

A meeting of the **CABINET** will be held in **COUNCIL CHAMBER, PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET, HUNTINGDON PE29 3TN** on **THURSDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2006** at **11:30 AM** and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-


Contact
(01480)

1. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2006.

Mrs H Taylor
388008

2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive from Members declarations as to personal and/or prejudicial interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any Agenda item. Please see Notes 1 and 2 below.

3. FINANCIAL STRATEGY MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2007-2011 AND BUDGET 2006-2007 (Pages 7 - 42)

To consider a report by the Head of Financial Services on the draft budget and 2007-2011 Medium Term Plan and to determine final recommendations to the Council on the level of Council Tax in 2006/7.

S Couper
388103

4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2006/07 (Pages 43 - 52)

To consider a report by the Head of Financial Services containing a proposed Treasury Management Strategy, which is required under the Council's Code of Financial Management.

S Couper
388103

5. LOCAL AUTHORITY BUSINESS GROWTH INCENTIVE (Pages 53 - 56)

To consider a report by the Head of Policy regarding the emerging Local Authority Business Growth Incentive.

I Leatherbarrow
388005

6. FOOTBALL IMPROVEMENTS (Pages 57 - 60)

To consider a report by the Leisure Development Manager and the Leisure Centres Co-ordinator regarding the progress of the football improvements project included within the Medium Term Plan.

S Bell
388049

7. MEDIUM TERM PLAN: REQUESTS FOR THE RELEASE OF FUNDS (Pages 61 - 66)

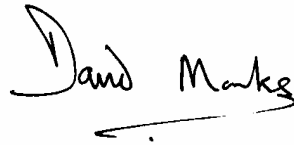
By way of a report by the Head of Financial Services to consider requests for the release of funding for Medium Term Plan Schemes

S Couper
388103

- 8. QUARTERLY SUMMARY OF DEBTS WRITTEN OFF** (Pages 67 - 68)
- To note a summary by the Head of Revenue Services of debts written-off during the quarter ended 31st December 2005.
- Ms J Barber
388105**
- 9. COMMERCIAL PROPERTY PORTFOLIO - INVESTMENT PLAN** (Pages 69 - 74)
- With the assistance of a report by the Head of Policy to consider the Council's Commercial Property Portfolio Investment Plan.
- I Leatherbarrow
388005**
- 10. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT** (Pages 75 - 174)
- With the assistance of a report by the Head of Policy to consider and comment upon the draft Local Area Agreement for Cambridgeshire.
- I Leatherbarrow
388005**
- 11. GREATER CAMBRIDGE PARTNERSHIP** (Pages 175 - 176)
- With the assistance of a report by the Head of Legal and Estates to consider requests for the Council to become a member of the recently incorporated Greater Cambridge Partnership.
- C Meadowcroft
388021**
- 12. CAMBRIDGESHIRE HORIZONS LIMITED** (Pages 177 - 178)
- To consider a report by the Head of Legal and Estates.
- C Meadowcroft
388021**
- 13. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME - SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE ON PLANNING CONTRIBUTIONS AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING** (Pages 179 - 184)
- By way of a report by the Planning Policy Manager to consider two changes to the Local Development Scheme in respect of Supplementary Planning Documents for affordable housing and planning contributions.
- R Probyn
388430**
- 14. SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT - WIND POWER** (Pages 185 - 216)
- With the assistance of a report the Head of Planning Services, to consider the outcome of consultations on the draft Supplementary Planning Document on Wind Power.
- R Probyn
388430**
- 15. DISTRICT COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER OFFICE ACCOMMODATION MEMBERS' ADVISORY GROUP**
- To receive the report of the meeting of the Advisory Group held

on 9th January 2006.

Dated this 27 day of January 2006



Chief Executive

Notes

1. *A personal interest exists where a decision on a matter would affect to a greater extent than other people in the District –*
 - (a) *the well-being, financial position, employment or business of the Councillor, a partner, relatives or close friends;*
 - (b) *a body employing those persons, any firm in which they are a partner and any company of which they are directors;*
 - (c) *any corporate body in which those persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £5,000; or*
 - (d) *the Councillor's registerable financial and other interests.*
2. *A personal interest becomes a prejudicial interest where a member of the public (who has knowledge of the circumstances) would reasonably regard the Member's personal interest as being so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Councillor's judgement of the public interest.*

Please contact Mrs H Taylor, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Tel No. 01480 388008/e-mail Helen.Taylor@huntsdc.gov.uk /e-mail: if you have a general query on any Agenda Item, wish to tender your apologies for absence from the meeting, or would like information on any decision taken by the Cabinet.

Specific enquiries with regard to items on the Agenda should be directed towards the Contact Officer.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting as observers except during consideration of confidential or exempt items of business.

Agenda and enclosures can be viewed on the District Council's website – www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk (under Councils and Democracy).

If you would like a translation of Agenda/Minutes/Reports or would like a large text version or an audio version please contact the Democratic Services Manager and we will try to accommodate your needs.

Emergency Procedure

In the event of the fire alarm being sounded and on the instruction of the Meeting Administrator, all attendees are requested to vacate the building via the closest emergency exit and to make their way to the base of the flagpole in the car park at the front of Pathfinder House.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the CABINET held in the Council Chamber, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Thursday, 12 January 2006.

PRESENT: Councillor I C Bates – Chairman.

Councillors Mrs J Chandler, N J Guyatt,
A Hansard, D P Holley, Mrs P J Longford,
Mrs D C Reynolds, T V Rogers and
L M Simpson.

137. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15th December 2005 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

138. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor Bates declared a personal interest in Minute each of the matters referred to in Nos 139 and 147 by virtue of his membership of Cambridgeshire County Council.

Councillor Mrs Longford declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute No 144 by virtue of her being a respondent to the Framework and Masterplan and left the Chamber for the duration of discussion and voting thereon.

139. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE: PLAN AND AREA MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

By means of a report by the Head of Policy (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet were acquainted with the content of a Children and Young People's Plan for Cambridgeshire and area arrangements for the delivery of Children and Young People's Services.

In considering the proposals outlined in the plan and the Consultation Paper on the area and locality structure Members expressed concern about the potential implications at County and District levels given the pressures arising from the revenue support grant settlement and the competing priorities of other services for the allocation of resources. Having regard to the deliberations of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Planning and Finance) on resource constraints, arrangements for Member involvement in governance at area level and the accessibility of services locally, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

(a) that the Children and Young People's Plan and area

- arrangements for the Children and Young People's services be noted and a further report submitted to the Cabinet in six months time or such earlier date as local governance and resources issues become clearer; and
- (b) that the Chief Executive be authorised to respond to consultation on the development of the Children and Young People's Plan, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Resources and Welfare.

140. DECLARATION OF CONTAMINATED LAND

Further to Minute No.95 and by way of a report by the Head of Housing Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet were acquainted with the findings of a Contaminated Land Survey of the Council's Mobile Home Park at Eynesbury.

In considering the information in the report, Members were advised of the circumstances in which the site had been declared as contaminated resulting in a requirement to commission a remediation statement an estimated cost of £35,000. It was proposed to seek Government funding from the Contaminated Land Capital Projects Programme, but in the event of the bid being unsuccessful it was reported that the revenue impact to the Council would turnout to £2,000 pa. In the meantime, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

- (a) that the content of the report be noted; and
- (b) that a supplementary estimate of £35,000 be approved, to enable consultants to be appointed to prepare a remediation statement.

141. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

(a) PUBLIC CONVENIENCES ADVISORY GROUP

Having considered the report of the Members' Advisory Group held on 24th November 2005 (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book), the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the report be received and the recommendations contained therein approved.

(b) PUBLIC CONVENIENCES - IMPROVEMENT PROPOSALS

Further to minute No.05/155 and with the assistance of a report by the Head of Environment and Transport (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet were acquainted with the present position in relation to the Council's town centre public conveniences, their future maintenance and the financial implications thereof.

Having reviewed the recommendations in the report, together with the outcomes of the deliberations by the Public Conveniences Advisory Group on the matter, it was

RESOLVED

- (a) that, with the proviso that there will be no increase in that element of existing budgetary provision relating to cleaning costs, the programme of improvements listed in paragraph 4.4 of the report now submitted and the associated funding be approved;
- (b) that the replacement of the South Street conveniences on an alternative site be approved;
- (c) that the Head of Environment and Transport be authorised to initiate work on both building and cleaning/maintenance works contract;
- (d) that the Head of Environment and Transport be authorised to serve notice on JC Decaux for the removal of the four remaining APC's units; and
- (e) that after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Finance the relevant funding as described in Annex D to the report now submitted be released from the Medium Term Plan to facilitate design work and the preparation of contracts for the first phase of improvements to the Council's public conveniences.

142. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

A report by the Planning Policy Manager was submitted (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) reviewing progress on the Local Development Scheme. Having noted a series of targets for monitoring local development documents, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the outcomes of the Annual Monitoring Report be noted.

143. URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK BROOKSIDE, HUNTINGDON

A report by the Planning Policy Manager was submitted (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) to which was attached a draft Urban Design Framework for the former school site at Brookside, Huntingdon. The Framework was intended to present the planning policy context for redevelopment of the site.

RESOLVED

that the Urban Design Framework be approved as a basis for public consultation.

144. URBAN DESIGN BRIEF AND MASTERPLAN - LONGSANDS QUARTER, ST NEOTS

Further to Minute No.05/68, the Cabinet considered a report by the Planning Policy Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) outlining the responses received to consultation on the design

brief and masterplan for the redevelopment of land in and around Longsands College, the Regional College, the site of the open air swimming pool, the Almond Road surgery and Health Centre in St Neots.

Having considered the schedule of responses and the amendment outlined in the appendix to the report, it was

RESOLVED

- (a) that the revisions to the Longsands Quarter Urban Design Framework and Masterplan be approved; and
- (b) that the Planning Policy Manager be authorised, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Planning Strategy, to approve the adoption of the revised document incorporating minor consequential amendments as Interim Planning Guidance.

145. REPORT OF THE SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP

The report of the Safety Advisory Group held on 16th November 2005 was received and noted.

146. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

that the public be excluded from the meeting because the business to be transacted contains exempt information relating to terms proposed in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of land or property or the supply of goods or services.

147. HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER ACCOMMODATION - OPERATIONS CENTRE LAND PURCHASE

Pursuant to Minute No.05/77 and by way of a report by the Head of Environment and Transport and a supplementary briefing paper (copies of which are appended in the annex to the Minute Book) the Cabinet considered proposals for the acquisition of land comprising circa 3.05 acres or thereabouts at Latham Road, Huntingdon for an Operations Centre in conjunction with the development of a new Headquarters for the District Council.

Having considered the deliberations of the Office Accommodation Members' Advisory Group on the matter, together with a request from the vendors for a non-returnable deposit and a contribution their fees and in noting the element of risk should the development of the new operations centre on the site not proceed, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

- (a) that, subject to the amendments referred to in the penultimate paragraph of the briefing paper, the purchase of land at Latham Road be approved, on the terms referred to in the report of the Head of the Environment and Transport now submitted;

- (b) that the Head of Environment and Transport be authorised, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Office Accommodation and other Special Projects, to make the necessary payments in advance of the completion of the development agreement, subject to all intellectual property rights in the funded work being transferred to the Council; and
- (c) that appropriate funds as described in the Annex to the report now submitted be released from the 2005/06 Medium Term Plan provision in respect of the office accommodation project.

