect on employment land or premises + = Development would support minor additional employment opportunities +++ = Development would significantly enhance employment opportunities</p>	<p>Would development result in the loss of employment land identified in the Employment Land Review (ELR)?</p> <p>RED = Significant loss of employment land and job opportunities not mitigated by alternative allocation in the area (> 50%) AMBER = Some loss of employment land and job opportunities mitigated by alternative allocation in the area (< 50%). GREEN = No loss of employment land / allocation is for employment development</p>	<p>Will it maintain and enhance competitiveness, and capitalise on Cambridge’s position as one of the UK’s most competitive cities? Will it support business development and enhance competitiveness, enabling provision of high-quality employment land in appropriate locations to meet the needs of businesses, and the workforce?</p> <p>RED = Significant loss of employment land and job opportunities not mitigated by alternative allocation in the area AMBER = Some loss of employment land and job opportunities mitigated by alternative allocation in the area GREEN = No loss of employment land / Minor new provision DARK GREEN= Development</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria			
Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
			would significantly enhance employment opportunities
Utilities	<p>Will it improve the level of investment in key community services and infrastructure, including communications infrastructure and broadband?</p> <p>--- = Utilities capacity not sufficient, constraints cannot be adequately addressed. - = Major utilities Infrastructure improvements required, but constraints can be addressed. 0 = No impact on Utilities e.g. not built development + = Minor Utilities Infrastructure improvements required, but constraints can be addressed +++ = Development can use existing capacity in utilities infrastructure</p>	N/A	<p>Will it improve the level of investment in key community services and infrastructure, including communications infrastructure and broadband?</p> <p>RED = Significant upgrades likely to be required but constraints incapable of appropriate mitigation AMBER = Significant upgrades likely to be required, constraints capable of appropriate mitigation GREEN = Existing infrastructure likely to be sufficient</p>
Education	<p>Will it improve access to education and training for all (including timely provision of primary and secondary schools in locations where it is needed), and support provision of skilled employees to the economy?</p> <p>--- = School capacity not sufficient, constraints cannot be adequately addressed. - = School capacity not sufficient, but significant issues can be adequately addressed</p>	<p>How far is the nearest primary school? RED =>800m AMBER =400 - 800m GREEN = <400m</p> <p>How far is the nearest secondary school? RED = Greater than 3km AMBER =1 to 3 km GREEN = Within 1km (or site large enough to provide new)</p>	<p>Is there sufficient education capacity?</p> <p>RED = School capacity not sufficient, constraints cannot be appropriately mitigated. AMBER = School capacity not sufficient, constraints can be appropriately mitigated GREEN= Non-residential development / surplus school</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria			
Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
	<p>0 = No impact on Schools e.g. not residential development</p> <p>+ = School capacity constraints but potential for improvement to meet needs</p> <p>+++ = Sufficient surplus capacity available in local Schools</p>		<p>places</p> <p>How far is the nearest primary school?</p> <p>RED =>800m</p> <p>AMBER =400 - 800m</p> <p>GREEN =<400m</p> <p>How far is the nearest secondary school?</p> <p>RED = Greater than 3km</p> <p>AMBER =1 to 3 km</p> <p>GREEN = Within 1km (or site large enough to provide new)</p>
Transport			
Sustainable Transport		<p>What type of public transport service is accessible at the edge of the site?</p> <p>RED = Service does not meet the requirements of a high quality public transport (HQPT)</p> <p>AMBER = service meets requirements of high quality public transport in most but not all instances</p> <p>GREEN = High quality public transport service</p> <p>How far is the site from an existing or proposed train station?</p>	<p>What type of public transport service is accessible at the edge of the site?</p> <p>RED = Service does not meet the requirements of a high quality public transport (HQPT)</p> <p>AMBER = service meets requirements of high quality public transport in most but not all instances</p> <p>GREEN = High quality public transport service</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
		<p>RED = >800m AMBER = 400 - 800m GREEN = <400m</p> <p>What type of cycle routes are accessible near to the site? DARK RED = no cycling provision and traffic speeds >30mph with high vehicular traffic volume. RED = No cycling provision or a cycle lane less than 1.5m width with medium volume of traffic. Having to cross a busy junction with high cycle accident rate to access local facilities/school. Poor quality off road path. AMBER = Medium quality off-road path. GREEN = Quiet residential street speed below 30mph, cycle lane with 1.5m minimum width, high quality off-road path e.g. cycleway adjacent to guided busway. DARK GREEN = Quiet residential street designed for 20mph speeds, high quality off-road paths with good segregation from pedestrians, uni-directional hybrid cycle lanes.</p>	<p>How far is the site from an existing or proposed train station? RED = >800m AMBER = 400 - 800m GREEN = <400m</p> <p>What type of cycle routes are accessible near to the site?: DARK RED = no cycling provision and traffic speeds >30mph with high vehicular traffic volume. RED = No cycling provision or a cycle lane less than 1.5m width with medium volume of traffic. Having to cross a busy junction with high cycle accident rate to access local facilities/school. Poor quality off road path. AMBER = Medium quality off-road path. GREEN = Quiet residential street speed below 30mph, cycle lane with 1.5m minimum width, high quality off-road path e.g. cycleway adjacent to guided busway. DARK GREEN = Quiet residential street designed for 20mph</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
			speeds, high quality off-road paths with good segregation from pedestrians, uni-directional hybrid cycle lanes.
	SCDC Would development reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable transport choices: SCDC Sub-indicator: Distance to a bus stop / rail station SCDC Sub-indicator: Frequency of Public Transport SCDC Sub-Indicator: Typical public transport journey time to Cambridge City Centre SCDC Sub-indicator: Distance for cycling to City Centre --- (RED) = Score 0-4 from 4 criteria below --- (AMBER) = Score 5-9 from 4 criteria below 0 (YELLOW) = Score 10-14 from 4 criteria below + (GREEN) = Score 15-19 from 4 criteria below +++ (DARK GREEN) = Score 19-24	N/A	SCDC Would development reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable transport choices: SCDC Sub-indicator: Distance to a bus stop / rail station SCDC Sub-indicator: Frequency of Public Transport SCDC Sub-Indicator: Typical public transport journey time to Cambridge City Centre SCDC Sub-indicator: Distance for cycling to City Centre DARK RED = Score 0-4 from 4 sub criteria RED = Score 5-9 from 4 criteria below AMBER = Score 10-14 from 4 criteria GREEN = Score 15-19 from 4 criteria

