

Scoping Report for North West Cambridge Area Action
Plan
(Addendum to the Cambridge City Council and South
Cambridgeshire District Council LDF Scoping Reports)

August 2006

Environment and Planning
Cambridge City Council
The Guildhall
Cambridge
CB2 3QJ

Development Services
South Cambridgeshire District Council
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne
Cambridgeshire
CB3 6EA

Introduction

Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council are working together to prepare a new plan for the North West sector of Cambridge between Madingley Road and Huntingdon Road. This will provide for the long-term development needs of Cambridge University. The site includes land in the City and in the Parish of Girton in South Cambridgeshire.

The Plan is needed because the Regional Plan (RPG6) proposes high levels of growth in the Cambridge area to support the local economy and identified development in and on the edge of Cambridge as the most sustainable location for that development. The North West area is identified in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Structure Plan (2003) as an area where major change is to take place through a review of the Green Belt. Policy P9/2b proposes development specifically for predominantly University related uses between Huntingdon Road and Madingley Road. The North West Cambridge Area Action Plan (AAP) will need to be in conformity with the Regional Plan and have full regard to the Structure Plan and the adopted 2006 Cambridge Local Plan.

In accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, a Sustainability Appraisal is required for all Development Plan Documents produced by the Councils, which includes the North West Cambridge AAP. An Environmental Assessment must also be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the European Directive 2001/42/EC, known as a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Both of these requirements can be satisfied through a single appraisal process. The first stage in this process is to determine the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal and to set out the Sustainability Appraisal Framework, which will be used to assess the AAP.

Guidance produced by the ODPM in 2005 (Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents) confirms that one Scoping Report can be prepared for several Local Development Documents provided that it gives sufficient information at the level of detail required for each of the documents concerned. An addendum can then be produced for each individual document, to introduce the purpose and objectives of the document in question and to identify any specific sustainability issues and objectives that should be taken into account in the Sustainability Appraisal.

Both Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council have produced separate Scoping Reports¹ for the SA of their Local Development Frameworks. For the purposes of the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, it was decided to draw upon these and to identify specific sustainability issues relating to North West Cambridge by way of this document. It was decided that it was not necessary to update these Scoping Reports as they were both produced relatively recently compared to when work first began on

¹ Cambridge Local Development Framework SA Scoping Report March 2005, South Cambridgeshire District Council SA Scoping Report, January 2006

the AAP in October 2005, and baseline monitoring is generally only carried out once a year.

Characterisation of the North West Area

The area covered by the NW Cambridge Area Action Plan is generally bounded by the M11 to the west, Huntingdon Road to the north and Madingley Road to the south. The Plan will take into account its wider context including neighbouring parts of the City and the village of Girton, the University development south of Madingley Road, the countryside to the west and the development area between Madingley Road and Huntingdon Road known as the NIAB site. The Plan will exclude existing built-up areas of the City and Girton.

The area available for potential development is predominantly agricultural in character, with built development limited to a small number of farm buildings, including the University Farm, University field stations and associated small-scale building and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre. The existing housing development in the area is predominantly along the main road frontages, which are not included in the Plan.

The landscape is defined as part of the Cambridgeshire Western Claylands with gentle, undulating, open arable fields with hedgerows along routes and field boundaries and occasional deciduous woodland. Much of the Area Action Plan area is prominent in views from the western approaches to Cambridge, most notably from the M11 motorway and from the American Cemetery close to Madingley. It forms an important part of the immediate setting of Cambridge and has been kept free from development by its inclusion in the Cambridge Green Belt.

The Plan includes parts of the medieval 'West Field' of Cambridge and includes several fields with visible ridge and furrow, furlong S-Shaped field boundaries and a veteran oak pollard that marks the boundary between the City and the Parish of Girton. This is therefore an area where the history of Cambridge is written on the land and is still legible. Huntingdon Road runs on the course of the *Via Devana* Roman road and two other Roman roads, no longer visible above ground, run through this area. The plan area also contains the Traveller's Rest Pit Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This area has been notified as being of national importance because of its geology.