Chairman

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CABINET

2 FEBRUARY 2006

**FINANCIAL STRATEGY, MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2007-2011 AND BUDGET
2006-2007**

(Report by the Head of Financial Services)

1 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to allow Cabinet to determine its recommendations to Council on 16 February in relation to the Council's Financial Strategy, Medium Term Plan for 2007/11, Budget for 2006/07 and associated matters.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Council is debt-free and has high levels of revenue and capital reserves which currently provide significant financial flexibility. The Council decided in February 2005 that it would use this flexibility to allow modest cash increases in the level of Council Tax each year so that the level of spending reductions required when reserves run out would be minimised. It therefore based the Medium Term Plan on increases in Council Tax of £12 per year. The following table summarises the approved plan:

APPROVED PLAN	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Net Spending before efficiency savings	16,685	17,775	19,670	20,749	22,429	24,116
Efficiency Savings Target	0	-402	-826	-1,273	-1,307	-1,342
Net Spending	16,685	17,373	18,844	19,476	21,122	22,774
Funding						
Total Government Support	-8,731	-9,508	-9,995	-10,481	-10,972	-11,219
Collection Fund Deficit	14	4	0	0	0	0
Council Tax	-5,308	-6,043	-6,790	-7,552	-8,328	-9,120
Use of Reserves	-2,660	-1,826	-2,059	-1,443	-1,822	-2,435
Council Tax	£94.54	£106.54	£118.54	£130.54	£142.54	£154.54
Increase %	14.5%	12.7%	11.3%	10.1%	9.2%	8.4%
Remaining reserves (end of year)	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Revenue	17,312	15,486	13,427	11,983	10,162	7,727
Capital	43,038	28,051	17,114	14,864	10,837	5,619

2.2 The report included a graph that showed that net spending would need to have been reduced by £5.5M per year by 2015/16 (including the efficiency savings shown above) if Council Tax increases of £12 per year were not to be exceeded.

3. CAPPING

- 3.1 Unfortunately, the Government changed its approach to capping for this year (it had excluded District Councils taxing at below average levels in 2004/05) and, despite a full explanation of the Council's financial strategy, determined that the Council's budget requirement (Net Spending less use of reserves = £15.547M) would be capped at £15.160M. The Council approved a revised budget requirement of this sum which resulted in a reduced Council Tax level of £99.71 for a Band D property. This is a 5.5% increase on 2004/5, and a reduction of £6.83 on what we originally billed.
- 3.2 The reduction resulted in an extra use of reserves (£387k) and an estimated cost of £60k to fund the re-billing exercise.
- 3.3 Inevitably, the possibility of future capping must be taken account of in determining the Council's financial strategy.

4. CONTEXT

- 4.1 Huntingdonshire's Council Tax this year (£99.71) compares to that of other Districts as follows:
- in the lowest 8% of Council Tax levels for all Shire Districts in England. Range £59 to £275, average £145. The total impact of capping reduced the District average Council Tax by about 40p.
 - 8.4% of the total Council Tax bill* for Huntingdonshire residents.

* This includes the amounts set by the County Council, the Fire and Police Authorities and Town or Parish Councils.

5. UPDATING LAST YEAR'S POSITION

- 5.1 Some of the elements of the Council's finances are broadly outside of its control. Examples include take-up of some services, inflation, interest rates, pension contributions and Government financial support. The Financial Strategy goes beyond the MTP period (up to March 2011) and considers the Council's financial position up to March 2017. Within that time frame, many assumptions will need to be revised due to local government being part of a dynamic environment of political change, both local and national, and increasing customer expectations. Because of these uncertainties the existence of a strategy becomes more important as, each time there is a significant change, the impact on the Council's plan can be identified and addressed.
- 5.2 The first step in the process is to review the assumptions that were included in the approved MTP. A number of adjustments need to be made.
- 5.3 **Inflation.** Two additional items of inflation were included in the forecast report - the impact of the 50% increase in electricity prices re-tendered with effect from October and increasing the provision for pay awards to 3%. Following the concerns that Overview and Scrutiny raised in relation to the inflation provision a more detailed review has been carried out

and, in particular, the impact of the cost of performance pay has been reassessed to take more account of the impact of staff turnover.

5.4 **Interest Rates.** Interest rates of around 5% have been assumed for the next 3 years falling to 4.75% subsequently. Long term interest rates, for when the Council has to start borrowing to fund Capital Expenditure, have been assumed at 4.3%.

5.5 **Government financial support.** The Council received the initial proposals for 2006/07 on 5 December. As part of the move to three year settlements they have given a 2006/07 and an **indicative** 2007/08 figure. The ensuing figures in the MTP and forecast are estimates.

Whilst the increase of £892k is welcomed it should be noted that £206k is effectively a release of the money previously held back and £553k is due to additional duties transferred to the Council. These include free concessionary fares, equality for people with disabilities, Freedom of Information and electoral administration.

The Government's figures show the Council will be the 4th most under-funded, in cash terms, District Council in England. The amount not yet received will be £544k.

There is usually a small change to the provisional settlement when the final figures are announced which can be adjusted for in the use of revenue reserves.

Government Support	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Assumption in approved MTP Provisional settlement		9,995	10,481	10,972	11,219	11,471
True Grant	10,258	11,431	11,995	<i>12,265</i>	<i>12,541</i>	<i>12,823</i>
Withheld for Floors and Ceilings	750	544	364	<i>182</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Receivable	9,508	10,887	11,631	12,083	12,541	12,823
Variation from MTP		+892	+1,150	+1,111	+1,322	+1,352

5.6 **Review of the Medium Term Plan.** Annex A details the proposed changes to the MTP schemes in service order. The non-shaded lines represent items approved last year. The shaded lines represent the following:

- Green** Variations that have a beneficial impact or only have a cost impact that is due to inflation or deferral.
- Orange** Other variations

The table below summarises these variations:

MTP Proposed Variations	2005/06 £000	2006/07 £000	2007/08 £000	2008/09 £000	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000
Variations						
Concessionary Fares	16	232	232	232	232	232
Pathfinder House and Operations Centre	-165	-209	4	409	563	586
Reductions, deferrals and other new items	-280	-73	-18	-153	-252	-132
Technical including inflation	-63	138	165	196	271	238
Total Variations	-492	88	383	684	814	924

The provision for Concessionary Fares is based on the assumption that a free scheme will cost twice the price of a half fare scheme. This will be the basis of negotiation for 2006/07 but a more detailed approach needs to be developed for subsequent years.

The variation for Pathfinder House and the Operations Centre is based on the figures reported to December Council but, like all schemes, is here based on the assumption that capital expenditure can be funded from capital reserves so that the cost is just based on the loss of interest. During the plan period these reserves will be fully used and the Council will need to borrow again. The extra cost of repaying these loans is included as a separate adjustment within Annex C and was taken account of in the December Council report. Revised figures will emerge during the budget process and the figures in this report will be updated at that time.

This year's appraisals are available on the Members' area of the intranet and the Council's Website.

5.7 **Provision beyond 2010/11.** It has been assumed that, given the financial position the Council will be facing in the coming years, there should be no additional provision for revenue developments but £3.59M per year for capital investment (at 2006/07 prices) should be included. No allowance has been made for unavoidable additional costs other than the Contingency Reserve (£132k). It has been assumed that any additional items that do not meet the criteria for the reserve would need to be funded from additional savings.

5.8 **Efficiency Savings.** Last year the Government announced its approach to efficiency savings over the coming years which created the need for cashable savings of £1.3m per annum by 2009/10. The table below shows the amount of efficiency savings and budget reductions that have already been identified without impact on service levels to the public. More detail is shown in Annex B.

Savings	2005/06 £000	2006/07 £000	2007/08 £000	2008/09 £000	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000
Target	402	826	1,273	1,307	1,342	1,342
Identified	350	452	450	448	446	444

5.9 Car Parking Strategy

The Car Parking Strategy assumed the delivery, by developers, of a substantial increase in public car parking in Huntingdon during 2006/07. This and its associated income are now unlikely to be achieved until the end of the current MTP period. In addition, potential changes in national planning policy on car parking provision make it appropriate to review the approved strategy. The MTP has therefore been adjusted to allow sufficient funding for the review and the extension of the Huntingdon Riverside Car Park in 2006/07. The remainder of the bid should be regarded as provisional pending the review of the strategy, which will be completed in 2006/07 in time to allow adjustments to be made in next year's review of the MTP.

5.10 Other adjustments.

- The impact of the 2005/06 capping
- The 2004/05 outturn
- The forecast level of capital receipts

5.11 There are also some items for which no adjustment has been made at this stage. They include:

- No allowance has been made for any benefit that may arise from the Government's Local Authority Business Growth Incentive scheme which will allow authorities a portion of increases in business rates over and above a norm.
- Inflation on Capital Schemes of 2.5% per year has been included in total within the plan and will be allocated to individual schemes once the budget is approved. There are recent examples of high tender prices on specific schemes but there is little objective data on which to base a higher inflation allocation or even to estimate a suitable contingency sum so no additional provision has been included. The Pathfinder House figures are a fixed price quote.
- No provision has been made for two schemes, proposed by Members, that do not comply with the COMT guidelines endorsed by Cabinet at its November meeting. These are the Introduction of Dog Waste Bins (£80k per year revenue impact) and Broadband for Members (£45k per year revenue impact). Neither is there provision for any demographic growth in service for refuse, recycling, street cleansing or grounds maintenance as, due to the way in which the refuse/recycling service has developed, it is felt that a review should first be undertaken to identify any potential savings.
- No provision has been made for the works that will be necessary at the Council's mobile home site in St Neots as a result of ground contamination. Government financial support is expected to meet much of the impact but some costs, as yet unquantifiable, are likely to fall on the Council.

6. OPTIONS FOR MEMBER CONSIDERATION

- 6.1 When the Government released the draft grant settlement it made the following statement about Council Tax levels.

“We have provided a stable and predictable funding basis for local services. We expect local government to respond positively as far as council tax is concerned.

Therefore we expect to see average council tax increases in each of the next two years of less than 5%. There is, following today’s announcement, no excuse for excessive increases.

Local government should be under no illusions; if there are excessive increases, we will take capping action – as we have done over the last two years.”

In a subsequent letter to Council Leaders the Minister said:

“Authorities should not use previous capping principles as a guide for 2006/07 and 2007/08”

- 6.2 The deferred Forecast Report considered three options for future Council Tax increases:

- £12 per year
- £12 per year plus a catch up for the impact of this years capping
- applying the 2005/06 capping criteria (the higher of a 6% increase in budget requirement or a 5.5% increase in Council Tax).

Cabinet considered that the second option should not be pursued.

- 6.3 In the light of this year’s capping and the Government’s rather categorical statement it is appropriate to review these options. At best, it might be assumed that the £12 per year increase could be reinstated in 2008/09 (new Option 1) but more cautious to assume continued constraint (new Option 2). The two options are considered in more detail below.

- 6.4 It should be remembered that although the Government constantly refers to Council Tax increases the legislation requires any capping decision to be framed around increases in budget requirement. Hence in the same way that this year’s capping criteria affected Councils that had an increase of more than 6% in budget requirement **AND** a Council Tax increase of more than 5.5% this future constraint has been interpreted as **the higher of** a 5% increase in budget requirement **or** a 5% increase in Council Tax. It is important to appreciate this because, as it is unlikely that the Government will increase their financial support at 5% per year, Council Tax increases in excess of 5% will result.

6.5 Option 1 and Comments

Option 1 5% for two years then £12 per year	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Net Spending before savings/reductions	17,317	19,379	20,705	22,781	24,899	26,803	27,821
Efficiency Savings Target	-402	-826	-1,273	-1,307	-1,342	-1,342	-1,342
Additional Spending Reductions							-1,723
Net Spending	16,915	18,553	19,432	21,474	23,557	25,461	24,756
Funding excl. Reserves	15,160	16,774	17,953	19,164	20,397	21,469	22,562
Use of Reserves	1,755	1,779	1,479	2,310	3,160	3,992	2,194
COUNCIL TAX	£ 99.71	£ 104.69	£ 109.92	£ 121.92	£ 133.92	£ 145.92	£ 157.92
Increase £	£5.17	£4.98	£5.23	£12	£12	£12	£12
Increase %	5.5%	5.0%	5.0%	10.9%	9.8%	9.0%	8.2%
Increase in Budget Requirement %	8.1%	10.6%	7.0%	6.7%	6.4%	5.3%	5.1%

Reacting to Government's latest statements but assumes a relaxation post 2007/08

Links with the Council's approved Strategy.