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
			DARK GREEN = Score 19-25 from 4 criteria
Access	<p>Will it provide safe access to the highway network, where there is available capacity?</p> <p>--- = Insufficient capacity or access constraints that cannot be adequately mitigated.</p> <p>- = Insufficient capacity or access constraints. Minor negative effects incapable of mitigation.</p> <p>0 = No capacity constraints identified, safe access can be achieved.</p> <p>+ = No capacity constraints identified that cannot be addressed, would result in minor improvement in highway capacity or improve highway access</p> <p>+++ = No capacity constraints identified that cannot be addressed, would result in significant improvement in highway capacity or improve highway access</p>	N/A	<p>Will it provide safe access to the highway network, where there is available capacity?</p> <p>RED = Insufficient capacity/ access. Negative effects incapable of appropriate mitigation.</p> <p>AMBER = Insufficient capacity / access. Negative effects capable of appropriate mitigation.</p> <p>GREEN = No capacity / access constraints identified that cannot be fully mitigated</p>
Non Car Facilities	<p>Will it make the transport network safer for all users, both motorised and non-motorised?</p> <p>--- = Would result in major negative impact to public transport, walking or cycling facilities</p> <p>- = Would result in minor negative impact to public transport, walking or cycling facilities</p> <p>0 = No impact</p> <p>+ = Would result in minor improvement to public transport, walking or cycling facilities</p>	N/A	<p>Will it make the transport network safer for all users, both motorised and non-motorised?</p> <p>RED = Significant negative impact to public transport, walking or cycling facilities</p> <p>AMBER = No impacts / Minor impacts</p>

Table 2.4: Joint Site Assessment Criteria

Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria	Site Scoring From South Cambridgeshire SA	Site Scoring From Cambridge SA	Joint Decision-aiding questions / Site Appraisal Criteria
	+++ = Would result in significant improvement to public transport, walking or cycling facilities		GREEN = Significant improvements to public transport, cycling, walking facilities

3. SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT RESULTS

3.1 Screening results

Appendix A.1 and A.2 set out the results of the screening process. The conclusions of the screening process are that the majority of the Main modifications to both plans would not change the sustainability performance of the plan (and therefore the conclusions of the SA). However, there are a small number of Main modifications which could cause a potential change to the results of the SA and therefore require re-assessment / reporting. These are listed below (please see Appendix A.1 and A.2 for more detail).

South Cambridgeshire

- Modification SC-MM045: Policy SS/4 Cambridge Northern Fringe East and land surrounding the proposed Cambridge Science Park Station;
- Modification SC-MM056 to SC-MM076, SC-MM261 Policy SS/5 Waterbeach New Town;
- Modification SC-MM077 to SC-MM092, SC-MM262: Policy SS/6 New Village at Bourn Airfield;
- Modification SC-MM184: Add a new Policy E/1B: Cambridge Biomedical Campus Extension;
- Modification: SC-MM187 and SC-MM188: Policy E/5: Papworth Hospital; and
- Modification SC-MM263: Cambourne West.

Cambridge

- Modification CC-MM186: Site GB1: Land north of Worts' Causeway;
- Modification CC-MM187: Site GB2: Land south of Worts' Causeway; and
- Modification CC-MM197: Site R21: 315-349 Mill Road and Brookfields.

3.2 Assessment results

Appendix B sets out the full assessment of each modification which required re-assessment / reporting. Summaries of the effects of the individual changes are described below. The effects of the plan as a whole and in combination with other plans, programmes and schemes (cumulative effects) is addressed in Section 4.