Objectives of the Area Action Plan

The North West Cambridge Area Action Plan incorporates the following objectives:

- To ensure sustainable development;
- To identify a new Green Belt boundary which allows for the development of the site without fundamentally undermining the purposes of the Green Belt;
- To provide an appropriate landscape setting and high quality edge treatment for Cambridge;

- To ensure appropriate separation between Cambridge and the village of Girton to maintain village character and identity;
- To create a new community which respects and links with adjoining communities;
- To create a satisfactory mix of uses, taking into account
 - Identified University-related uses
 - The need for Key Worker Housing with the emphasis on University and College Staff;
- To maximise walking and cycling and public transport use;
- To determine what transport infrastructure is needed to link the development to key destinations in Cambridge and to the wider network and how it is to be delivered;
- To provide standards for infrastructure provision including renewable energy, open space and car and cycle parking;
- To determine the level, type and general location of community uses needed to satisfactorily serve the development;
- To determine appropriate phasing of development taking into account that development should only proceed when the University can prove the need for it;
- To ascertain what funding and investment is available to secure the infrastructure needs of the development;
- To protect existing wildlife and secure a net increase in biodiversity

SA Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope

Stage A of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) process involves establishing the framework for undertaking the SA. This is essentially comprised of a set of Sustainability Objectives against which the document in question can be assessed, together with the formulation of an evidence base to help inform the appraisal. The stage is comprised of a series of five tasks as set out below.

Task A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives

When developing the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan, consideration must be given to the relationships between it and other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives. The SEA Directive specifically requires environmental protection objectives established at international, European Community or national levels to be taken into account. Reviewing these documents is an important step in the SA process as it can help to shape the objectives against which emerging policies should be appraised, as well as pointing to particular issues and problems that need to be tackled.

Both the Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils Scoping Reports contained reviews of a large number of policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives that were considered to be relevant to both Councils Local Development Frameworks (LDFs). Within the Cambridge City

Scoping Report these are shown in Appendix 1, and in the South Cambridgeshire District Council Scoping Report they are also contained within Appendix 1.

Many of these plans and programmes work in hierarchy with policy and objectives being disseminated down from an international to national, regional and local level, with those documents lower on the hierarchy having more specific relevance to the Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire LDF's as a whole and the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan.

The following list is a summary of the main issues of relevance to North West Cambridge as identified in the review of the guidance:

- Policies in the plan should conserve and enhance biodiversity, seek to protect all statutory nature conservation site and provision of new habitats;
- Consideration will need to be had to the disposal, minimisation and treatment of waste both during and after construction;
- Include policies to ensure that the environmental impact of the development is minimised;
- Include design policies to help create a better quality of urban design and a greater sense of community and safety;
- Policies should aim to create a mix of housing types with an element of affordable housing;
- The Plan should increase accessibility to sustainable modes of transport and reduce congestion and the need to travel by private car;
- Include policies that encourage the use of renewable energy sources and more efficient use of resources including energy and water

Task A2: Collecting baseline information

The aim of collecting the baseline information is to assemble data on the current state of the area and the likely future state. This information then provides the basis for predicting and monitoring effects. Collecting baseline information is also a way of identifying sustainability problems and alternative ways of dealing with them.

The baseline dataset quantifies local conditions on parameters, including river water quality, air quality, loss of high quality agricultural land, the area and condition of important wildlife habitat, housing completion rates etc. Data from adjacent local authorities in Cambridgeshire, the East of England and/or National data has also been collected in order to determine whether the trends in the data are favourable, average or typical of the surrounding area. The findings are presented in Appendix 4 of the Cambridge City Council Scoping Report and Appendix 6 of the South Cambridgeshire District Council Scoping Report.