Total Spending Reductions rise to £5.2M by 2016/17.
The Council Tax level would be £217.92 in 2016/17.

Likelihood of capping – Low in the next two years

Public survey of taxpayers showed some support for increases of around £12.

6.6 Option 2 and Comments

Option 2 5% increase	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Net Spending before savings/reductions	17,317	19,379	20,705	22,785	24,922	26,856	27,881
Efficiency Savings Target	-402	-826	-1,273	-1,307	-1,342	-1,342	-1,342
Additional Spending Reductions	0	0	0	0	0	0	-4,214
Net Spending	16,915	18,553	19,432	21,478	23,580	25,514	22,325
Funding excl. Reserves	15,160	16,774	17,952	18,849	19,792	20,781	21,820
Use of Reserves	1,755	1,779	1,480	2,629	3,788	4,733	505
COUNCIL TAX	£ 99.71	£104.69	£109.91	£116.50	£123.60	£134.31	£ 145.53
Increase £	£5.17	£4.98	£5.22	£6.59	£7.10	£10.71	£11.22
Increase %	5.5%	5.0%	5.0%	6.0%	6.1%	8.7%	8.4%
Increase in Budget Requirement %	8.1%	10.6%	7.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%

Reacting to Government's latest statements and assumes no relaxation post 2007/08

Total Spending Reductions rise to £5.7M by 2016/17.
The Council Tax level would be £209.78 in 2016/17.

Likelihood of capping – Low

Council Tax increases approaching £12 by 2011/12 so some linkage with approved strategy.

Public survey of taxpayers showed some support for increases of around £12.

6.7 Spending Reductions

There is the potential for significant changes in Local Government in the coming years. The Lyons report may have a major impact on the financing of Local Authorities and consideration of unitary authorities is back on the Government's agenda. It is impossible to assess the impact of such changes and so the financial strategy is based on the best assumptions that can be made at the present time. Within that context, both of the options illustrated above will require a mixture of **efficiency improvements, increases in fees and charges, reductions in existing services and deletion of developments already included in the MTP**. The Customer Consultation Survey and the Council's targets will provide a starting point for this prioritisation but it will be necessary to determine the relative importance of potential options within that framework. In the tables above, these reductions are shown in the year when they become inevitable.

6.8 Strategy

It is solely the threat of capping that is forcing the Council to keep its Council Tax artificially low in relation to that of the other District Councils in England. This will inevitably result in service reductions and/or increases in fees and charges that local people may not want. There is a direct trade off between levels of Council Tax increase and the level of savings required as illustrated in the following table.

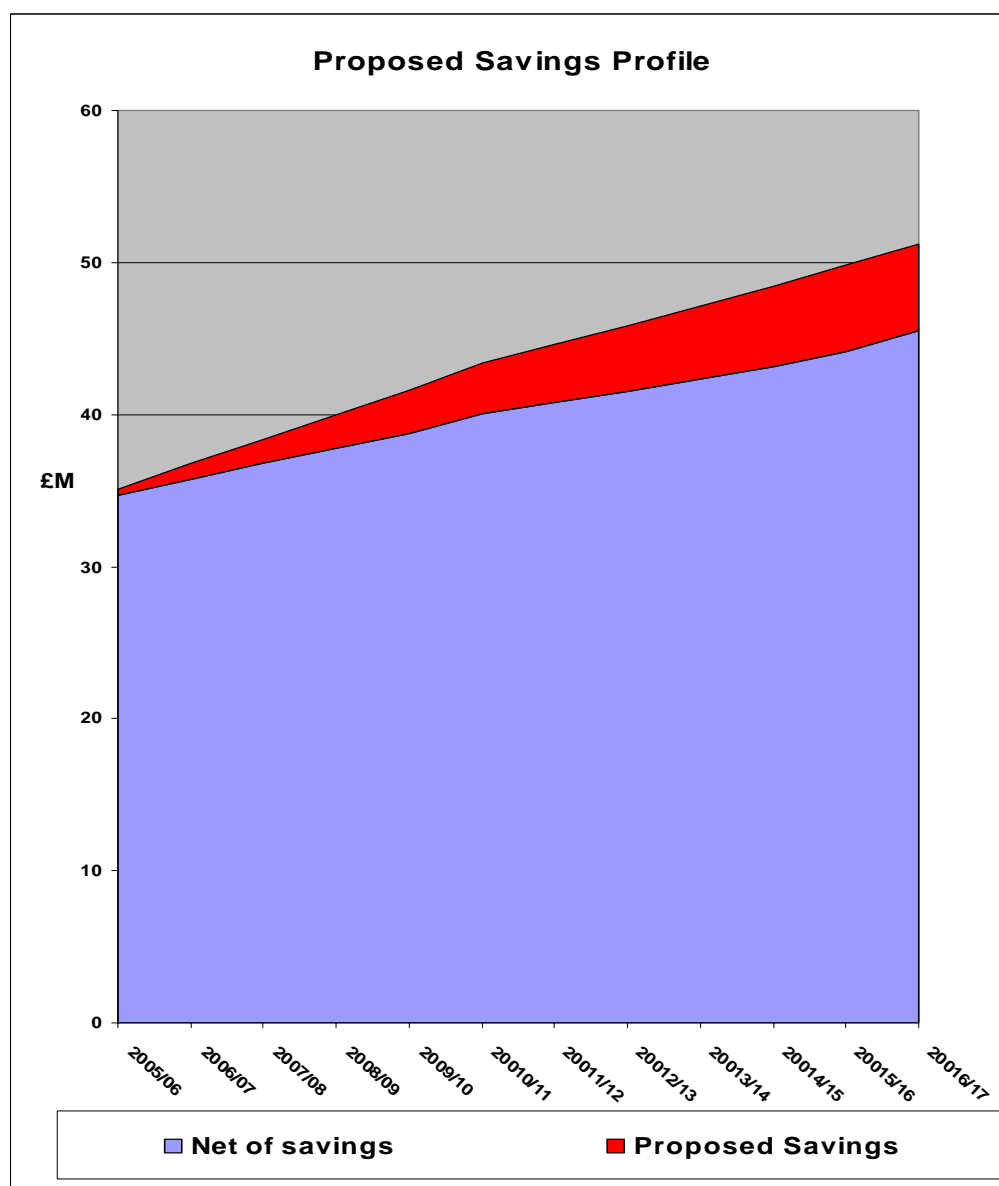
Option	Level of Council Tax in 2016/17	Savings required
	£	£M
5% for two years then £12	217.92	5.2
5% throughout	209.78	5.7

6.9 As there is no indication that Government policy towards the control of Council Tax increases will change it is proposed that the Council's strategy should be based on a 5% limit (i.e. higher of % increase in budget requirement and Council Tax) but, as normal, this will be reviewed each year to take account of the latest Government indications on capping. The table below is therefore based on this approach but with a smoother profile of savings (see graph below) that avoids any major fluctuations. More detail is given in Annex C and the service budget is at Annex D.

Proposed Option with smoothed savings profile	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Net Spending before savings/reductions							
Efficiency Savings Target	-402	-826	-1,273	-1,307	-1,342	-1,342	-1,342
Additional Spending Reductions		-200	-300	-900	-1,500	-2,000	-2,500
Net Spending	16,915	18,351	19,118	20,542	21,992	23,344	23,809
Funding excl. Reserves							
Use of Reserves	1,755	1,577	1,166	1,693	2,200	2,562	1,988
COUNCIL TAX	£ 99.71	£104.69	£109.91	£116.50	£123.60	£134.32	£ 145.53
Increase £	£5.17	£4.98	£5.22	£6.59	£7.10	£10.72	£11.21
Increase %	5.5%	5.0%	5.0%	6.0%	6.1%	8.7%	8.3%
Increase in Budget Requirement %	8.1%	10.6%	7.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%

Total Spending Reductions rise to £5.7M by 2016/17 when the Council Tax level would be £209.81.

6.10 The graph below shows the accumulating impact of the savings as they grow steadily over the forecast period.



7. CONSULTATION AND COMMENTS

- 7.1 A consultation meeting with members of the business community is taking place on 26 January and their comments will be reported to the meeting.
- 7.2 This report will be considered at a joint meeting of the two Overview and Scrutiny Panels on the 24 January and their comments will also be reported to the meeting.

8. PRUDENTIAL CODE

- 8.1 The Prudential Code requires the full Council, as part of the budget-setting process, to approve the prudential indicators shown in Annex E.

9. RESERVES AND THE ROBUSTNESS OF THE 2005/06 BUDGET

- 9.1 Annex F considers the sensitivity of the plan in the longer term to variations in inflation, pay awards and interest rates.
- 9.2 The Local Government Act 2003 requires the Head of Financial Services (as the Council's temporary Chief Financial Officer) to report to the Council on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of reserves when it considers its budget for 2006/07 and the consequent Council Tax. These comments are contained in Annex G and confirm that the budget is adequately robust and the level of revenue reserves is significantly above the minimum level required.

10. CONCLUSIONS

- 10.1 The Council was capped for 2005/06 and had to reduce the Council Tax by £6.83 at a cost of around £60k despite this being due to changes in the subsidy from reserves rather than increases in spending. The revised Council Tax level is in the lowest 8% of the 238 English district councils.
- 10.2 The forecast has been updated for all those items highlighted in paragraphs 5.1 to 5.10 but not for those other items highlighted in paragraph 5.11 because the details are not yet sufficiently definite. The table in paragraph 5.6 highlights the MTP changes.
- 10.3 Cabinet, and subsequently Council, are faced with a decision which must take appropriate account of the Government's capping proposals. Despite the Council having a very low level of Council Tax, local people may, in due course, be forced to accept significant service cuts because the Government's approach does not differentiate between reductions in funding from the interest on falling reserves as opposed to large increases in spending.

- 10.4 There can be no guarantee that there will be capping next year or at what level it will be. However, given the fact that the Council was capped this year and the strength of the Government's statements it is proposed that the Council's strategy is based on a 5% per year increase but this be reviewed each year in the light of the Government's statements on capping.
- 10.5 A low risk would be to assume a Council Tax increase of 4.99% next year and this is the basis on which the final recommendations in this report are made. It results in spending reductions of £5.7M being required by 2016/17. The proposed strategy of 5% increases assumes the Government's current statements on capping will apply for the foreseeable future but the position will be reviewed each year.
- 10.6 Members will need to consider the profile of the savings that are to be found. This profile needs to consider both the reliability of the estimates that the forecast is based on and the potential changes to Local Government that could flow from the Lyons Report and re-consideration of unitary councils. The recommended option is based on a phased approach which can be reviewed on an annual basis to reflect these potential changes and the impact of the Government continuing to cap Councils in the same situation as Huntingdonshire.
- 10.7 The combination of sound budget practices and significant revenue reserves means that the proposed 2006/07 budget is robust and that the Council is well-placed financially to deal with any unforeseen expenditure.

10. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to consider the following recommendations to February Council:

- **Approval of the Financial Strategy (Para 6.9 and Annex C)**
- **Approval of the proposed budget and MTP (Annexs A, C and D)**
- **Approval of a Council Tax increase of £4.98 (4.99%) for 2006/07.**
- **Approval of the Prudential Indicators in Annex E.**

ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 1985

Grant Settlement Information – Files in Financial Services

Working Papers - Files in Financial Services

Project Appraisals

2005/06 Revenue Budget and the 2006/010 MTP

Contact Officer:

Steve Couper

Head of Financial Services ☎ **01480 388103**

Bid No.	Description	Net Revenue Impact										Net Capital Cost										External Capital Contributions									
		2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12						
349	Health for Huntingdonshire - Ramsey	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0															
423	Community Information Project	58	58	58	58	59	59	59	59																						
NEW 662	Community Information Centres																														
	Parks and Open Spaces																														
418	Activity Parks	14	20	24	26	26	26	26	26								70	48	48												
107	Park Signage	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1								47	16	2												
121	Park Signage	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1								10	10													
	Pilot Linear Park Development, St Neots	7	9	9	9	9	9	9	9								60														
	Pilot Linear Park Development, St Neots	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1								42	33													
322	Tree work (Health & Safety) from tree survey	25	20	15	10	10	10	10	10																						
365	Huntingdon Marina Improvements	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5								87														
	Huntingdon Marina Improvements	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1								66	33	33												
369	Play Equipment replacement	14	12	15	17	19	19	19	19								100	52	52												
	Play Equipment replacement	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1								72	16	2												
446	Football Improvements	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10								205														
	Football Improvements	-5	-10	-5	1	1	1	1	1								203	3	205												
467	St Neots Skate Park	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5								100														
	St Neots Skate Park	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2								100	100													
NEW U 663	Survey of ex-housing assets																														
	Private Housing Support																														
442/441	Disabled Facilities Grants(ad)	25	73	117	160	203	247	268	268								1,034	868	868												
	Disabled Facilities Grants:	-2	-2	-2	-2	-4	-5	-6	-6								-1	-99	127	27	27	27	27	27	27						
NEW U 664	Disabled Facilities Grants:																														
70	Housing Needs Survey																														
	Housing Needs Survey			50																											
611	Repairs Assistance (adj)	7	23	37	50	66	81	88	88								324	291	291												
	Repairs Assistance (adj)	-9	-12	-13	-13	-18	-21	-22	-22								-146	-89	-58												
NEW 665	Repairs Assistance																														
	Homelessness																														
443	Common Housing Register	0	6	8	8	8	8	8	8																						
	Common Housing Register	-6	-6	-8	-2																										
NEW 666	Invest to Save Scheme																														
615	Social Housing Grant (adj)	25	78	131	182	233	284	309	309								1,000	1,114	1,025												
	Social Housing Grant (adj)	-44	-34	-34	-2	11	6	6	8								-664	-428	821												
NEW 667	Social Housing Grant																														
637	Oxmoor Housing Siles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0																						
	Oxmoor Housing Siles																														
	Housing Benefits																														
626	Wireless Working (Benefits and Revenues)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0																						
NEW 668	Automated Forms Processing (Benefits)																														
631	Fraud Investigation officer	-23	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25	-25																						
	Fraud Investigation officer																														
	Community Safety																														
469	Crime and Disorder - Lighting Improvements	3	4	5	6	7	7	7	7								22	23	23												
324/8	Licensing Act 2004	-10	-44	22	0	0	0	0	0																						
NEW U 669	Licensing Act 2004																														
460	CCTV - Camera replacements	3	-4	-20	-13	3	13	13	13								138	14	13												
	CCTV - Camera replacements	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2								-85	85													
312	CCTV Digital Services	0	0	1	3	3	3	3	3									52													
	CCTV Digital Services																														
384	CCTV Extension of coverage	0	0	0	2	3	3	3	3																						
618	CCTV - Camera replacement																														
620	Crime and Disorder - Lighting Improvements																														
	Crime and Disorder - Lighting Improvements																														
NEW U 670	Emergency Planning Contribution																														

Bid No.	Net Revenue Impact												Net Capital Cost												External Capital Contributions											
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012												
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0											
	-59	-491	-157	101	377	434	466	461																												
	Variation excluding initiation																																			

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SAVINGS/BUDGET REDUCTIONS	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2010/ 2011	2011/ 2012
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Administration	25.3	27.6	27.6	27.6	27.6	27.6	27.6
Policy		17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0
Legal and Estates	7.8	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Personnel	18.4	18.4	18.4	18.4	18.4	18.4	18.4
Financial Services	37.4	60.8	59.5	57.5	55.4	53.2	68.7
Revenues	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0
Information Management	31.6	46.6	46.6	46.6	46.6	46.6	46.6
Community Services	5.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
Director of Op Services	0.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Op Services Admin	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Environmental Health	45.0	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0
Environment and Transport	25.0	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0
Planning Services	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Housing	10.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0
Operations Division	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Furniture Moratorium	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0
ACHIEVED	349.5	451.5	450.2	448.2	446.1	443.9	459.4
TARGET	402.0	826.0	1,273.0	1,307.0	1,342.0	1,342.0	1,342.0

Examples of savings include the deletion of two half posts in Environmental Health, one post in Environment and Transport and the restructuring of Financial Services. There has also been renegotiation of various service contracts in Leisure Centres.

ANNEX C

	BUDGET			MTP			FORECAST					
	2005/06 £000	2006/07 £000	2007/08 £000	2008/09 £000	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000	2013/14 £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	2016/17 £000
BUDGET/MTP/FORECAST												
2005/06 BUDGET/MTP before savings	17,775	19,670	20,749	22,429	24,116	25,708	26,884	27,959	29,059	30,159	31,259	32,359
Items brought forward	292											
2005/06 Forecast	-258											
MTP (Annex A)	-492	88	383	684	814	924	617	618	618	618	618	618
Inflation on revenue variations			3	19	33	50	61	74	87	101	115	129
Interest and borrowing adjustments		-381	-443	-383	-129	4	89	415	721	1,007	1,272	1,525
Inflation adjustment post 2011/12								-244	-505	-742	-907	-1,090
Total before savings	17,317	19,377	20,691	22,749	24,834	26,686	27,651	28,821	29,980	31,143	32,357	33,541
2005/06 Efficiency Savings Target	-402	-826	-1,273	-1,307	-1,342	-1,342	-1,342	-1,342	-1,342	-1,342	-1,342	-1,342
Additional Savings required		-200	-300	-900	-1,500	-2,000	-2,500	-3,000	-3,500	-4,000	-4,348	-4,348
Total Savings Required	-402	-1,026	-1,573	-2,207	-2,842	-3,342	-3,842	-4,342	-4,842	-5,342	-5,690	-5,690
2006/07 BUDGET/MTP	16,915	18,351	19,118	20,542	21,992	23,344	23,809	24,479	25,138	25,801	26,667	27,851
% increase		8.5%	4.2%	7.4%	7.1%	6.1%	2.0%	2.8%	2.7%	2.6%	3.4%	4.4%
Use of revenue reserves	1,755	1,577	1,166	1,693	2,200	2,562	1,988	1,567	1,080	540	143	0
Budget Requirement	15,160	16,774	17,952	18,849	19,792	20,782	21,821	22,912	24,058	25,261	26,524	27,851
% increase		10.6%	7.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
FUNDING												
Government Support	-9,508	-10,887	-11,631	-12,083	-12,541	-12,823	-13,112	-13,407	-13,708	-14,017	-14,332	-14,654
Collection Fund Deficit	4	74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Tax	-5,655	-5,961	-6,321	-6,767	-7,251	-7,959	-8,709	-9,506	-10,350	-11,244	-12,192	-13,196

COUNCIL TAX LEVEL	£99.71	£104.69	£109.91	£116.50	£123.60	£134.32	£145.53	£157.27	£169.54	£182.37	£195.78	£209.81
% increase	5.5%	5.0%	5.0%	6.0%	6.1%	8.7%	8.3%	8.1%	7.8%	7.6%	7.4%	7.2%
Remaining revenue reserves EOY	16,914	15,337	14,171	12,478	10,278	7,716	5,728	4,161	3,081	2,541	2,398	2,398
Remaining capital reserves EOY	39,310	26,735	10,343	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest	-3,523	-2,792	-2,037	-1,266	-768	-665	-556	-471	-408	-369	-354	-355

Service Budgets	2005/06		2006/07
	Original	Forecast	Budget
Environmental Services	£000	£000	£000
Mortuary & Cemeteries	0	0	31
Refuse Collection	3,212	3,497	3,713
Recyclina	1,263	878	842
Street Cleansing & Litter	1,250	1,267	1,309
Drainage & Sewers	598	545	589
Public Conveniences	260	305	298
Environmental Health	1,840	1,726	1,896
	8,424	8,219	8,679
Planning	£000	£000	£000
Development Control	1,055	1,017	1,152
Building Control	258	226	255
Planning Policy & Conservation	1,207	1,122	1,210
Markets	-86	-48	-69
Economic Development	1,143	381	300
Planning Delivery Grant	-133	-32	163
	3,444	2,667	3,011
Community Services	£000	£000	£000
Corporate Events	179	221	220
Countryside	510	531	540
Tourism	419	421	436
Community Initiatives	867	829	842
Parks	1,493	1,444	1,618
Leisure Policy	375	369	405
Leisure Centres	2,843	2,956	3,269
	6,687	6,771	7,330
Community Safety	£000	£000	£000
Community Safety	1,185	1,132	1,185
	1,185	1,132	1,185
Housing Services	£000	£000	£000
Housing Services	646	613	643
Private Housing Support	2,285	2,069	3,216
Homelessness	578	571	614
Housing Benefits	585	523	759
	4,094	3,775	5,232
Highways & Transportation	£000	£000	£000
Transportation Strategy	854	456	1,033
Public Transport	392	406	618
Highways Services	89	74	74
Car Parks	-19	-96	17
Environmental Improvements	645	585	639
	1,961	1,426	2,380
Corporate Services	£000	£000	£000
Local Taxation & Benefits	869	948	1,061
Corporate Management	2,302	2,344	2,334
Democratic Representation	1,086	1,095	1,145
Democratic Services	23	139	237
	4,280	4,527	4,777
Other Expenditure	£000	£000	£000
Contingency	-353	-10	-661
Other Expenditure	-9,393	-8,067	-10,790
Investment Interest	-2,955	-3,523	-2,792
	-12,701	-11,601	-14,243
Council Total	17,373	16,915	18,351

Service Budgets

		2005/06		2006/07
		Original	Forecast	Budget
Environmental Services		£000	£000	£000
Mortuary & Cemeteries	Mortuary & Cemeteries	0	0	31
		0	0	31
Refuse Collection	Domestic Refuse	3,188	3,494	3,707
	Refuse Policy	40	19	20
	Trade Refuse	-16	-15	-14
		3,212	3,497	3,713
Recyclina	Green Waste	87	77	66
	Recyclina Kerbside Collections	983	619	604
	Recyclina Policy	183	152	156
	Recyclina Sites	10	31	17
		1,263	878	842
Street Cleansina & Litter	Chewing Gum Removal	0	16	17
	Flv Poster/Graffiti Removal	43	60	65
	Litter Control	89	72	92
	Street Cleansina Operations	1,078	1,079	1,094
	Street Cleansina Policy	11	11	11
	Weed Control	29	29	31
		1,250	1,267	1,309
Drainage & Sewers	Environmental Emergencies	0	1	0
	Internal Drainage Boards	307	281	324
	Septic Tanks & Nightsoil	10	10	11
	Watercourses	282	253	254
		598	545	589
Public Conveniences	Public Conveniences	260	305	298
		260	305	298
Environmental Health	Abandoned Vehicles	68	68	80
	Air Quality	72	80	84
	Animal Welfare	129	110	131
	Burials Under Health Acts	1	0	0
	Caravans And Campina	5	5	5
	Contaminated Land	139	143	151
	Eh Health & Safety	218	189	199
	Energy Efficiency	127	128	136
	Environmental Health General	13	12	12
	Food Safety	474	399	436
	Health Promotion	89	89	93
	Nuisances	268	264	274
	Pest Control	90	91	97
	Private Housing Eh	133	134	178
	Travellers	14	14	17
		1,840	1,726	1,896
		8,424	8,219	8,679
Planning		£000	£000	£000
Development Control	Dc Advice	371	374	410
	Dc Application Processing	407	355	460
	Dc Enforcement	212	216	207
	Dev Control Panel	66	72	75
		1,055	1,017	1,152
Building Control	Bc Promotion & Enforcement	184	199	220
	B Reas Applications	73	27	34
	Sustainable Construction	1	1	1
		258	226	255
Planning Policy & Conservation	Biodiversity Action Plan	1	1	2
	Cambs Historic Churches Trust	3	3	3
	Conservation & Listed Build	280	269	286
	Kimbolton Small Works	2	2	2
	Local Plan	532	361	494
	Planning Proiects/Implement	146	248	168
	St Neots Cap Scheme	1	0	0
	Strategic & Reaional Planning	85	80	86
	Suppl Planning Guidance	13	12	13
	Trees	143	144	155
		1,207	1,122	1,210
Markets	Farmers Markets	-2	12	3
	Huntingdon Market	-36	-27	-27
	Markets Management	39	46	48
	Ramsev Farmer'S Market	0	4	0
	Ramsev Market	-2	-2	-2
	St Ives Bank Holiday Market	-37	-31	-40
	St Ives Market	-49	-50	-52
	St Neots Market	0	0	0