3.2.1 South Cambridgeshire Modification SC-MM045: Policy SS/4 Cambridge Northern Fringe East and land surrounding the proposed Cambridge Science Park Station;

The effects of Policy SS/4 are the same as at the Submission Draft stage of the plan, apart from in relation to SA criteria 4, protected sites. The Submission Draft version of the policy had an uncertain impact as Chesterton Sidings includes an area of Jersey Cudweed. This is a protected species under Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act. Development will need to incorporate measures for protecting this species and the nature of the impact will depend upon these measures. The modification to the policy will have a beneficial impact as the policy has been strengthened with regard to protected sites and will now provide protection for the existing local nature reserve at Bramblefields, the protected hedgerow on the east side of Cowley Road which is a City Wildlife Site, the First Public Drain, which is a wildlife corridor, and other ecological features.

3.2.2 South Cambridgeshire Modification SC-MM056 to SC-MM076, SC-MM261 Policy SS/5 Waterbeach New Town;

Although a range of modifications have been made to the policy, the effects of Waterbeach New Town are the same as at the Submission Draft stage of the plan. A revised site pro-forma (in Appendix B) has been created to reflect the modified site boundary, which sets development further back from Denny Abbey, and the earthwork causeway oriented towards soldier's hill. The boundary has given more detailed consideration to the land that should be retained as setting of Denny

Abbey than was possible at the time the Local Plan was submitted, in consultation with Historic England, and will ensure that the most sensitive part of the setting is reflected in the boundary of the Major Development Site. However, the score remains the same at amber.

3.2.3 South Cambridgeshire Modification SC-MM077 to SC-MM092, SC-MM262: Policy SS/6 New Village at Bourn Airfield

Although a range of modifications have been made to the policy, the effects of Bourn Airfield New Village are the same as at the Submission Draft stage of the plan. A site assessment proforma reflecting the revised site boundary, previously included in the December 2016 SA Screening of Further Proposed Modifications (RD/FM/012) is included in Appendix B of this report. The impacts of changes to the Submitted Major Development Site boundary for Bourn Airfield have been reviewed and it is considered that the impacts remain the same as the original appraisal.

3.2.4 South Cambridgeshire Modification SC-MM184: Add a new Policy E/1B: Cambridge Biomedical Campus Extension

The site allocation was subject to appraisal in the [Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Report \(November 2015\) \(Revised March 2016\)](#) (RD/MC/021), when the site was proposed as a provisional modification. It was then re-screened in the December 2016 SA Screening of Further Proposed Modifications (RD/FM/012), when a number of policy changes were proposed in response to new evidence. Please note that the changes did not affect the conclusion of the SA undertaken in November 2015 and therefore the original assessment remained valid. The allocation has now been identified in the Main Modifications. The site proforma and the policy appraisal have been included in this report (in Appendix B) and validated. It is considered that the impacts remain the same as the original appraisal of November 2015.

3.2.5 South Cambridgeshire SC-MM187 and SC-MM188: Policy E/5: Papworth Hospital

The effects of Policy E/5 are the same as at the Submission Draft stage of the plan, apart from in relation to SA criteria 8, heritage. The Submission Draft version of the policy had an uncertain impact as the site is a Conservation Area and could affect the setting of Papworth Hall and other buildings of local importance. The modification to the policy will have a beneficial impact as the policy has been strengthened with regard to protection of Papworth Everard Conservation Area and Papworth Hall. Development will be expected to preserve and enhance buildings on the site identified in the Papworth Everard Conservation Area Appraisal and maintain and enhance the present setting of Papworth Hall.

3.2.6 South Cambridgeshire Modification SC-MM263: Cambourne West.

Main Modifications amend the site boundary to include the Swansley Wood Farm buildings, and make a small number of other policy changes, which have been assessed and are not considered to change the results of the SA.

3.2.7 Cambridge Modification CC-MM186: Site GB1: Land north of Worts' Causeway

The effects of GB1 are the same as at the Submission Draft stage of the plan. The text of the proforma has now been changed to clarify what the change in boundary and capacity means in terms of the County Wildlife Site. The site now excludes the area of land covered by the Netherhall Farm Meadow County Wildlife Site, which is to be protected and enhanced in accordance with the requirements of Policy 26 of the emerging Local Plan. However, the score remains the same at amber.

3.2.8 Cambridge Modification CC-MM187: Site GB2: Land south of Worts' Causeway

The effects of GB2 are the same as at the Submission Draft stage of the plan, apart from in relation to distance to primary education. The amended pro-forma included as part of the [Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Report \(November 2015\) \(Revised March 2016\) \(RD/MC/021\)](#), added in the land area of Newbury Farm to the site. However, the pro-forma contains an error in relation to the distance to primary education. The original had scored red, as the school is over 800m from the site. The revised proforma said green due to an assumed provision on site. This change was incorrect, as there will not be a primary school on site and the score should be listed as red. There are also changes made in relation to the distance to 'nearest play space for children and teenagers. A revised site proforma is included in Appendix B.

3.2.9 Cambridge Modification CC-MM197: Site R21: 315-349 Mill Road and Brookfields

The overall scores for this site have not changed but the pro-forma has been updated in relation to the proposed uses, site size and residential capacity to bring these in line with the modifications to the proposals schedule. The pro-forma also contains an update on the community facilities criteria although have not changed the overall score for this site.

