

# Greater Cambridge Local Plan – The First Proposals

## Form to assist in drafting responses to the consultation

This form is provided to help you develop your comments in response to the detailed policies in the First Proposals.

Go to this page <https://consultations.greatercambridgeplanning.org/greater-cambridge-local-plan-preferred-options/explore-theme> then scroll to bottom to find the individual topics. Click on those links then the speech bubble bottom left where it says tell us what you think”. You have to do this for each individual comment, which can be no more than 100 words.

### Carbon Neutral Cambridge Responses

Section / Policy	Your comments
Vision and aims	
How much development, and where – general comments <a href="https://consultations.greatercambridgeplanning.org/greater-cambridge-local-plan-first-proposals/greater-cambridge-2041/how-much-development-and-0">https://consultations.greatercambridgeplanning.org/greater-cambridge-local-plan-first-proposals/greater-cambridge-2041/how-much-development-and-0</a>	<p>44,000 homes is too many because the region is already environmentally stressed and economically overheated..</p> <p>The constraints on water supply and disposal and the infrastructure such as electricity and transport are serious and must be recognised. Higher rates of growth could be counter-productive if traffic congestion gets worse and further environmental degradation occurs through drying up of rivers and unacceptable sewage releases</p> <p>For this reason we would only support the absolute minimum number of new homes, ie</p>

	<p>around 37400, of which most are already in the planning pipeline.</p> <p>Development should be focussed on upgrading and retrofitting existing buildings, unless it could be shown that this would result in higher lifetime carbon emissions than demolition and new build.</p> <p>We support proposals for change of use of existing buildings, where this can be done without compromising the standards of the result (eg for habitable space, light and energy efficiency of residential units) or for the community.</p>
S/JH: New jobs and homes	
S/DS: Development strategy	
S/SH: Settlement hierarchy	
S/SB: Settlement boundaries	

## Cambridge urban area

Policy	Your comments
Cambridge urban area - general comments	
S/NEC: North East Cambridge	
S/AMC: Areas of Major Change	
S/OA: Opportunity Areas in Cambridge	
S/LAC: Land allocations in Cambridge	

## Edge of Cambridge

Policy	Your comments
Edge of Cambridge - general comments	
S/CE: Cambridge East	
S/NWC: North West Cambridge	
S/CBC: Cambridge Biomedical Campus	
S/WC: West Cambridge	
S/EOC: Other existing allocations on the edge of Cambridge	

## New settlements

Policy	Your comments
New settlements - general comments	
S/CB: Cambourne	
S/NS: Existing new settlements	

## Rural southern cluster

Policy	Your comments
Rural southern cluster - general comments	
S/GC: Genome Campus, Hinxton	

S/BRC: Babraham Research Campus	
S/RSC: Village allocations in the rural southern cluster	
S/SCP: Policy areas in the rural southern cluster	

## Rest of the rural area

Policy	Your comments
Rest of the rural area - general comments	
S/RRA: Allocations in the rest of the rural area	
S/RRP: Policy areas in the rest of the rural area	

## Climate change

Policy	Your comments
Climate change - general comments	<p>We strongly support ambitious policies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. We would like Greater Cambridge Planning service to become a UK leader in ambitious policy and enforcement</p> <p>Although we recognise that the Local Plan is mainly focussed on newbuild, rather than retrofit, we would like to see measures adopted to make it easier for home owners to upgrade the energy efficiency of existing homes. For example, by eliminating the need to get planning permission to install rendered</p>

	external wall insulation or PV panels (unless this was essential to preserve important heritage aspects)
<b>CC/NZ: Net zero carbon new buildings</b>	<p>We strongly support the proposed policy</p> <p>We suggest that it would make more sense for the space heating requirement to state “All new dwellings should have a space heating demand of less than 20 kWh per meter squared per year”, rather than the current proposal of “15-20 kWh per meter squared per year”.</p>
<b>CC/WE: Water efficiency in new developments</b>	We strongly support the proposed policy and would like to see it strengthened, so that development could only proceed where there was adequate, proven availability of water, without depleting the aquifer, and without incurring the energy and carbon cost of long distance water transfer.
<b>CC/DC: Designing for a changing climate</b>	We strongly support the proposed policy and the “cooling hierarchy”. Passive measures should be the top priority for keeping buildings cool in the heat waves that are to come, as this will reduce the overall cost, reduce energy consumption and improve wellbeing
<b>CC/FM: Flooding and integrated water management</b>	We support the proposed policy
<b>CC/RE: Renewable energy projects and infrastructure</b>	We support the proposed policy

CC/CE: Reducing waste and supporting the circular economy	We support the proposed policy
CC/CS: Supporting land based carbon sequestration	We support the proposed policy

## Biodiversity and green spaces

Policy	Your comments
Biodiversity and green spaces - general comments	Preserving and enhancing biodiversity and green space is important for health and wellbeing, as well as carbon sequestration. It also makes the region a pleasant place to live, and hence benefits the local economy.
BG/BG: Biodiversity and geodiversity	
BG/GI: Green infrastructure	
BG/TC: Improving Tree canopy cover and the tree population	
BG/RC: River corridors	
BG/PO: Protecting open spaces	
BG/EO: Providing and enhancing open spaces	

## Wellbeing and inclusion

Policy	Your comments
Wellbeing and inclusion - general comments	

WS/HD: Creating healthy new developments	
WS/CF: Community, sports, and leisure facilities	
WS/MU: Meanwhile uses during long term redevelopments	
WS/IO: Creating inclusive employment and business opportunities through new developments	
WS/HS: Pollution, health and safety	

