

District Councillor report to parish councils – January 2023

Local Plan Update

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service agreed an updated timetable for the Local Plan in a revised Local Development Scheme, adopted in July 2022.

In line with the updated timetable committee reports were published on 4 January 2023 which will be considered by Councillors. You can view the report [here](#).

This report seeks decisions on the development strategy and key sites (North East Cambridge, Cambridge East, and Cambridge Biomedical Campus), and is accompanied by updated evidence including on need for jobs and homes. It will guide preparation of the draft local plan which will be brought to members in summer 2023 prior to public consultation in the autumn.

The report will be considered at:

South Cambridgeshire Scrutiny and Overview Committee 12 January;

Cambridge Planning and Transport Scrutiny Committee 17 January;

South Cambridgeshire Cabinet 6 February.

There will be a public webinar about the Report on Tuesday 18 January 2023 at 12pm (see below for zoom link)

At the webinar officers will talk through the Report and the evidence published alongside, and you will be able to ask the team any questions.

Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Fund

Village halls in England can now apply for grants to improve and modernise their facilities through the Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Fund. Village halls interested in applying for this national scheme can request grants from £7,500 to £75,000, and up to a maximum of 20 per cent of eligible project costs. Capital grants will be allocated to support infrastructure improvements, the refurbishment of facilities, such as kitchens and toilets, and measures to improve energy efficiency. The application window opened just before Christmas and will close on 20 January 2023. Successful applicants being able to draw on the funding from April 2023.

Domestic Abuse Housing Accreditation

Two years ago, the Council signed up to complete its Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation. The accreditation was not limited to Housing Services but covered the whole organisation and involved a thorough review of policies and procedures for staff and customers. More importantly, the accreditation was part of the Council's goal to change the culture around domestic abuse and embed a survivor led approach. This included training for staff and members, publicity and awareness campaigns and the introduction of Domestic Abuse Support Champions within teams.

At the start of December, the Council was officially assessed against the DAHA standards, passed and is now officially accredited. The Assessor’s report states:

“All involved should be incredibly proud of this achievement as it is evident that a great deal of work and commitment has gone into adopting and embedding the standards across the relevant departments, and indeed, wider across the organisation. We are very proud to have awarded South Cambs District Council DAHA Accreditation, thank you for such a positive assessment process and experience – it was a joy to meet with so many passionate and dedicated people doing such great work.”

Planning compliance consultation

The Greater Cambridge Shared Planning team plays a vital role in managing development, but it can only achieve these objectives if it operates an effective planning compliance service. As part of GCSP’s commitment to delivering an efficient and effective planning compliance regime, it has drafted a new Planning Compliance Policy that will be joint between SCDC and Cambridge City Council.

A consultation on this policy is running for a period of six weeks. The consultation will close on 20 January 2023. You can comment on the policy at <https://oc2.greatercambridgeplanning.org/document/1292>

Cllrs Judith Rippeth, Paul Bearpark and Anna Bradnam

Noteworthy schemes/strategies and projects to be consulted on in future / consultations recently closed

Scheme name	Type of scheme	Main consultation contact	Status of consultation	Website link
Greenways	12 x local greenways feeding into Cambridge	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Consultations on Haslingfield, Comberton, Melbourn, Sawston and Horningsea Greenways have taken place. Waterbeach Greenway consultation is expected Q1 23.	https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/sustainable-transport-programme/active-travel-projects/greater-cambridge-greenways
Waterbeach to Cambridge	Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO)	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Consultation expected end Jan 23	https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/sustainable-transport-programme/public-transport-schemes/waterbeach-to-cambridge
Sustainable Travel Zone	City Access	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Closed midday 23 Dec. Results of consultation expected to be published in June 23	https://consultcambs.uk/engagementhq.com/making-connections-2022
Greater Cambridge Local Plan	Local Plan	South Cambs District Council	Greater Cambridge Local Plan Development Strategy Update	https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/merging-plans-and-

			Zoom webinar Wednesday 18 January at 12pm. Full public consultation in Autumn 23.	guidance/greater-cambridge-local-plan/
North East Cambridge Area Action Plan	Area Action Plan	South Cambridgeshire District Council & Cambridge City Council	Formal engagement phase (Reg 19) to follow conclusion of Development Consent Order process for Cambridge Wastewater Treatment plant relocation (see above)	Link to Greater Cambridge Shared Planning website
East West Rail	Nationally significant infrastructure project	East West Railway Company (Created by Department for Transport in 2018)	Latest consultation closed in June 2021. Next steps are uncertain.	Link – East West Rail company
Cambourne to Cambridge	Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO)	Greater Cambridge Partnership	EIA consultation closed on 11 July 22	Link to Greater Cambridge Partnership website
Cambridge South East Transport	Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO)	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Application to Government for TWAO to build busway and active travel route in 2023	Link to Greater Cambridge Partnership website
Cambridge Eastern Access	Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO)	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Consultation was held in late 2021. The results of this consultation will be taken back to the GCP Executive Board - alongside further technical work – in 2022 to decide on next steps on the preferred options.	Link to Greater Cambridge Partnership website