Service Budgets		2005/06		2006/07
		Original	Forecast	Budget
		-86	-48	-69
Economic Development	Business & Enterprise Support	193	220	193
	Hunts Cinema & Shops	-16	-15	-86
	Industrial Properties	-98	-148	-143
	Miscellaneous Properties	273	100	-502
	N N D R Discretionary Relief	36	45	34
	St. Ives Station Road Props	-22	-21	-24
	St Neots Shops	-11	-21	-23
	Town Centre Management	788	221	852
		1,143	381	300
Planning Delivery Grant	Planning Delivery Grant	-371	-298	-311
	Planning Grant Unallocated	238	266	474
		-133	-32	163
		3,444	2,667	3,011
Community Services		£000	£000	£000
Corporate Events	Leisure Grants	157	198	196
	Priory Centre	23	23	24
		179	221	220
Countryside	Barford Road Pocket Park	2	3	4
	Coneygar Park	0	0	1
	Countryside Management	157	164	163
	Hinchinbrooke Country Park	212	227	231
	Holt Island	2	2	2
	Ouse Valley Way	2	2	2
	Paxton Pits	105	105	107
	Paxton Pits R&R Fund	2	2	2
	Spring Common	26	26	27
		510	531	540
Tourism	Accommodation Guide	10	1	1
	Brown Signs	8	0	0
	Christmas Cards	0	1	1
	Cycling Leaflet	0	3	3
	Discover Cambridgeshire	1	1	1
	District Promotion	82	77	93
	Eetb Domestic Marketing	2	0	0
	Eetb Overseas Marketing	3	2	2
	Events Calendar	0	4	4
	Familiarisation Trips (Tic)	3	1	1
	Family Pack	3	1	1
	Historic Towns Leaflet	0	11	11
	Newsletter	1	1	1
	Out & About	6	7	7
	Ramsey Tic	3	8	8
	Tip Posters	5	0	5
	Tip Renewal & Repair	5	2	2
	Tourist Services	278	285	284
	Town Trails	6	8	3
	Waterside Leaflet	0	4	4
	Web Development	3	3	3
		419	421	436
Community Initiatives	Com Initiatives - Housing	83	79	83
	Com Initiatives - Leisure	76	72	75
	Community Strategy	37	33	34
	Equal Opportunities	30	30	31
	Health For Huntingdonshire	5	15	33
	Health For Hunt Yaxley	2	1	1
	Healthy Living Centre	0	0	0
	Hunts Learning Partnership	24	1	1
	Local Agenda 21	46	27	28
	Miscellaneous Grants	284	279	287
	Oxmoor Action Plan	175	179	168
	Social Inclusion Group	0	4	4
	St Barnabus Ict Project	0	0	-0
	Yaxley Community Project	68	60	96
	Young Peoples Project	37	49	0
		867	829	842
Parks	Highways Amenities	39	38	43
	Parks Contracts	782	824	876
	Parks Management	630	537	639
	Parks S106 Agreements	0	0	0
	Pavillions	42	44	45
	Unallocated Land Survey	0	0	16
		1,493	1,444	1,618
Leisure Policy	Arts Development	151	168	195
	Leisure Development	211	192	200
	Policy And Strategic Mat	13	9	10

Service Budgets		2005/06		2006/07
		Original	Forecast	Budget
		375	369	405
Leisure Centres	Huntingdon Leisure Centre	518	660	687
	Leisure Centres Overall	24	38	38
	Ramsey Leisure Centre	398	512	507
	Sawtry Leisure Centre	410	377	470
	St Ivo Leisure Centre	855	768	901
	St Neots Leisure Centre	638	602	665
		2,843	2,956	3,269
		6,687	6,771	7,330
Community Safety		£000	£000	£000
Community Safety	C C T V	717	689	715
	Community Partnership	467	443	469
		1,185	1,132	1,185
		1,185	1,132	1,185
Housing Services		£000	£000	£000
Housing Services	Common Housing Register	17	12	12
	Contributions To H R A	26	25	26
	Housing Advances	12	9	10
	Housing Advice	103	102	111
	Housing Developments	14	15	15
	Housing Strategy	205	164	183
	Mobile Home Park	15	43	28
	Publicising Housing Services	6	6	6
	Waiting List	246	239	252
			646	613
Private Housing Support	Home Improvement Agency	79	71	82
	Housing Associations	918	883	2,058
	Housing Surveys	7	7	32
	Renovation/Improvement Grants	1,281	1,108	1,044
		2,285	2,069	3,216
Homelessness	Homelessness Management	381	353	383
	Homeless Young Persons Advisor	3	3	3
	Hostel Support	67	67	69
	Invest To Save Schemes	0	5	10
	Priority Needs Scheme	0	24	24
	Rental Deposit Scheme	25	46	53
	Supporting People Scheme	25	25	25
	Temp Accommodation - B&B	78	48	47
		578	571	614
Housing Benefits	Housing Benefits Admin	410	387	532
	Rent Allowance Local Scheme	38	22	23
	Rent Allowance National Scheme	-32	-41	38
	Temporary Accommodation Support	169	154	165
		585	523	759
		4,094	3,775	5,232
Highways & Transportation		£000	£000	£000
Transportation Strategy	Accessibility Improvements	26	25	29
	Cycle Routes	43	36	44
	Cycle Shelters	25	20	14
	Environmental Management	23	25	24
	Transportation Developments	567	206	727
	Transportation Grants	50	40	85
	Transportation Strategy	122	105	109
		854	456	1,033
Public Transport	Bus Shelters	31	32	44
	Concessionary Fares	246	257	481
	Huntingdon Bus Station	81	80	56
	Rail Passes	5	5	5
	St Ives Bus Station	30	31	32
		392	406	618
Highways Services	Highways Cycle Mtce	0	0	1
	Highways Management	89	74	73
	Highways R&R Schemes	0	0	0
		89	74	74
Car Parks	Car Park Management	-207	-282	-230
	Car Park Policy	188	186	247
		-19	-96	17
Environmental Improvements	Env Imps Feasibility Studies	35	6	14
	Env Imps Management	72	39	46
	Environmental Imps Renewals	10	10	16
	Gazebo R&R	1	1	1

Service Budgets		2005/06		2006/07
		Original	Forecast	Budget
	Godmanchester Env Improvements	7	7	7
	Huntingdon Env Improvements	169	166	200
	Other Schemes	4	4	4
	Ramsey Env Improvements	22	16	24
	Small Scale Env Improvements	160	167	175
	Somersham Env Improvements	5	5	4
	St Ives Env Improvements	65	64	59
	St Neots Env Improvements	96	96	88
	Yaxley Env Improvements	0	3	0
		645	585	639
		1,961	1,426	2,380

Corporate Services		£000	£000	£000
Local Taxation & Benefits	Council Tax	852	916	943
	Council Tax Benefits	45	59	134
	N N D R Administration	-29	-27	-16
		869	948	1,061
Corporate Management	Bank Charges	53	51	58
	Best Value	180	206	211
	Customer First	365	448	331
	External Audit	110	110	113
	Information & Promotion	459	490	545
	Local Council Support	13	18	19
	Pensions	178	189	228
	Policy And Strategy	795	735	732
	Public Accountability	61	57	62
	System & Asset Management	91	46	45
	Telecommunications	-0	0	0
	Unallocated Central Overheads	-2	-8	-8
		2,302	2,344	2,334
Democratic Representation	Corporate Committees	254	271	275
	Corporate Subscriptions	29	26	29
	Member Expenses & Allowances	418	419	431
	Member Support	367	361	392
	Twinning	18	18	18
		1,086	1,095	1,145
Democratic Services	District Elections	41	14	165
	Elections Periodic Review	22	16	17
	Electoral Registration	164	151	156
	Emergency Planning	63	92	94
	Land Charges	-324	-177	-310
	Licences	14	13	111
	National & County Elections	31	21	-5
	Parish Elections	13	9	9
		23	139	237
		4,280	4,527	4,777

Other Expenditure		£000	£000	£000
Contingency	Efficiency Savings Contingency	-402	-153	-654
	General Contingency	132	118	140
	Other Contingencies	-83	25	-147
		-353	-10	-661
Other Expenditure	Capital Charges Reversed	-8,893	-7,567	-10,266
	Commutation Transfer	-323	-323	-280
	Pensions Liabilities Reversed	-537	-537	-537
	V A T Partial Exemption	360	360	293
		-9,393	-8,067	-10,790
Investment Interest	Interest Paid	45	82	82
	Interest Received	-3,000	-3,605	-2,874
		-2,955	-3,523	-2,792
		-12,701	-11,601	-14,243

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**CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities
Prudential Indicators for 2006/07**

Capital expenditure

1. Actual and Estimated Capital Expenditure

	2004/5 Actual £000	2005/6 Forecast £000	2006/7 Estimate £000	2007/8 Estimate £000	2008/9 Estimate £000
Gross*	16,426	21,189	20,598	19,234	13,614
Net	11,269	18,251	14,675	17,992	13,067

* excludes investments

2. The proportion of the budget financed from government grants and council tax that is spent on interest.

The negative figures reflect that the Authority is a net investor and so the interest earned is used to help fund the budget.

2004/5 Actual £000	2005/6 Forecast £000	2006/7 Estimate £000	2007/8 Estimate £000	2008/9 Estimate £000
-28%	-23%	-17%	-11%	-7%

3. The impact of schemes with capital expenditure on the level of council tax

This calculation highlights the hypothetical impact on the level of Council Tax from capital schemes that the Council is making a decision on in this report (i.e. it ignores changes already approved, slippage, inflation and savings). The actual change in Council Tax is different because of the impact of other schemes and the use of revenue reserves.

	2006/7 Estimate	2007/8 Estimate	2008/9 Estimate
Increase	£1.19	£0.16	£5.93
Cumulative	£1.19	£1.35	£7.28

4. The capital financing requirement.

This represents the need for the Authority to borrow to finance capital expenditure. Whilst the Authority has capital reserves it will not need to borrow for capital purposes:

31/3/05 Actual £000	2005/6 Forecast £000	2006/7 Estimate £000	2007/8 Estimate £000	2008/9 Estimate £000
0	0	0	0	1,124

5. Net borrowing and the capital financing requirement.

Net external borrowing must not be used to finance revenue spending except in the short term. In the short term there are legitimate uses of borrowing to cover cash flow e.g. funding salaries pending receipt of council tax income or return of investments.

The forecast shows that capital reserves are forecast to run out in 2008/09 and the Authority will then need to fund most of its capital expenditure from long-term borrowing. However it is permitted to borrow in advance of the need to fund expenditure by borrowing, (see paragraph 7 below).

External debt

6. The actual external borrowing at 31 March 2005

There was £2.5m of short-term borrowing for cash-flow purposes.