## Great places policies

Policy	Your comments
Great places – general comments	
GP/PP: People and place responsive design	
GP/LC: Protection and enhancement of landscape character	
GP/GB: Protection and enhancement of the Cambridge Green Belt	
GP/QD: Achieving high quality development	

GP/QP: Establishing high quality landscape and public realm	
GP/HA: Conservation and enhancement of heritage assets	
GP/CC: Adapting heritage assets to climate change	
GP/PH8: Protection of Public Houses	

## Jobs policies

Policy	Your comments
Jobs – general comments	
J/NE: New employment development proposals	
J/RE: Supporting the rural Economy	
J/AL: Protecting the best agricultural land	
J/PB: Protecting existing business space	
J/RW: Enabling remote working	<p>We support the proposal to make it easier to work from home, or from local employment hubs.</p> <p>Enabling remote working (whether full time or part time) reduces carbon emissions and benefits the economy.</p>
J/AW: Affordable workspace and creative industries	



J/EP: Supporting a range of facilities in employment parks	
J/RC: Retail and centres	
J/VA: Visitor accommodation, attractions and facilities	
J/FD: Faculty development and specialist / language schools	

## Homes policies

Policy	Your comments
Homes – general comments	
H/AH: Affordable housing	We support the proposal to encourage the reuse of vacant buildings, where this is an effective way of minimising whole life carbon emissions.
H/ES: Exception sites for affordable housing	
H/HM: Housing mix	
H/HD: Housing density	We support the proposal for homes to be concentrated at higher densities (rather than spread out through the countryside) However there needs to be plenty of public realm green space, so these don't become unattractive slums
H/GL: Garden land and subdivision of existing plots	
H/SS: Residential space standards and accessible homes	

H/SH: Specialist housing and homes for older people	
H/CB: Self- and custom-build homes	
H/BR: Build to rent homes	
H/MO: Houses in multiple occupation (HMOs)	
H/SA: Student accommodation	
H/DC: Dwellings in the countryside	
H/RM: Residential moorings	
H/RC: Residential caravans	
H/GT: Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Show People sites	
H/CH: Community led housing	

## Infrastructure policies

Policy	Your comments
Infrastructure – general comments	
I/ST: Sustainable transport and connectivity	

<p>I/EV: Parking and electric vehicles</p>	<p>We support the proposals for provision of at least one EV charging point per home..</p> <p>However, we would like to see a REDUCTION in the required total number of parking spaces per property. The S Cambs local plan currently requires 2 parking places per unit, one of which is on the curtilage. This is too many, wastes land and encourages high carbon transport options.</p> <p>We calculate that if developers were allowed to provide just 0.5 spaces fewer, the development would take 5% less land. This would improve financial viability, and hence provision of affordable housing. It would also allow more space for biodiversity and green space.</p> <p>To enable this reduction in parking provision, car clubs and safe cycling routes should be encouraged, and all developments should be within 15mins safe walk or cycle of public transport, shops and employment.</p>
<p>I/FD: Freight and delivery consolidation</p>	<p>We support the proposed policy</p>
<p>I/SI: Safeguarding important infrastructure</p>	
<p>I/AD: Aviation development</p>	
<p>I/EI: Energy infrastructure masterplanning</p>	<p>We support the proposed policy, but would like to see it strengthened, so that developers were required to contribute to the costs of improving the power grid in order to enable widespread</p>

	connections of distributed renewable power generation
I/ID: Infrastructure and delivery	
I/DI: Digital infrastructure	We support the proposal to increase the quality and availability of broadband and mobile coverage. This is important for enabling a thriving low carbon economy, because it reduces the need to travel, and improves the quality of life while reducing carbon emissions, congestion and road building (with its associated embodied carbon and habitat destruction)

## Supporting documents on which we are consulting

Policy	Your comments
Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment)	
Habitats Regulations Assessment	

If you wish to comment on other evidence base documents, please assign your comments to the policy which the evidence document supports. For example, if you wish to comment on rejected sites within the Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment, please comment against the allocations policy for the area in which the site is located (for example Cambridge urban area or rural southern cluster). If you wish to comment on the Green Belt study, please comment against the Green Belt policy.

When you are ready to submit, please input your comments into our online consultation system – this ensures that the right comments are assigned to the right policy, and that we can track and respond to them appropriately. Please do not return this form to us by email or post, as our team will have to manually enter your responses into the online system and this has scope for error or misinterpretation of your comments.

If you have difficulty commenting online, please contact us at [localplan@greatercambridgeplanning.org](mailto:localplan@greatercambridgeplanning.org) or 01954 713694. We are holding a webinar on the comment process on 4 November 2021 which you may attend or watch back – visit [www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/localplan](http://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/localplan) for joining details.

#### **What to comment on:**

- If you support all or some of our proposals for a policy or section, please tell us – it is important to know what you support, and why.
- You do not need to comment on each section and policy – please only comment on aspects of the plan which you feel strongly about.
- Please keep your comments concise and specific. We receive thousands of comments and it helps us to identify the most important points you raise if they are clearly worded.
- Please do not include personally or commercially sensitive information in your comments. We will redact any such information, as well as any offensive material, prior to publishing comments.
- You can upload attachments, but please avoid uploading lengthy documents or general reports or articles. We cannot take into account any material which is not specific to Greater Cambridge or the Local Plan.

Vision and development strategy