3.3 Assessment of alternatives

Assessment of alternatives is an important aspect of SA and it is important that reasonable alternatives (if reasonable alternatives exist) are tested throughout the Local Plan process (including at the modifications stage).

A range of development strategy options were appraised at earlier stages of the Sustainability Appraisal process, including the development sequence and the sustainability of development at different levels in the sequence², and different strategy options for levels of development at those different stages³. A large number of individual site options were also assessed and compared⁴. The majority of the Proposed Modifications are minor changes which clarify the way that policies will be implemented. As such these Main Modifications are not such as to require the matters to be reconsidered given that, in general, they make only limited changes of a detailed nature to policies and allocations in the submitted plan and do not give rise to changes to the development strategy or sequence.

Certain of the Main Modifications, which are the subject of this consultation, identify policy changes that clarify the way a number sites identified in the plans would be developed. A revised boundary has been proposed for the boundary of the Major Development Site at Waterbeach New Town (South Cambridgeshire Policy SS/5). The revised boundary, which is preferred by Historic England, has arisen as a result of more detailed consideration to the land that should be retained to preserve the setting of Denny Abbey than was possible at the time the Local Plan was submitted, and will ensure that the most sensitive part of the setting is reflected in the boundary of the Major Development Site. This alternative boundary would also provide a slightly larger development area than the boundary in the submitted Local Plan and so would make best use of the proposed allocation, a large part of which is previously developed land. A revised boundary has also been proposed for the Major Development Site at Bourn Airfield (South Cambridgeshire Policy SS/6). This is a minor boundary change which incorporates areas around the former ThyssenKrupp site and area around the eastern entrance, and reflecting existing and proposed landscape buffers to nearby villages. These changes respond to evidence, and will make better use of this brownfield site, enable the creation of a more sustainable and better designed settlement and maintain an appropriate relationship with Highfields Caldecote. These changes are not therefore considered to be of such a

² SA Addendum Report 2016 (RD/MC/021) Section 5

³ SA Addendum Report 2016 (RD/MC/021) Section 7

⁴ SA Addendum Report 2016 (RD/MC/021) Section 6

scale or extent to justify review of the considerations of alternatives which were carried out at earlier stages of the SA process.

A Main Modification to the allocation Land South of Wort's Causeway (Cambridge Policy GB2) would include Newbury Farm within the site, so that the farmstead may, when available, be fully integrated into the development. This modification is of a localised and modest nature and concern the detailed boundaries of allocations in the submitted plan, rather than the principle of these allocations or of the development strategy of which they are a part. The principle of the allocation has been considered against reasonable alternatives as part of the SA process already carried out and referred to above. It is not considered that the changes proposed through these modifications require the consideration of alternatives which has been carried out to be revised.

In the South Cambridgeshire Main Modifications a new allocation Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC) Extension (South Cambridgeshire Policy E/1B) is included (Main Modification SC-MM184). The identification of this option responded to a site specific opportunity identified through the Inner Green Belt Review 2015 to release land adjoining the existing consented Biomedical Campus without causing significant harm to the purposes of the Cambridge Green Belt. The Council considers that there is no overall shortage of employment land within South Cambridgeshire during the plan period for high-tech and research and development companies and organisations, when taking account of planning permissions and the allocations made in the emerging plan. The proposed allocation of this land was considered by the Council to provide flexibility for further growth to the existing bio-medical campus during the plan period, albeit that it was not required to meet identified development needs, as explained above. The main modification would allocate land for an extension to the CBC to deliver high quality biomedical development on the edge of Cambridge with its locational benefits on land that could be developed without causing significant harm to the purposes of the Cambridge Green Belt. The opportunity therefore arose from locationally specific circumstances and, as such, it is not considered that there are any reasonable alternatives to this Main Modification since there are no other opportunities to release land adjacent or close to the Biomedical campus without causing significant harm to the Green Belt and its purposes. As such, and given the circumstances, this Main Modification is not considered to require the further reconsideration or the supplementing of the consideration of alternatives carried out at earlier stages of the SA process referred to above. This option was considered in the SA Addendum 2015⁵, and subject to consultation as a provisional modification. Following the completion of additional evidence on issues including biodiversity and drainage, changes were made to the policy and it was appraised in the South Cambridgeshire SA Screening November 2016⁶. The Policy is now included in the Main Modifications for consultation.

⁵ SA Addendum Report 2016 (RD/MC/021) Table 10.2, 10.3

⁶ South Cambridgeshire Further Proposed Modifications to the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan –Sustainability Appraisal Screening November 2016 (RD/FM/012) Table 2.1

4. CUMULATIVE EFFECTS ASSESSMENT

4.1 Introduction

Cumulative effects are considered in two ways in SA:

- Cumulative effects considering the potential effects of other programmes and plans in combination with the effects of the Local Plan; and
- Cumulative effects of the policies / proposals within the plan and how they interact with each other (the effect of the plan as a whole).

The cumulative effects of the plans have already been assessed in the following sections of the Submission Draft SA reports:

- Sustainability Appraisal of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014. Final Appraisal for Submission to the Secretary of State (March 2014) – from page 490 onwards; and
- South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Submission SA report – Part 3.