Task A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems

The baseline data collected under task A2 has been used to help identify the general sustainability issues as set out below. Some of these issues are also

consistent with those identified for the Cambridge Sub-region in the SA of the East of England Plan. The list of sustainability issues identified by South Cambridgeshire District Council is given in Section C of their Scoping Report (pages 18-40). The City Council's sustainability issues are set out in Table 4 (pages 11 and 12) of the Cambridge Scoping Report. While these by no means represent a full list of all the issues, they attempt to acknowledge those which are a priority for both districts and which can be addressed through documents such as the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan.

From the lists of sustainability issues identified in both Councils Scoping Report, a set of key sustainability issues for North West Cambridge has been identified and these are shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Key Sustainability for the NW Cambridge Area Action Plan

Sustainability Theme	Key Issues
Land and water resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of agricultural land; • The effect of new development on water consumption and resources; and • Drainage
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deterioration of important and characteristic features (e.g. hedgerows); • The need to protect nationally important SSSI
Landscape, townscape and archaeology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting the character and setting of Cambridge and the separation with Girton and protecting the wider landscape; • Development, design and materials that conform to local traditions; • The need to protect open space; • The loss of the historic west fields landscape
Climate change and pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High levels of car usage due to separation of homes and jobs; • The need for effective energy conservation
Healthy communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to encourage healthier lifestyle and travel choices; • The effect of the growing retired community • Concerns about crime
Inclusive communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing disparity between house prices and incomes; • The need to provide good access to all services for the whole community
Economic Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to balance employment growth in the sub-region with a range of opportunities across all skill levels and sectors

Task A4: Developing the SA Framework

The identification of sustainability issues in task A3 allows for the development of the SA framework, which provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared. It consists of sustainability objectives and decision-making criteria, against which the objectives, options and subsequent policies of the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan will be appraised in order to make the plan as sustainable as possible. It also sets out indicators that will be used to monitor the effects of the plan.

The two Councils' Scoping Reports establish a series of sustainability objectives. A comparison was made between the sustainability objectives and decision making criteria in the Cambridge City Council Scoping Report and the South Cambridgeshire Scoping Report, in order to develop the joint sustainability objectives for appraising the North West AAP. The South Cambridgeshire objectives and decision-making criteria were used as the starting point and some minor changes were made to take into account the City Council's sustainability objectives. In most cases it was felt that the two Council's sustainability objectives were compatible with each other and change was not necessary, and that all objectives were applicable to North West Cambridge. This work led to the development of the SA Framework for the North West Cambridge AAP. The results of the comparison are shown in Appendix 1, while Appendix 2 sets out the SA Framework.

The next stage of the Sustainability Appraisal process is to use the SA Framework to assess each draft of the NW Cambridge Area Action Plan, starting with the Issues and Options Report. This process will be documented within the SA Report, which will be consulted upon alongside each draft of the AAP. The format of the SA Report will follow that set out in Appendix 15 of the Government's guidance, Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (2005).

Task A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA

Consultation on the two Councils' Scoping Reports was carried out with the four SEA Consultation Bodies (the Environment Agency, English Nature, English Heritage and the Countryside Agency). The consultation enabled these bodies to comment on the appropriateness of the objectives, indicators, baseline assessment and issues/problems. The results of these consultations are contained within Appendix 5 of the City Council Scoping Report and Appendix 7 of the South Cambridgeshire Scoping Report. This addendum will also be sent to the Consultation Bodies for comment and will be amended as necessary.