7. The authorised limit for external debt.

This is the maximum limit for borrowing and is based on a worst-case scenario. It reflects the Treasury Management Strategy which allows for the Authority to borrow up to £10m as long term debt in order to finance future capital expenditure if it appears that long term rates are lower than they will be in later years.

2005/6 Limit £000	2006/7 Limit £000	2007/8 Estimate £000	2008/9 Estimate £000
22,000	30,000	30,000	30,000

8. The operational boundary for external debt.

This reflects a less extreme position. Although the figure can be exceeded without further approval it represents an early warning monitoring device to ensure that the authorised limit (above) is not exceeded. It allows the management of the Council's day to day cashflow and, in accordance with the Treasury Management Strategy, temporary borrowing to delay the return of funds from the Fund Managers if this is in the Council's interests. The operational boundary does not include the allowance for the £10m long-term borrowing referred to above.

2006/7 Limit £000	2007/8 Estimate £000	2008/9 Estimate £000
15,000	15,000	15,000

Treasury management

9. Adoption of the CIPFA Code

The Prudential Code requires the Authority to have adopted the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services. This has been adopted.

10. Exposure to investments with fixed interest and variable interest.

These limits are given as a percentage of total investments.

The parameters currently set for our Fund Managers could theoretically result in a significant amount of the funds being at variable rates as gilts and corporate bonds are also deemed to be variable rate investments for the purpose of this indicator. In practice the exposure to variable rates is likely to be less.

	2006/7 Limit £000	2007/8 Estimate £000	2008/9 Estimate £000
Upper limit on fixed rate exposure	100%	100%	100%
Upper limit on variable rate exposure	84%	50%	50%

11. Borrowing Repayment Profile

The proportion of 2006/7 borrowing that will mature in successive periods.

The table refers to temporary borrowing for cash flow purposes; 100% will mature in less than 12 months. If long-term borrowing takes place in 2006/07 it will all be for maturities in excess of ten years.

	Upper limit	Lower limit
Under 12 months	100%	100%
12 months and within 24 months	0%	0%
24 months and within 5 years	0%	0%
5 years and within 10 years	0%	0%
10 years and above	0%	0%

12. Investment Repayment Profile

Limit on the value of investments that cannot be redeemed within 364 days. The only investments that meet this criterion are time deposits that are invested to a fixed maturity date for a year or longer.

2006/7 Limit £000	2007/8 Estimate £000	2008/9 Estimate £000
20,000	15,000	10,000

SENSITIVITY

The proposed strategy as outlined in paragraph 6.9 and detailed in Annex C has been modelled to identify the impact that variations in investment rates, borrowing rates and increases in pay will have. The table below shows the items considered and resulting change in the level of savings required.

	Impact on Council spending in year:		
	2006/07 £M	2010/11 £M	2016/17 £M
0.5% extra pay award every year	+0.1	+0.6	+1.6
0.5% higher investment returns each year	-0.3	0	0
0.5% higher borrowing costs each year	0	0	+0.1

Inflation, other than pay, is fairly neutral as long as fees and charges are increased in line with it.

Continual extra pay awards become costly due to the compound effect. An increase from 2.5% per year to 3% per year has been included in the report. Pay negotiations are not based on what has been included in the budget.

The impact of investment rates disappears quite quickly as reserves are used.

The impact of higher borrowing rates is not significant.

It has been assumed that the combination of turnover and performance pay will become increasingly neutral over the plan period. This will be reviewed annually.

RESERVES AND THE ROBUSTNESS OF THE 2006/07 BUDGET

The Local Government Act 2003 requires me, as the Council's Chief Financial Officer, to report on the robustness of the 2006/07 budget and the adequacy of reserves when you consider it and the consequent Council Tax.

Robustness

The Council has tended in recent years to underspend its budget. This demonstrates that it has budgeted prudently and that managers have taken a mature approach to budgetary control rather than spend any spare sums on low priority items. Thus there is consistent, effective application of financial controls and a sound base for setting future budgets. The latest round of efficiency savings/budget reductions will result in tighter budgets but managers were asked to propose only reductions that could be achieved without affecting service levels.

The 2006/07 budget has been prepared using the budget for 2005/06 as a base, and amending it for known changes, particularly:

- Inflation, including pension contributions and electricity which are in excess of general inflation
- Potential pay rises
- The impact of MTP schemes
- Forecast interest rates, which have a significant impact on our investment income

There will always be some items that emerge after the budget has been prepared. These are normally met by compensating savings elsewhere in the budget, the use of the contingency (£132k) or, if necessary, the use of revenue reserves.

The most significant predictable risks to the budget are:

- higher inflation than anticipated
- lower interest rates

A ½% increase in general and pay inflation, **assuming no compensating increase in fees and charges was possible**, would result in a net cost of approximately £190k.

A ½% reduction in interest rates would result in lost income of approximately £260k.

Certain types of eventuality are mitigated in other ways. Many significant risks are insured against, so losses are limited to the excesses payable. The Government's Bellwin Scheme meets a large proportion, over a threshold, of the costs of any significant peacetime emergencies (e.g. severe flooding).

Considering all these factors, I believe that the 2006/07 budget is adequately robust.

Revenue Reserves

These are estimated to be £16.9m at April 2006 and £15.3m at March 2007. This is significantly above what would be considered a safe minimum level, which would be in the region of £2m.

Steve Couper
Head of Financial Services

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CABINET

2 FEBRUARY 2006

2006/07 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (Report by the Head of Financial Services)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** A Treasury Management Strategy will ensure that the Authority has clear objectives for the management of its borrowing and investments. It is also needed to comply with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA's) Code of Practice, which is required by the Council's Code of Financial Management. The Government has also published Guidance which recommends that an Annual Investment Strategy is produced each year and approved by the full Council.
- 1.2** The Guidance emphasises that priority must be given to the security and liquidity of investments whilst the Code covers the same point by requiring the effective management and control of risk. This Strategy is intended to meet the requirements of the Code and the Guidance.
- 1.3** The proposed strategy is attached as an annex.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1** Cabinet is requested to recommend to Council that it approves this Strategy.

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Background files in Accountancy Section: Treasury Management Reports
Reports on the 2006/7 Budget and Medium Term Plan to Cabinet and Council
CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice 2002
ODPM Guidance on Local Government Investments March 2004

Contact Officer:

Steve Couper Head of Financial Services (01480) 388103

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2006/07

This Treasury Management Strategy is intended to meet the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA's) Code of Practice and the Government's Guidance on Local Government Investments.

CASH FLOW

At any moment the Authority's investments will consist of two distinct elements - cash flow and reserves.

Cash flow is the day-to-day impact of managing the flow of funds into and out of the Council and is dealt with in-house. For instance, the dates on which the County Council is paid its portion of the council tax will be different to the days the money is received from those living in the District. These cash flows will sometimes leave the Council with several million pounds to borrow or invest for a few days.

Reserves are more stable in that there will be a definite estimate of the amount that they will reduce or increase by during the course of the year but even this will fluctuate to some extent as a result of any variation in inflation, interest rates or general under or overspending.

CURRENT POSITION

Most investment activity is carried out by the Council's three fund manager's who currently manage the following sums:

Investec	£26.5m
Alliance Capital	£26.5m
City Deposit Cash Managers	£20m
Total	£73m

MANAGING THE REDUCTION IN RESERVES

In recent years there have only been modest reductions in reserves due to their use for financing revenue and capital expenditure being partially offset by capital receipts, underspending and delays. However the draft MTP that will be considered by Council in February shows major reductions in reserves over the coming five years as shown in the table below:

RESERVES	MTP					
	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2010/ 2011
	£M	£M	£M	£M	£M	£M
Forecast position at end of year	56	42	24	12	10	8

Investec and Alliance Capital both utilise a broader and more volatile range of investments. As the amount of investments reduces, the strategy is to take funds equally from these two managers until the point is reached where there is insufficient

to warrant two separate funds. At that point a judgement of which manager to retain will be made in consultation with the Capital Receipts Advisory Group and the Council's advisor. Subsequently, as funds reduce further, the point will be reached where City Deposit Cash Managers or an equivalent manager looks after the whole fund that concentrates on a narrower more stable type of investments. Based on past experience there is some likelihood of spending delays during the next 14 months and so it is likely that there will still be three fund managers in March 2007.

Your officers will liaise with the Capital Receipts Advisory Group and the Council's advisor to ensure that where and when appropriate mandates will be narrowed (e.g. duration reduced, credit ratings increased or instruments deleted).

LONG-TERM BORROWING

As the Council's reserves run out, as illustrated in the table above, there will be a need for long-term borrowing to finance the capital programme. The financial plan shows that this will not be until 2008/9 however efficient treasury management involves borrowing when interest rates are judged to be at the best level, even if the funds have then to be invested at at least the same rate until the money is required; borrowing in this way is allowed if it is for planned expenditure.

If the interest rates are judged to be at the best level during 2006/7, a maximum of £10m will be borrowed for a period of 25 years or longer. Before any long-term borrowing is undertaken, advice will be taken from our treasury management advisor, and the Executive Councillor for Finance will be consulted.

IN-HOUSE MANAGEMENT

The Fund Managers will be asked to return funds to the Authority as and when they are needed. There are significant changes in cash flow on a daily basis which could result in the Authority moving from having funds to invest to a position of having to borrow. However it will normally be financially advantageous to have some delay before funds are returned thus minimising the need for in-house investment activity, this will increase the reliance on temporary borrowing to manage the process in the Council's best interests. It is expected that temporary borrowing will not normally exceed £15m at any one time.

The Council will need to approve a prudential indicator for the 'authorised limit for external debt'; this combines temporary and long-term borrowing and a maximum of £30m is being recommended.

The fluctuating balance of the fund is managed internally to ensure that whilst sufficient sums are available on a daily basis to meet payments to creditors the investment return is maximised on those days where a surplus is held. Because of these constant fluctuations the majority of these sums are inevitably invested for short periods as time deposits with low risk counter-parties. Appendix A outlines the mandate for the internal funds and lists the approved counter-parties though it should be noted that these will change during the course of any year as credit ratings or size of building societies change.

Temporary borrowing will be restricted to that necessary for:

- cash flow,
- the cost effective staged return of our investments as they are needed to finance Council spending,

- taking advantage of situations where interest rate levels make it beneficial to invest sums for longer than cash flow projections suggest they will be available, subject to there being no, or minimal, risk in so doing.

CATEGORIES OF INVESTMENT

The guidance on Local Authority Investments categorises investments as 'specified' and 'non-specified':

Specified investment:

- It is in sterling
- It is due to be repaid within 12 months
- It is not defined as capital expenditure in the capital finance regulations 2003
- It is with a body that has a high credit rating or it is made with the UK Government (i.e.gilts), or a local Authority

Non-specified investments include all other types of investment.

This differentiation requires the types of non-specified investments that will be used to be defined in the Annual Investment Strategy.

Money Market Funds (MMFs)

MMFs are instruments for managing short-term cash based on pooling investments from organisations such as Local Authorities and reinvesting them in larger blocks with a range of counterparties with high credit ratings (AAA or A1/P1).

The MMF aggregates its returns and, after deducting its management costs, pays out an average rate to investors. Experience has shown that the return is usually equal to or better than the rates obtainable elsewhere for small or short term sums.

Investec wish to use MMFs because the number of high quality counterparties has reduced during 2005 and this will give them extra flexibility at no added risk to the Council. They are also a potential advantage for in-house funds. The mandates in Appendices A and B have been therefore been amended to include the use of MMFs where credit ratings are no lower than required for other instruments.

INVESTMENT INSTRUMENTS USED BY THE COUNCIL

In the short-term, whilst the Authority holds substantial reserves, it is not imperative that the investment returns are maximised in any one year thus allowing a medium term approach to fund management to be taken. Thus an investment approach that accepts fluctuations between years in return for greater returns is possible. This in turn has an impact on the investment instruments the Council uses.