These assessments were then amended as part of the [Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Report \(November 2015\) \(Revised March 2016\)](#) (RD/MC/021) and have been validated at all further modifications stages. Both the [Further Proposed Modifications SA screening \(November 2016\)](#) (RD/FM/012) and [Proposed Modifications to the Cambridge Local Plan – Sustainability Appraisal Screening \(January 2017\)](#) (RD/CFM/020) found that the cumulative effects assessment presented in the addendum report was still valid.

At this stage, therefore, the cumulative effects assessment within the addendum report needs to be validated to ensure it remains the same for the Main modifications.

4.2 Cambridge Local Plan

The approach taken to cumulative effects assessment is slightly different in each SA. The Cambridge SA incorporates consideration of both aspects of cumulative effects assessment in the overall plan assessment itself, not carrying out a separate assessment. Table 4.1 in [Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Report \(November 2015\) \(Revised March 2016\)](#) (RD/MC/021) is effectively an assessment of the cumulative effects of the plan (with the proposed modifications from 2015). The assessment has been validated as part of this work to review whether the assessment has changed. It is confirmed that the cumulative assessment has not changed in response to the proposed modifications or new evidence. Therefore, Table 4.1 below is a reproduction of that contained in the addendum report.

Table 4.1: Overall performance of the Cambridge Local Plan	
Sustainability theme	Overall performance of the plan
Communities and well being	Cambridge is an area facing significant changes in the future, and so development over the plan period must be capable of addressing the new and expanding demands that will be placed on the city and its infrastructure if current levels of community and wellbeing are to be maintained and improved. On the whole the plan is successful in this regard, with a number of policies addressing the protection of existing community facilities, although some policies could be strengthened in this respect; and the provision of new facilities to address emerging needs, including the securing of finances where appropriate. One of the most significant issues facing the city today and in future is that of housing, and the plan meets the identified housing need as set out in the SHMA and as such should lead to significant positive effects.

Table 4.1: Overall performance of the Cambridge Local Plan

Economy	<p>The plan as appraised should lead to significant positive effects in terms of encouraging economic growth through capitalising on the four strengths of Cambridge's economy: higher and further education and the related research institutes; high-tech business; retail; and tourism. The plan proposes sustainable growth in all of these sectors and includes criteria to protect against negative or undesirable effects. Development in research and high-tech sectors should improve Cambridge's competitiveness in terms of business, whilst retail growth and tourism development should increase the city's attractiveness to shoppers, visitors and tourists. Support for the Universities and specialist tutorial colleges/language schools will also increase their value in the local economy providing that suitable accommodation is provided.</p>
Transport	<p>Overall the policies in the Plan are expected to have positive outcomes for the transport objectives. In particular the overall development strategy for the location of residential development seeks to ensure that new residential development is located in and around the urban area of Cambridge which should capitalise on the opportunity for new residential development to discourage private car use and encourage more sustainable modes of transport. This has been confirmed by the Local Plans CSRM report that found that even the new settlement sites that were at a greater distance from Cambridge could implement site specific transport measures which would reduce the impact of growth, increasing the proportion of trips made by non-car modes, including shift towards Park & Ride. Policy 80 requires new development to prioritise access by sustainable modes of travel (walking, cycling and public transport) over car use which should also contribute to positive sustainability outcomes. In addition it requires major development on the edge of Cambridge and in the urban extensions to be supported by high quality public transport links that are within (or will be made to be within) highly walkable and cyclable travel distance of development thus helping to promote the use of more sustainable forms of transport. Given the constrained nature of Cambridge's transport network the Plan seeks to make the best use of existing infrastructure by promoting a compact urban form; achieving a modal shift to sustainable transport and reducing the need to travel; all of which should to address historic rises in transport emissions.</p>
Water	<p>Given that Cambridge is poised to see large amounts of growth, particularly in terms of residential development, it is important that the Plan pays close regard to preserving water supply and quality in the city. On the whole, it is successful in this regard, incorporating strong requirements on new development to incorporate water efficiency measures (although these have been relaxed as a result of the proposed modifications from 80 litres to 110 litres/person/day as a result of changes to national policy) and to adopt a water sensitive approach; plus where possible protect or improve the quality of Cambridge's water courses.</p>
Flood risk including climate change adaptation	<p>Policies in the Local Plan do not allow for development to increase flood risk and they also seek to improve the baseline situation through infrastructure provision. Gardens and open spaces should be protected which will help protect against flood risk. SuDS schemes and multi-functional green and blue infrastructure should provide links and routes for species to migrate. 'Climate-proof' species and planting</p>