Appendix 1: Comparison of the Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire Sustainability Objectives

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
1. Provide people with a fulfilling occupation and good livelihood	1.1 provide a satisfying job or occupation for everyone who wants one?	7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence	<p>Will it encourage business development?</p> <p>Will it improve the range of employment opportunities to provide a satisfying job or occupation for everyone who wants one?</p>	
	1.2 ensure everyone can afford a good standard of living (inc. housing)?	<p>6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing</p> <p>7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence</p>		
	1.3 keep the economy diverse adaptable and resilient to external changes and shocks?	7.3 Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	<p>Will it improve business development and enhance competitiveness?</p> <p>Will it support the Cambridge area's position as a world leader in research and technology based industries, higher education and research, particularly through the development and expansion of clusters?</p>	

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
	1.4 produce more of the goods and services consumed in Cambridge locally?	1.3 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy sources		
	1.5 support community, voluntary and mutual self-help activities and community involvement in governance and services?	6.4 Encourage and enable the active involvement of local people in community activities	Will it increase the ability of people to influence decisions? Will it encourage engagement with community activities?	
	1.6 provide access to education and training for all?	7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and other infrastructure	Will it improve access to education and training, and support provision of skilled employees to the economy?	
2. Share the benefits of prosperity fairly and provide services and facilities for all	2.1 reduce disparities in income levels?	6.2 Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income		
	2.2 provide services and facilities locally and near to users?	6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	Will it improve accessibility to key local services and facilities, including health, education and leisure (village shops, post offices, pubs etc)?	
	2.3 regenerate and improve deprived areas?	6.2 Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income	Will it reduce poverty and social exclusion in those areas most affected?	No specific reference to regeneration, however this would not be relevant to the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan and therefore no change proposed.

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
	2.4 ensure everyone has access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing?	6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	<p>Will it support the provision of a range of housing types and sizes, including affordable and key worker housing, to meet the identified needs of all sectors of the community?</p> <p>Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?</p> <p>Will it meet the needs of the travelling community?</p>	
	2.5 improve health and reduce health inequalities?	5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	<p>Will it substantially reduce mortality rates?</p> <p>Will it encourage healthy lifestyles, including travel choices?</p>	
	2.6 redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income	6.2 Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income	<p>Will it improve relations between people from different backgrounds or social groups?</p> <p>Will it reduce poverty and social exclusion in those areas most affected?</p> <p>Will it promote accessibility for all members of society, including the elderly and disabled?</p>	

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
3. Maintain Cambridge as an attractive place to live, work and visit	3.1 maintain / improve the quality of the public realm?	3.2 Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	<p>Will it maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character?</p> <p>Will it protect and enhance open spaces of amenity and recreational value?</p>	
	3.2 keep the distinctive character and qualities of the built environment and create an attractive environment with a high quality of design	3.3 Create places, spaces and buildings that work well, wear well and look good	<p>Will it maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character?</p> <p>Will it maintain and enhance the character of settlements?</p> <p>Will it lead to developments built to a high standard of design and good place making?</p>	
	3.3 maintain / enhance built historic character and streetscape and historic landscape character	3.1 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)?	

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
	3.4 give residents and visitors access to a range of high quality arts and cultural activities, recreation and sport?	5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space 6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	Will it increase the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space? Will it improve accessibility to key local services and facilities, including health, education and leisure (shops, post offices, pubs etc)?	Change to decision-making criteria: <u>Will it improve the quality and range of services and facilities, including health, education, shopping, sport, leisure, arts and cultural activities?</u>
	3.5 promote healthy lifestyles?	5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	Will it encourage healthy lifestyles, including travel choices?	
	3.6 reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime?	5.2 Reduce and prevent crime, and reduce the fear of crime	Will it reduce actual levels of crime? Will it reduce fear of crime?	
	3.7 maintain and enhance the role of the city centre as a focus for services and facilities?	7.3 Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	Will it protect the shopping hierarchy, supporting the vitality and viability of Cambridge, town, district, and local centres?	Change to decision-making criteria: Will it protect the shopping hierarchy, supporting the vitality and viability of <u>Cambridge City Centre, town, district, and local centres?</u>

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
4. Promote the sustainable use of land, buildings and green spaces	4.1 protect and enhance green spaces (including parks, children's play areas, allotments and sports pitches) and landscapes?	3.2 Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	Will it protect and enhance open spaces of amenity and recreational value?	
	4.2 minimise development of greenfield land and develop land with least environmental / amenity value?	1.1 Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	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?	
		2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species 3.2 Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	Will it protect sites designated for nature conservation interest? Will it protect and enhance open spaces of amenity and recreational value?	
	4.3 ensure that new development is built to a high sustainability standard	3.3 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?	
4.4 manage and minimise flood risk taking into account climate change?	4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to the effects of climate change (including flooding)	Will it minimise risk to people and property from flooding, storm events or subsidence?		

