

Respondent: Cambridgeshire County Council 20/06/2024 via Email

South Newnham Neighbourhood Forum would like to thank Cambridgeshire County Council for their comments on the Neighbourhood Plan. The Forum has responded in blue font below each comment requiring a response.

Full text:

Thank you for consulting the LLFA on the South Newnham Neighbourhood Plan.

The LLFA have reviewed the Neighbourhood Plan submitted for review under Regulation 14 of Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 and have the following comments:

The inclusion of the Cambridgeshire Flood and Water Supplementary Planning Document, the National Planning Policy Framework, and Cambridge City Council Local Plan Policy 31 and Policy 32 is supported by the LLFA as it covers the importance of managing surface water runoff in new developments using sustainable drainage systems. Cambridge City Local Plan Policy 33 is particularly important for protecting groundwater bodies from pollution. It would be beneficial to include reference to this within the Neighbourhood Plan as South Newnham is located in a Source Protection Zone.

We will seek advice on how we could include reference to Cambridge City Local Plan Policy 33, Contaminated Land to help protect ground water bodies from pollution.

The LLFA is supportive of the promotion of permeable paving as in addition to controlling the rate of surface water leaving the site it also provides water quality treatment. It is also great to see the promotion of green/brown roofs. Other above-ground open SuDS features could be listed such as attenuation basins as these also provide water quality treatment, amenity, and biodiversity benefits.

We are committed to supporting the promotion of permeable paving where reasonably practical, and when new flat roofs are being installed, the use of green, brown or biodiverse roofs.

Almost all South Newnham Neighbourhood Area comprises residential streets with some retail premises, public parks, flood plain and green belt land. Consequently, there is virtually no land free for development, so most developments that take place are extensions to and rebuilding of residential properties. As a consequence, we see limited opportunities for above-ground open SuDS features other than permeable paving, but recognising their contribution to help reduce surface run-off and enhance landscape character, we will make reference to and encourage the use of attenuation ponds, swales and infiltration ponds within the SuDS commentary in the supporting text to SNNP10.

Some areas of South Newnham are at high risk of surface water flooding. This is highlighted within the Neighbourhood Plan with reference to surface water flood risk maps which allow people to identify the specific locations that are most at risk.

It is acknowledged that Policy SNNP10 refers to Climate Change and the Risk of Local Flooding. It is also recommended that the use of above ground SuDS is encouraged in Policy SNNP10 as these features can enhance landscape character in South Newnham.

The Cambridgeshire County Councils Surface Water Planning Guidance also provides technical guidance for developers.

The LLFA would recommend that Anglian Water, and the Environment Agency as well as any relevant Internal Drainage Board are consulted in relation to flood risk management, to ensure that their comments on this Neighbourhood Plan can be taken into account.

[The Forum has written to both Anglian Water and the Environment Agency as part of the Regulation 16 Consultation.](#)

Should you wish to further discuss any of the above comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.