The previous regulations allowed debt-free authorities, like Huntingdonshire, to invest in a wide variety of instruments including corporate bonds, and the treasury management strategy made use of this freedom with resulting higher but fluctuating returns; no change is proposed to this general approach during 2006/07.

The previous regulations required the Fund Managers to act as advisors when purchasing corporate bonds and similar securities, and the Council Officers had to approve the purchase. The Council continued this arrangement for the purchase of non-specified investments, however during 2005/06 this was changed, after taking

advice from our advisor, so that the Fund Managers do not need approval to buy non-specified investments.

ADVISORS

The Council appointed Butlers as Treasury Management Advisors to assist in the choice of Fund Managers, develop the mandates and assist in monitoring the Managers' performance. This has been beneficial given the large sums invested, the complexity of the wider range of instruments used and the ability to compare performance with that achieved by other Fund Managers. A tendering exercise was carried out in 2004/05 for the appointment of an Advisor, and Butlers was reappointed until December 2007.

FUND MANAGERS

The Council's investment funds will remain with the current three Fund Managers, subject to them achieving satisfactory investment returns and subject to reductions in reserves not being required sooner than planned. The level of investment risk and the range of investments to be used are covered in the existing mandates. However Alliance Capital has requested that their mandate is amended in two ways:

- (a) The % of the portfolio that can be invested in AA- or Aa3 securities is increased from 40% to 50%.
- (b) The inclusion of perpetual securities

Our advisor considers that these changes do not increase the risks to the fund and therefore the mandate in Appendix B incorporates these changes. They will also apply to Investec.

KEY POINTS

The Government Guidance recommends that certain aspects are highlighted. Most of these are covered within the mandates but they are listed below for convenience:

Definition of 'high credit rating' for specified investments

A short-term rating of a minimum of F1.

The frequency that credit ratings are monitored

Butlers monitor the credit ratings of banks and building societies and notify your treasury management staff of any changes immediately. Unless the Authority is notified of a variation it is assumed that the credit rating has not changed. Where a credit rating is downgraded that bank or building society can be removed from the counter-party list immediately.

The procedure for determining the allowed categories of non-specified investments

Council approve the Strategy that sets out the allowed categories and relevant constraints. These are kept under review during the year by your officers, the Capital Receipts Advisory Group and Butlers (the Council's professional advisor).

The categories of non-specified investments that can prudently be used during 2006/07

These are identified in the mandates at Appendix B.

The maximum amounts that can be held in each category, as a percentage of the total portfolio managed by each Fund Manager or as a sum of money

These are identified in the mandates at Appendices A and B.

Liquidity of investments.

The time deposits managed by CDCM are the least liquid investments and their mandate specifies the maximum period for which funds may prudently be committed. The investments managed by Alliance Capital and Investec are all highly liquid. The procedure to ensure that there are sufficient funds to meet the cashflow needs of the Authority is for officers to maintain cash flow forecasts and to review the mandates of the Fund Managers with the Capital Receipts Advisory Group.

The minimum amount that will be held in 2006/07 in investments that are not long-term (over 1 year)

This will be £22m.

MANAGEMENT

The Director of Commerce and Technology and his staff, supported by the Council's professional advisor, together with the Capital Receipts Advisory Group, will monitor the performance of the funds and raise any issues and concerns with the Fund Managers.

The Cabinet will receive quarterly reports on the performance of the funds and an annual report on the performance for the year.

GENERAL

The strategy is not intended to be a strait-jacket but a definition of the upper limit of the level of risk that it is prudent for the Council to take in maximising its borrowing and investment activities during 2006/07. Any minor changes that are broadly consistent with this Strategy and either reduce or only minimally increase the level of risk, are delegated to the Head of Financial Services, after consultation with the Capital Receipts Advisory Group in certain cases. Any other proposal to change this strategy will be referred back to the Council.

The Council's Prudential Indicators, which are an annex to the Budget Report, set various limits that are consistent with this Strategy and allow officers to monitor its achievement.

IN-HOUSE FUND MANAGEMENT

Duration of investments	Fixed deposits up to and including 1 year
Types of investments	Fixed Deposits Deposits at call, two or seven day notice Money Market Funds
Credit Ratings and Maximum limits	See below The credit rating is the short-term rating issued by FITCH unless otherwise indicated
Benchmark	LGC 7 day rate

COUNTER-PARTY LIST

	SHORT TERM RATINGS
LIMIT £2.5M	
BANKS (Rated F1)	
Abbey National plc	F1+
Alliance and Leicester	F1+
Barclays	F1+
Co-Operative	F1
HBOS	F1+
HSBC	F1+
Kleinwort Benson	P1*
Lloyds TSB Group	F1+
Northern Rock	F1
Royal Bank of Scotland	F1+
BUILDING SOCIETIES (Assets over £5 billion – Rated F1 or better)	
Britannia	F1
Coventry	F1
Nationwide	F1+
Portman	P1*
Yorkshire	F1
ALL LOCAL AUTHORITIES, POLICE AND FIRE AUTHORITIES	N/A

* Moody's credit rating

LIMIT £1.5M	SHORT TERM RATINGS
BANK SUBSIDIARIES Wholly owned by F1 Rated banks	
RBS Trust Bank Ltd	F1+
Ulster Bank Limited	A1**
Ulster Bank Ireland	A1**
OTHER BANKS	
Anglo-Irish	F1
Bank of Ireland	F1+
Bank of Scotland (Ireland)	F1+
Bristol and West	F1
Close Brothers	F1
DePfa Bank	F1+
Dexia Banque Internationale a Luxembourg	A1+**
HFC Bank	F1
Irish Intercontinental Bank	F1
KBC Bank NV	F1+
Singer and Friedlander	F1
OTHER INSTITUTIONS Rated F1	
3i Group Limited	A1**
Irish Life and Permanent plc	F1
BUILDING SOCIETIES (Assets over £2 billion)	
Chelsea	
Cheshire	
Derbyshire	
Dunfermline	
Leeds and Holbeck	
Newcastle	
Norwich and Peterborough	
Nottingham	
Principality	
Skipton	
Stroud and Swindon	
West Bromwich	

LIMIT £1M	SHORT TERM RATINGS
BUILDING SOCIETIES (Assets over £1.5 billion)	
Scarborough	

** Standard and Poor's credit rating

EXTERNAL FUND MANAGER MANDATES

Alliance Capital and Investec

Duration of investments	Average duration of Fund must not exceed 3 years No individual investment shall exceed 10 years
Types of investments	Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by the UK Government (Gilts) Deposits made with or marketable certificates of deposit issued by approved banks (CDs) Sovereign and supranational securities, including floating rate notes (Bonds) Corporate, bank and building society securities, including floating rate notes, commercial paper and asset backed securities (Corporate Bonds) Money Market Funds (MMFs)
Credit Ratings	CORPORATE INVESTMENTS Standard & Poors AA- or Aa3 or above or equivalent A- or A3 or better, maximum term 3 years NON-UK GOVERNMENTS AND SUPRANATIONALS AA- or Aa3 or above or equivalent for non-UK Governments AAA or Aaa for Supranationals SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS Standard & Poor's A1/P1 or above or equivalent MONEY MARKET FUNDS AAA
Maximum limits	50% Corporate Bonds 20% Supranational and sovereign securities 50% Floating rate notes 75% Gilts 75% Corporate Bonds plus Gilts 50% Corporate bonds + supranational and sovereign securities + floating rate notes 20% with any one counterparty (except UK Government) for fixed deposits and CDs 10% per issuer or £1m for corporate bonds and FRNs 10% per issuer for securities guaranteed by non-UK EU Governments and supranational securities
Benchmark	60% 3 month LIBID 40% 0-5 year gilt index.

CDCM

Duration of investments	Up to and including 5 years maximum maturity No more than 25% may be invested for longer than 3 years
Types of investments	Fixed Deposits Deposits at call, two or seven day notice
Credit Ratings	F1+ by FITCH IBCA or equivalent
Maximum limits	£3m per institution and group for English and Scottish Clearing Banks and their subsidiaries, and Overseas Banks on list of authorised counterparties. Building Societies With assets more than £2,000m £3m With assets more than £1,000m £2m Other building societies in the top 25 £1m
Benchmark	3 month LIBID

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THE LOCAL AUTHORITY BUSINESS GROWTH INCENTIVE

(Report by the Head of Policy)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet about the introduction of the Local Authority Business Growth Incentive (LABGI) scheme.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 In February 2006 the Council will receive the first payment under the LABGI. The scheme is designed to allow local authorities to retain a share of increased business rates revenue generated in their area.
- 2.2 The Government recognises that local authorities have a strategic role to play in local economic development and in supporting the Government's commitment to raise the prosperity of all communities and release the economic potential of every area. However, the current local government finance structure does not fully recognise or reward local authorities' contribution to economic growth. Local authorities bear many of the costs of economic development although they do not benefit directly from the increased revenue it generates. Since 1990 business rate revenue has been paid into a central pool so local authorities get no direct individual local benefit. The LABGI scheme is intended to provide a direct financial incentive to local authorities to encourage business in their areas by allowing them to retain a proportion of revenues created by increasing business growth above a predetermined level.
- 2.3 Following the announcement of the scheme in the Chancellors' 2002 Pre-Budget Report, two rounds of consultation and a dry-run exercise have taken place to test the administration of the scheme. The scheme is intended to provide an opportunity for all local authorities to benefit and tries to balance the need to maintain a strong incentive for existing high growth authorities with the need to provide greater incentives and benefits for deprived and low growth areas. In particular, the Government hope that the scheme will provide authorities with a clear opportunity to tackle the enterprise gap in their areas and to integrate enterprise with the regeneration of communities. It is the Government's desire that the incentive scheme should both reward and facilitate growth. Revenue from the scheme is not ring-fenced and the Council is free to decide whether to or how to maximise local economic growth so as to further benefit from the scheme. The Government believes that this scheme puts in place the right incentives for local government to work towards and promote economic growth, which will build effective partnerships with local business to deliver increased prosperity and long-term economic sustainability of an area. In an earlier version of the scheme there was a requirement for local authorities to consult with their business

community on how the money should be invested. At the Council's consultation meeting with the business community in January 2005 there was broad support for the suggestion in the consultative draft of the scheme for a sequential approach which invested the revenues from the scheme —

- to fund economic development/business growth schemes that would otherwise not be funded (particularly in parts of the District which were not experiencing appropriate levels of growth);
- to fund schemes to mitigate the impact of business development; or
- to fund other Council priorities.

3. OPERATION OF THE SCHEME

- 3.1 Business growth would be measured in terms of the increase in a local authority's rateable value during the calendar year. A single payment will be made to each eligible local authority in the final quarter of the financial year. The scheme operates as a grant (not ring-fenced) under Section 31 of the Local Government Act: authorities are free to spend the revenue on their own priorities in their own areas. The starting point for measuring growth is the rateable value at 31st December 2004. Each authority will have a "floor" – the target level of rateable value growth must be reached to gain from the scheme - calculated using national historic growth models. There is also a scaling factor and a ceiling, which calculate the maximum revenue an authority can keep.
- 3.2 In two-tier areas the revenue will be shared between County and District Councils – in a roughly $\frac{1}{3}$ County, $\frac{2}{3}$ District distribution.
- 3.3 Any authorities that fail to receive money under the scheme will be re-assessed to give them a fair opportunity in the following year. Initially the scheme will operate for three years but will be reviewed following the first year of operation in the light of any recommendations made by the Lyons' inquiry into local government finance and the scheme's success in meeting its objectives.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The LABGI scheme should give all local authorities an incentive to maximise local economic growth and provide additional revenue to spend on their own priorities. Given the historic growth of business in parts of the District – a medium growth area – the Council should be in a good position to benefit from this scheme which will provide added revenue to fund priorities or reduce the need to make spending reductions. However, given the number of factors which will affect the final sum, both the Government and Local Government Association advisers recommend against budgeting for this income. The actual amount received will be reported to Cabinet, together with options on how it could be used.