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
	4.5 protect and enhance wildlife and habitats, and ensure all land uses maximise opportunities for wildlife?	<p>2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species</p> <p>2.2 Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species</p> <p>2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and wild places</p>	<p>Will it protect sites of nature conservation interest?</p> <p>Will it conserve species, reversing declines, and help to enhance diversity?</p> <p>Will it reduce habitat fragmentation?</p> <p>Will it help achieve Biodiversity Action Plan targets?</p> <p>Will it improve access to wildlife, and wild places?</p>	
	4.6 improve water quality of surface watercourses and groundwater?	4.1 Reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses and other pollutants (including air, water, soil, noise, vibration and light)	Will it improve water quality including by reducing diffuse and point source water pollution?	
5. Minimise environmental damage resulting from the use of resources	5.1 minimise consumption of environmental resources and use materials from sustainable sources?	1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources including energy sources		
	5.2 reduce greenhouse gas emissions (by minimising consumption of energy, increasing energy efficiency and increasing the renewable share of energy production)?	1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable energy sources	<p>Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption?</p> <p>Will it lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable sources?</p>	

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
	5.3 minimise use of water?	1.3 Limit water consumption to levels supportable by natural processes and storage systems	<p>Will it reduce water consumption?</p> <p>Will it conserve ground water resources?</p>	
	5.4 reduce waste and encourage re-use and recycling at locally based facilities?	4.2 Minimise waste production and support the recycling of waste products	<p>Will it reduce household waste?</p> <p>Will it increase waste recovery and recycling?</p>	
	5.5 reduce sources of pollution including air, water, land, noise, vibration and light?	4.1 Reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses and other pollutants (including air, water, soil, noise, vibration and light)	<p>Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases?</p> <p>Will it improve air quality?</p> <p>Will it reduce traffic volumes?</p> <p>Will it support travel by means other than the car?</p> <p>Will it reduce levels of noise or noise concerns?</p> <p>Will it reduce or minimise light pollution?</p> <p>Will it reduce diffuse and point source water pollution?</p>	

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
6. Minimise damage and disruption from transport	6.1 increase practicality and attractiveness of environmentally better modes including public transport, cycling and walking?	<p>6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)</p> <p>7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence</p>	<p>Will it improve accessibility to key local services and facilities, including health, education and leisure (village shops, post offices, pubs etc)?</p> <p>Will it improve accessibility by means other than the car and improve the attractiveness of environmentally better modes including public transport, cycling and walking?</p> <p>Will it support and improve community and public transport?</p> <p>Will it improve accessibility to employment by means other than the car?</p>	

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
	6.2 reduce the need to travel?	<p>6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)</p> <p>7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence</p>	<p>Will it improve accessibility to key local services and facilities, including health, education and leisure (shops, post offices, pubs etc)?</p> <p>Will it improve accessibility by means other than the car?</p> <p>Will it support and improve community and public transport?</p> <p>Will it improve accessibility to employment by means other than the car?</p>	
	6.3 reduce dependency on the private car?	<p>6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)</p> <p>7.1 Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence</p>	<p>Will it improve accessibility by means other than the car and improve the attractiveness of environmentally better modes including public transport, cycling and walking?</p> <p>Will it improve accessibility to employment by means other than the car?</p>	