Table 4.1: Overall performance of the Cambridge Local Plan

	<p>should ensure that landscaping is tolerant to heat and drought and also saturation.</p> <p>Protecting open space, trees, gardens and natural areas should help mitigate the urban heat island effect through encouraging transpiration, 'urban cooling' and providing shade. Encouraging sustainable design techniques in order to capture solar gain during winter and provide natural ventilation and cooling in the summer should help protect against heat stress for people, particularly vulnerable people, older and younger people. Measuring against the baseline situation, the plan should lead to significant positive effects in terms of climate change adaptation and flood risk by ensuring that new development is resilient to climate change and contributes towards reducing flood risk across the city.</p>
<p>Climate change mitigation and renewable energy</p>	<p>The plan will have a positive effect (<i>amended from significant positive effect</i>). Overall the plan will reduce transport emissions by encouraging cycling and promoting infrastructure for zero emissions vehicles; reduce carbon emissions from all aspects of new developments and ensure development meets the highest standards in low carbon design; account for the whole life carbon cost of new development and transport infrastructure; and ensure greater deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies.</p> <p>The embodied energy of construction materials will be reused and recycled in new construction which will reduce emissions used in the mining and manufacturing of new construction materials. Transport improvements will shift priority from the car to increase use of the sustainable transport modes of walking, cycling and public transport, and development will be located in sustainable places that reduce the need to travel. In combination, all of these policies should lead to slight positive effects in terms of reducing emissions and increasing energy efficiency.</p> <p><i>Please note that the removal of the zero carbon requirements, relaxation of sustainable water use requirements from 80 litres to 110 litres/person/day and removal of considerations of allowable solutions, due to changes in national planning policy, are a major step backwards in terms of delivering sustainable development and they remove the clarity that the previous policies 27 and 28 provided. Therefore, the plan can no longer be considered to have a significant positive effect.</i></p>
<p>Landscape, townscape and cultural heritage</p>	<p>In spite of the scale of new development proposed, taken as a whole the policies presented in the Local Plan are expected to result in positive effects in terms of the landscape, townscape and cultural heritage objectives. The plan contains a number of policies, particularly those in Section 7 (Protecting and Enhancing the Character of Cambridge) that should continue to provide a good level of protection to the designated Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and heritage assets in Cambridge.</p> <p>Many of the policies presented in Section 3 (City Centre, Areas of Major Change, Opportunity Areas and Site Specific Proposals) include criteria that will ensure development is only supported where it can demonstrate that it will protect and enhance the character of specific areas in the city. In addition, the plan's policy on restricting development from the Green Belt except in very special circumstances (Policy 4), should help to preserve the setting and special character of Cambridge's historic centre.</p>

Table 4.1: Overall performance of the Cambridge Local Plan

Biodiversity and green infrastructure	Taken together, the policies set out in the Local Plan are likely to result in no net loss of biodiversity despite the scale of new development proposed and could lead to positive effects; with significant positive effects in terms of green infrastructure. Of importance is the Plan's focus on directing development into urban areas and brownfield sites, protecting biodiversity in the wider landscape and designated areas, and encouraging and protecting biodiversity in the built environment. The effect of the policies could be strengthened in some ways; in particular by bringing a greater focus on wider ecological network of the city, including highlighting the potential for achieving multiple benefits through the provision of strategic green infrastructure.
City centre	<p>The policies set out to address development in the City Centre area, or that may have an effect on it through their general provisions, are on the whole likely to result in positive effects. This is as a result of a balancing of both the need to grow the local economy to take full advantage of the opportunities presented, and the need to protect and enhance the centre's assets, community, and infrastructure from the impacts of development and future demographic and economic change.</p> <p>The policies for the Opportunity Areas could however be improved by making stronger reference to the need for a built environment that prioritises sustainable means of transport and provides appropriate supporting infrastructure, with this being of particular importance given the poor air quality in the City Centre.</p>
North Cambridge	<p>The Local Plan should lead to significant positive effects in terms of most of the sustainability objectives identified in the North Cambridge Functional Area. The level of growth proposed at the Northern Fringe East and the associated transport improvements at Cambridge Science Park Station should help to achieve modal shift and lead to employment opportunities, particularly for those in the north east of the Functional Area that are amongst the most deprived in the city.</p> <p>A number of policies seek to protect and enhance the quantity and quality of provision and improve access to open space. Wider sustainable transport policies seek to achieve modal shift and in combination with historic environment and design policies should benefit conservation areas by reducing the impact of traffic and inappropriate development. Flood risk (in particular surface water flood risk) in the area should be reduced by policies requiring sustainable drainage infrastructure, attenuation features, wetland creation and permeable paving.</p>
South Cambridge	<p>The Local Plan should lead to significant positive effects in terms of all of the relevant sustainability objectives in the South Cambridge Functional Area.</p> <p>The level of growth proposed and the associated transport and community infrastructure should lead to the delivery of successful new communities that are integrated with other areas, particularly those in the east that are generally more deprived. Development requiring the release of the Green Belt is subject to policies that mitigate for the loss of land by improving the quality and public access to open space whilst ensuring there is no residual adverse landscape or visual impact.</p>

	Sustainable transport policies seek to achieve modal shift and in combination with historic environment policies should benefit conservation areas by reducing the impact of traffic and parking. And, finally, flood risk at Cherry Hinton should be reduced by requiring sustainable drainage infrastructure, attenuation features, wetland creation and permeable paving.
East Cambridge	The Local Plan has been appraised to lead to significant positive effects in terms of most of the sustainability objectives identified in the East Cambridge Functional Area. The level of growth proposed at sustainable locations should help address deprivation and encourage use of sustainable modes of transport. The Opportunity Area policies and wider design policies should ensure that the character of neighbourhoods is maintained and enhanced. Plan policies seek to protect and enhance the quantity and quality of open space provision and the creation of a new urban country park should improve access to and quality of provision.
West Cambridge	Both the policies put forward to address the development issues of West Cambridge specifically, and those wider policies of particular relevance to development in this area, are considered likely to result in positive effects overall. This is due to an appropriate balancing of growth and protection, with development only to be brought forward where it is demonstrated that social and environmental assets are to be preserved or enhanced. There is however some opportunity to tighten the criteria in some of the policies outlined, and to make explicit certain additional requirements.

4.3 South Cambridgeshire Local Plan

The South Cambridgeshire SA presents separate cumulative effects assessments:

- An assessment in relation to the effects in association with other plans and programmes (see Table 4.4 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Submission SA report – Part 3); and
- An assessment showing how the policies within the plan will interact with each other to cause cumulative effects (see Table 4.5 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Submission SA report – Part 3).

For ease of reference Table 4.2 below reproduces the cumulative effects conclusions that were included in the [Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Report \(November 2015\) \(Revised March 2016\)](#) (RD/MC/021), which included effectively an assessment of the cumulative effects of the plan (with the proposed modifications from 2015).

<p>Effects of the Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Local Plans in association with other plans and programmes</p> <p>A number of Area Action Plans (AAPs) have been adopted by the Councils (in areas like Cambridge East and Northstowe etc) or are under development or are proposed by the Local Plans. In most cases, these should guide development rather than require additional development not considered in the Local Plans. However, the SA did find some negative effects including effects on energy, water and waste generation from the Local Plans in association with Northstowe AAP, Cambridge East AAP, Cambridge Southern Fringe AAP and North West Cambridge AAP; and</p>

Table 4.2: Summary of the cumulative effects assessment from the SA addendum report

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF (Core Strategy 2011, Site Specific Proposals 2012) : There will be a minor negative effect on sand and gravel reserves due to the potential sterilization of reserves at Waterbeach although this should be mitigated through good site planning;

Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan 3: Identifies a number of transport intervention across the Cambridge area to address existing issues and to accommodate growth. The LTP was subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment prior to its adoption. However, some additional conclusions have been added below in regard to this to aid clarity.

Consideration of A428 and A10 transport schemes

There is a need for particular consideration of cumulative transport impacts on the A428 and A10 corridors in the development of the transport strategy for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire, given the level of development proposed at Waterbeach, Bourn Airfield and Cambourne West.

Some transport schemes identified in the LTP providing wider benefits for the area would also be required to serve Cambourne West and Bourn Airfield on the A428 corridor and could potentially negatively impact on agricultural land, designated ecological sites, habitats, Green Belt and heritage assets depending on the routes selected (segregated bus priority measure between the junction of the A428/A1303 and the M11, may affect not only the Green Belt but also the American Cemetery, a registered park and garden, and a designated heritage asset as well as ancient woodland and BAP priority habitats). If works were able to be carried out on line rather than beyond the existing highway boundary this might alleviate some of the adverse effects. However, the schemes will help to reduce the need to travel by car thus having positive impacts on air quality, accessibility and transport objectives.

Some transport schemes identified in the LTP providing wider benefits for the area would also be required to serve Waterbeach new town on the A10 would negatively impact on agricultural land, Green Belt and heritage assets depending on the routes selected (Bus priority measures, Park & Ride, cycling and pedestrian improvements, and highways improvements on the A10 corridor, may have negative impacts in relation to greenfield land take (and specifically high quality agricultural land) and some of the schemes are located partly in the Green Belt. A busway using the Mereway route would have potential to negatively impact on heritage assets)). However, the schemes will help to reduce the need to travel by car thus having positive impacts on air quality, accessibility and transport objectives.

The following conclusions can be drawn:

- With regard to agricultural land, there will be a residual unavoidable permanent loss of agricultural land which is cumulatively likely to be significant across the plan area (and this was reflected in the overall assessment of the cumulative impact of the Local Plan (as highlighted below). The main impact, however, is from the overall level of development proposed within the plan, with the impact of the A428 and A10 being a fairly minor part of the whole;
- With regard to Green Belt, there will be some minor negative effects on Green Belt as some of the A428 and A10 schemes are partly located in the Green Belt. This is likely to cause minor residual negative impacts (and this is also reflected below in the assessment of the plan as a whole);
- With regard to the impacts on nature conservation and heritage, these are seen as minor negative and can be reduced through planning and environmental assessment procedures. If works were able to be carried out on line for the A428 schemes rather than beyond the existing highway boundary this might alleviate some of the adverse effects.