Cambridge City Council		Relevant SCDC Objective	Equivalent SCDC Decision Making Criteria	Changes Made For North West Cambridge Appraisal Framework:
Objective	Question: Will this policy or proposal help to...			
	6.4 minimise traffic and its impacts?	4.1 Reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses and other pollutants (including air, water, soil, noise, vibration and light)	<p>Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases?</p> <p>Will it improve air quality?</p> <p>Will it reduce traffic volumes?</p> <p>Will it support travel by means other than the car?</p> <p>Will it reduce levels of noise or noise concerns?</p>	

Appendix 2: Sustainability Appraisal Framework for North West Cambridge Area Action Plan

Sustainability topic	Sustainability appraisal objectives	Decision-making criteria	Relevant Indicators
Land and water resources	1.1 Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	Will it use land that has been previously developed?	% of dwellings completed on previously developed land Net density of new dwellings completed
		Will it use land efficiently?	
		Will it protect and enhance the best and most versatile agricultural land?	
	1.2 Reduce the use of non-renewable resources, including energy sources	Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption?	KwH of gas consumed per household per year Generating potential of renewable energy sources within the District
		Will it lead to an increased proportion of energy and other resources being met from renewable sources?	
	1.3 Limit water consumption to levels supportable by natural processes and storage systems	Will it reduce water consumption?	Water consumption per capita (however this data is not currently available)
Will it conserve ground water resources?			
Biodiversity	2.1 Avoid damage to designated sites and protected species	Will it protect sites designated for nature conservation interest?	% of SSSIs in favourable or recovering condition
	2.2 Maintain and enhance the range and viability of characteristic habitats and species	Will it conserve species, reversing declines, and help to enhance diversity?	Total area designated as SSSI Progress in achieving BAP targets
		Will it reduce habitat fragmentation?	
		Will it help achieve Biodiversity Action Plan targets?	
	2.3 Improve opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and wild places	Will it improve access to wildlife, and wild places?	% of rights of way that are open and easy to use Area of strategic open space per 1000 people
		Will it maintain and, where possible, increase the area of high-quality green space?	
		Will it promote understanding and appreciation of wildlife?	

Sustainability topic	Sustainability appraisal objectives	Decision-making criteria	Relevant Indicators
		Will it improve access to the wider countryside through the network of public rights of way?	Area of local nature reserve per 1000 population
Landscape, townscape and archaeology	3.1 Avoid damage to areas and sites designated for their historic interest, and protect their settings.	Will it protect or enhance sites, features of areas of historical, archaeological, or cultural interest (including conservation areas, listed buildings, registered parks and gardens and scheduled monuments)?	% of listed buildings classified as being 'at risk'
		3.2 Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	% of built-up area having conservation area status
	Will it maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character?		
	Will it protect and enhance open spaces of amenity and recreational value?		
	3.3 Create places, spaces and buildings that work well, wear well and look good	Will it maintain and enhance the character of settlements?	
		Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	Residents' satisfaction with the quality of the built environment
Climate change and pollution	4.1 Reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses and other pollutants (including air, water, soil, noise, vibration and light)	Will it lead to developments built to a high standard of design, and good place making?	% of new homes meeting the EcoHomes or similar standard
		4.1 Reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses and other pollutants (including air, water, soil, noise, vibration and light)	CO ₂ emissions per household / by sector per year Average annual NO ₂ concentration Days when fine particle levels are in 'moderate' or 'high' bands Vehicle flows across urban boundaries % of main rivers of good or fair chemical / biological quality
		Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases?	
		Will it improve air quality?	
		Will it reduce traffic volumes?	
		Will it support travel by means other than the car?	
		Will it reduce levels of noise or noise concerns?	
	Will it reduce or minimise light pollution?		
Will it improve water quality including by reducing diffuse and point source water pollution?			
4.2 Minimise waste production	Will it reduce household waste?	Household waste collected per	

Sustainability topic	Sustainability appraisal objectives	Decision-making criteria	Relevant Indicators
	and support the recycling of waste products	Will it increase waste recovery and recycling?	person per year % of household waste recycled
	4.3 Limit or reduce vulnerability to the effects of climate change (including flooding)	Will it minimise risk to people and property from flooding, storm events or subsidence?	No. of properties within flood risk areas
Healthy communities	5.1 Maintain and enhance human health	Will it substantially reduce mortality rates?	Life expectancy at birth (specified separately for males and females) Excess winter deaths No. of cyclists crossing the River Cam bridges screen line
		Will it encourage healthy lifestyles, including travel choices?	
	5.2 Reduce and prevent crime, and reduce the fear of crime	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	Recorded crimes per 1000 people % of residents feeling 'safe' or 'fairly safe' after dark
		Will it reduce fear of crime?	
5.3 Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	Will it increase the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space?	Area of strategic open space per 1000 people No. of sports pitches for public use per 1000 people Number of play grounds and play areas provided by the Council per 1000 children under 12	
Inclusive communities	6.1 Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities)	Will it improve the quality and range of services and facilities, including health, education, shopping, sport, leisure, arts and cultural activities?	% of population in categories 1, 2 or 3 for access to primary school, food shop, post office and public transport % of residents by targeted group satisfied with local authorities
		Will it improve accessibility to key local services and facilities, including health, education and leisure (shops, post offices, pubs etc)?	

Sustainability topic	Sustainability appraisal objectives	Decision-making criteria	Relevant Indicators
		Will it improve accessibility by means other than the car and improve the attractiveness of environmentally better modes including public transport, cycling and walking?	cultural and recreational activities Local bus passengers entering and leaving Cambridge per day
		Will it support and improve community and public transport?	Modal share of cyclists and pedestrians % of children travelling to and from school by different modes
	6.2 Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income	Will it improve relations between people from different backgrounds or social groups?	% of residents who feel their local area is 'harmonious' Index of multiple deprivation Range of Income levels
	Will it reduce poverty and social exclusion in those areas most affected?		
	Will it promote accessibility for all members of society, including the elderly and disabled?		
	6.3 Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing	Will it support the provision of a range of housing types and sizes, including affordable and key worker housing, to meet the identified needs of all sectors of the community?	House price / earnings ratio % of all dwellings completed that are provided under affordable purchase or tenancy arrangements Percentage of households that can afford to purchase the average first time buyers property in the area. Number of new homes built / brought back into occupation
	Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?		
	Will it meet the needs of the travelling community?		
	6.4 Encourage and enable the active involvement of local people in community activities	Will it increase the ability of people to influence decisions?	% of adults who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area
		Will it encourage engagement with community activities?	% of adults who have provided support to others in the past year
Economic	7.1 Help people gain access to	Will it encourage businesses development?	Unemployment rate

Sustainability topic	Sustainability appraisal objectives	Decision-making criteria	Relevant Indicators
activity	satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence	Will it improve the range of employment opportunities to provide a satisfying job or occupation for everyone who wants one?	% of residents aged 18-74 in employment and working within 5km of home (or at home)
		Will it improve accessibility to local employment by means other than the car?	
		Will it encourage the rural economy and diversification?	
	7.2 Support appropriate investment in people, places, communications and other infrastructure	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services and infrastructure?	% of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local authority achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* to C or equivalent (Possible indicator measuring the level of Section 106 contributions to infrastructure projects that have an impact on the plan area)
		Will it support provision of key communications infrastructure, including broadband?	
		Will it improve access to education and training, and support provision of skilled employees to the economy?	
	7.3 Improve the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and adaptability of the local economy	Will it improve business development and enhance competitiveness?	Annual net change in VAT registered firms Economic activity rate (% of working age population in full or part-time employment)
		Will it support the Cambridge area's position as a world leader in research and technology based industries, higher education and research, particularly through the development and expansion of clusters?	
		Will it support sustainable tourism?	
		Will it protect the shopping hierarchy, supporting the vitality and viability of Cambridge City Centre, town, district, and local centres?	