Cumulative effects of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan

Table 4.2: Summary of the cumulative effects assessment from the SA addendum report

Although the plan has sought to minimise the loss of agricultural land, there will be a residual unavoidable permanent loss of agricultural land which is cumulatively likely to be significant across the plan area;

The level of development in the Plan Area has the potential for negative effects on the Green Belt, in particular that which is surrounding Cambridge which is important for preserving the character of the City. The development strategy allows some development on the edge of Cambridge. Where this is demonstrated through the Green Belt Review to have detrimental impacts on the steers development away from the edge of Cambridge. With the mitigation and enhancement measures there are likely to be residual minor negative impacts;

- There will be a residual cumulative negative effect on waste generation and resource use across the plan area;
- There are likely to be significant negative cumulative effects on air quality which cannot be further mitigated;
- With the mitigation and enhancement measures there are likely to be positive synergistic effects on biodiversity in particular with regards the provision of green infrastructure networks in the plan area;
- With the mitigation and enhancement measures there are likely to be residual positive cumulative effects on health and wellbeing in the plan area; and
- There are likely to be cumulative minor negative effects on access to employment, services and facilities in the plan area. This is due to the fact that although new settlements offer the opportunity for focused investment in transport infrastructure, and measures to support sustainable transport modes, they will still generate a significant number of trips, and focus journeys onto a smaller number of transport corridors.

This assessment has been validated as part of this work to review whether the assessment has changed. It is confirmed that the cumulative assessment has not changed in response to the majority of the proposed modifications or new evidence. Please note that the assessments above already includes consideration of Policy E/1b Cambridge Biomedical Campus Extension.

The screening has concluded that there is a possibility that the granting of permission for the Cambourne West scheme (referred to in modification SC-MM011, South Cambridgeshire District Council resolved to grant Planning Permission in January 2017 for a mixed use development including 2,350 homes at Cambourne West) has the possibility to alter the cumulative effects assessment. The original assessment of cumulative effects that was carried out included Cambourne West as part of the plan and assessed cumulative impacts of all the developments proposed in the plan. However, a larger scheme is proposed to be granted than was allocated in the Submission Draft South Cambridgeshire Local Plan.

Therefore, the cumulative effects assessment that was carried out has been reviewed. The conclusions of this are that the majority of the assessment remains valid. However, with the new larger development area of Cambourne West negative effects identified are likely to be even more significant as the site is Grade 2 agricultural land, and the development of a larger Cambourne West site will generate additional trips, but adds to growth on a corridor planned for transport improvements to support travel by non-car modes.

5. OTHER ASSESSMENTS

5.1 Habitat Regulation Assessment Screening

At the Submission Draft Local Plan stage both the Councils prepared Habitat Regulations screening reports, as shown in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1: Habitat Regulations Screening Assessment reports	
South Cambridgeshire	Cambridge
South Cambridgeshire Draft Final Sustainability Appraisal Report and HRA Screening Report (RD/Sub/SC/060)	Cambridge City Council Habitats Regulations Assessment Part 1 and Cambridge City Council Habitats Regulations Assessment Part 2 (RD/Sub/C/120)
	Cambridge City Council Habitats Regulations Assessment Part 1 – Update February 2016 and Cambridge City Council Habitats Regulations Assessment Part 2 – Update February 2016 (RD/Sub/C/121)
Sustainability Appraisal Addendum	
Please also note that Section 11.4 of the Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Report (November 2015) (Revised March 2016) (RD/MC/021) provided an HRA screening of the proposed modifications subject to consultation in 2015.	

All of the Habitat Regulations Screening reports have concluded that there are unlikely to be significant effects on European sites as a consequence of the policies and allocations of the Local Plans both on their own and in combination with other plans and projects.

None of the Main modifications would change this conclusion due to the fact that the majority of the modifications are minor in nature. The modifications that are considered more significant are generally minor changes to site layouts or densities which would not cause effects on Natura 2000 sites. It is also considered that the Main Modification SC-MM184 to provide an extension to the CBC would equally not give rise to any change to the effect on any Natura 2000 sites.

The implications of the Wealdon judgement (Wealdon District Council and Secretary of State For Communities and Local Government, Lewes District Council, South Downs National Park Authority) [2017] EWHC 351 (Admin)) have been considered. However, it is not felt that the judgement will have any implications for the conclusions of the HRA screening processes. None of the sites screened in the HRA screening reports have conservation objectives that relate to traffic impacts / nitrogen deposition. The Wealdon case does raise a more general principle in relation to in combination effects. Therefore, the review of plans and programmes has been updated for both HRA screening processes to ensure that the conclusions in relation to in combination effects will not change. Appendix C of this report shows an updated version of the tables that were produced as part of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Submission Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report March 2014 and which also reflects information contained within the Cambridge HRA Reports. The purpose of these tables is to aid with the in combination effects assessment. This is an update of Annex D which was entitled *Scoping of other plans and projects for in combination assessment*. The changes to the plans, policies and programmes has been reviewed

and it has been concluded that the in combination effects of the Local Plans (including the effects of the South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge Local Plans in combination with each other) will not change from that concluded in the HRA screening reports.

5.2 Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

An EqIA process has been completed at a number of previous stages for both Local Plans. These processes were solely undertaken by the Councils.

The EqIA results have been validated following all stages of the modifications and the Councils concluded that none of the proposed changes are of significance for the EqIA. Therefore the previous assessment findings remain valid. Please see Appendix D which shows the final version of the EQIA reports for both Councils.