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 Cabinet are invited to note the introduction of the Local Authority Business Growth Incentive scheme and that a further report will be prepared when the actual amount the Council will receive is known.

Background Paper:

A note for local authorities on the Local Authority Business Growth Incentive scheme, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

Contact Officer: Ian Leatherbarrow, Head of Policy
 (01480) 388005

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**FOOTBALL IMPROVEMENTS
(Report by Leisure Development Manager &
Leisure Centres Co-ordinator)**

1 SUMMARY

This report identifies the changed circumstances which affect the Medium Term Plan (MTP) project number 446 titled "Football Improvements". The project intends to improve football facilities, particularly for young people at both Priory Park, St Neots and the St Ivo Outdoor Leisure Centre. In addition, the report recommends action in the light of changed circumstances, which delivers the project as first identified at no additional cost to the Council.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The original MTP appraisal for the project was submitted in 2003/04 and approved as a 2004/05 start to create new and additional changing facilities for the football pitches at St Ivo Outdoor Centre and Priory Park, St Neots. Both have experienced considerable growth in junior weekend participation and neither offer sufficient, or in Priory Park's case, adequate, facilities for participants. The proposal came about due to the development nationwide of County¹ football partnerships and the availability of resources for grass roots football development through the Football Foundation. The Huntingdonshire Football Partnership had identified the need for the two developments at Priory Park and the St Ivo in an extensive survey of football facilities throughout Peterborough and Huntingdonshire. The Foundation's estimate of the costs of the two developments was about £300k each and it indicated that it would allocate a total grant of £390k (about 65%). The Council therefore included a gross cost of £595k and a net cost, to fund the shortfall, of £205k in the MTP. Although the schemes have been identified as priorities by the Partnership, full and detailed bids to the Foundation have to be made for the release of the grant aid.
- 2.2 At Priory Park the new building is planned to provide additional changing and showering facilities and a small refreshment/meeting area to complement the existing pavilion. At St Ivo, the new facilities will be an extension to the existing buildings which requires some remodelling of the existing site, including adjustments to car parking arrangements.

¹ This refers to County Football Associations (FAs) – the Huntingdonshire FA covers most of the District and most of Peterborough.

3 CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES

3.1 In working up the schemes in detail for the two sites, the costs of the developments have been more accurately costed at current prices to be in the region of £550k each.

3.2 The matter is complicated by the new housing development, Houghton Grange, which will be connected to local schools by way of a cycle route through the existing St Ivo Outdoor Centre car park and playing fields. This involves the loss of about a third of the Centre's existing car park spaces, loss of the existing grounds store, and the provision of lighting as security and safety. In recompense and to meet the recreational need of the new community, Section 106 contributions for St Ivo have been agreed by the developers as follows:

- £145k for the cycle path, new store and car park amendments; and
- £360k for improvements to the changing accommodation.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The total resources available for the two original schemes and the necessary external works at the St Ivo are:

	£k
Section 106 Developer Contributions	505
MTP Bid 446 (original bid adjusted for nominal inflation from MTP provision)	210
Total	715

4.2 Consequently, it is proposed that these resources be allocated to the two sites as shown below. The resulting adjustment is included in the proposed MTP being considered by the Cabinet later on its agenda.

	Total Cost	Funded by		Balance Sought from Football Foundation
		S106	HDC	
	£k	£k	£k	£k (% cost of scheme)
Priory Park				
Changing Rooms	550	0	210	340 (62%)
St Ivo				
Changing Rooms	550	270	0	280 (51%)
Cycle Path, store and lighting	145	145	0	0
Car Park	184	90	0	94 (51%)
Total	1,429	505	210	714 (56%)

5. BID PROCEDURE

Bids to the Football Foundation will be made by a professional agency on a no-win, reduced fee basis. The Football Foundation will not accept bids on a joint basis and submissions will be made separately but in close proximity. The Football Foundation inevitably have a limited financial resource but have indicated that the two schemes rank very highly in their list of regional priorities supporting as they do, junior football on a large scale.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The scheme has been allocated a nominal increase (£5k) for inflation which is taken from the provision included in the MTP for that purpose. The resulting total (£210k) is unaffected by these changes. Section 106 contributions will be used for the intended purpose. Although the Football Foundation combined bid is greater than originally expected, the schemes are high priority and the overall resources available for the two schemes (MTP plus Section 106) keeps the Football Foundation contribution to around 56% of the relevant elements. Spending will be delayed from when it was originally proposed and this will generate a small beneficial revenue impact that will be included in the MTP.
- 6.2 Bids need to be made as soon as possible and so approval is needed for the proposals outlined above before the proposed revisions to the MTP are formally considered by Council in February. If the bids to the Football Foundation are not totally successful, then a further report will then come to Cabinet.
- 6.3 Whilst this may seem to be a complicated arrangement, the longer-term benefits to both St Ives and St Neots are considerable. Over 500 boys and girls play football at each venue every week and it is expected that these developments will not only enhance their experience, but also encourage new participants with all the attendant health and community safety benefits.

7 RECOMMENDATION

Cabinet is recommended to approve the revised funding for the football developments at Priory Park and the St Ivo Outdoor Centre as shown in §4.2 above.

Contact Officer: Simon Bell – Leisure Centres Co-ordinator
Jo Peadon – Leisure Development Officer
☎ 01480 388049
☎ 01480 388048

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CABINET

2 FEBRUARY 2006

MEDIUM TERM PLAN REQUESTS FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

(Report by the Head of Financial Services)

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to allow Cabinet to decide whether to release funds for the MTP schemes detailed in the attached annexes.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council considered the draft budget and MTP report at its December meeting and agreed *that, having regard to the implications for future spending and Council Tax levels, Directors review with appropriate Executive Councillors the need for schemes/projects included in the MTP but not yet started and that specific prior approval be sought and obtained from the Cabinet before such schemes/projects are implemented.*

- 2.2 Officers have considered which schemes have wholly or partly started with reference to the following definitions:

STARTED

- The staff have been appointed and/or a legally binding contract is in place for all aspects.
- Some of the staff have been appointed or a legally binding contract is in place for **part** of the scheme **and there is no sensible option to avoid or defer those elements that are not yet legally committed.**
- The scheme is based on a partnership and **all** constituent projects have been agreed with those partners and they have reserved funding for them in the current year.

PARTIAL START

- Some of the staff have been appointed or a legally binding contract is in place for part of the expenditure and there is a practical cost-effective option to not carry out the full scheme at this time.
- The scheme is based on a partnership and **some** individual projects have been agreed with those partners and they have reserved funding for them in the current year.

- 2.3 Officers have subsequently identified which schemes that they wish Cabinet to consider releasing further funding for and have discussed them with the relevant Executive Councillor.

- 2.4 Annex A summarises and the following Annexes detail the schemes where release of funds is now requested.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Cabinet is recommended to delegate authority to release the budget, shown in Annex B, to the Director of Operational Services following consultation with the Leader of the Council in the light of the Government's decision on whether to cap the Council's spending this year.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 1985

None

Contact Officer:

Steve Couper

Head of Financial Services 📞 **01480 388103**

SUMMARY		Net Revenue Impact (£'000)					Net Capital (£'000)				
		2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010
Annex B	Health Improvement	4	8	8	8	8					
Total amount for which release now requested		4	8	8	8	8					

064 Health Improvement

Sue Lammin

Financial Impact

	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital					
	2005 / 2006 £000	2006 / 2007 £000	2007 / 2008 £000	2008 / 2009 £000	2009 / 2010 £000	2009 / 2010 £000	2005 / 2006 £000	2006 / 2007 £000	2007 / 2008 £000	2008 / 2009 £000	2009 / 2010 £000	
Approved Budget Already released	4 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	
Amount for which release now requested	4	8	8	8	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	

Justification for Release

This funding will be used to provide continued funding for 16 community volunteers in Eynesbury with the cooking implements and ingredients and advertising to run a "Ready, Steady, Lunch" project at the Marshall Road Centre in St Neots. The Facility is provided by Hunts Social Services. The skills and training to run the sessions could be provided by HDC Environmental Health division and the Primary Care Trust. This could run from February 2006 on a weekly basis. The same funding will support training and cooking sessions with Youth Centres lead by Cambridgeshire County Council Youth Workers and supported by officers from Environmental Health. Young People would be provided with a facility to cook safely in and learn skills to eat healthily, too.

Promoting services and activities which prevent ill health and contribute to healthy lifestyles is one of the five medium term priorities selected by the Huntingdonshire Strategic Partnership to help deliver the community Strategy. A project of this type also contributes to the corporate priority of attaining and maintaining a healthy population. Members of the Community Initiatives team and Officers from Environmental Health presented and cooking demonstration at a Christmas Fayre in St Neots. This has created a lot of interest in the Community run HDC supported healthy eating promotion.

The Project promotes social inclusion and

- a healthy diet through reducing dependence on ready meals
- sound food hygiene practices to tackle the incidence of food poisoning in the home
- kitchen safety to minimise accidents
- Allotment work for cheaper and healthier foods
- the concept of a healthy diet

It has been running successfully in Oxmoor and Ramsey (on a smaller scale). A formal evaluation is being compiled at present. A program on the project is going to be aired on the 18th of January 2006 on Teachers' TV channel.

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**COMT
CABINET**

**17 January 2006
2 February 2006**

QUARTERLY SUMMARY OF DEBTS WRITTEN-OFF (Report by the Head of Revenue Services)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Head of Revenue Services, or in her absence the Head of Financial Services is authorised to write-off debts with an individual value of up to £4,000, or of a greater amount after consultation with the Executive Councillor, having taken appropriate steps to satisfy herself that the debts are irrecoverable or cannot be recovered without incurring disproportionate costs. A summary, detailing debts written-off, shall be submitted to the cabinet quarterly.
- 1.2 The summary of debts written-off during the quarter ended 31 December 2005 and during the 2005/06 financial year, is shown below with the comparative amount for the previous financial year shown in brackets.
- 1.3 Whilst these amounts have been written-off in this period of the 2005/06 financial year, much of the original debt would have been raised in previous financial years as the table at 4 demonstrates.

2. WRITE-OFFS UP TO £4,000

Approved by the Head of Revenue Services

Type of Debt	In Quarter		Financial Year Total		
	No. of Cases	Amount £	No. of Cases	Amount £	Previous Year (£)
Council Tax	123	20,723.36	530	85,619.64	(46,502.76)
NNDR	17	11,263.97	49	38,809.82	(21,245.97)
Sundry Debtors	46	12,406.95	115	33,780.30	(67,123.43)
Excess Charges	30	1,170.00	156	7,006.18	(12,803.88)

- 2.1 Please note that the processing of Council Tax write-offs was delayed at this point last year.

3. WRITE-OFFS OVER £4,000

Agreed by the Executive Councillor
Approved by the Head of Revenue Services

Type of Debt	In Quarter		Financial Year Total		
	No. of Cases	Amount £	No. of Cases	Amount £	Previous Year (£)
NNDR	2	9,404.59	6	56,753.88	(52,678.16)
Sundry Debtors	0	0	1	15,303.82	(4,120.76)

- 3.1 In this quarter the two NNDR cases, valued at over £4,000, were written-off because the debtors were in liquidation with no prospect of any payment.

4. DATE ANALYSIS

Year of Debt	Council Tax (£)	NNDR (£)	Sundry Debtors (£)	Excess Charges (£)
Pre 97/98	1,243.01	572.46	1000.00	0.00
1997/98	392.13	0.00	1,040.04	0.00
1998/99	608.92	0.00	1,448.01	0.00
1999/00	2,542.46	0.00	2,923.39	0.00
2000/01	4,075.58	0.00	369.51	0.00
2001/02	7,570.59	3,119.59	1,416.41	0.00
2002/03	14,614.57	4,365.99	5,489.80	2,061.18
2003/04	24,819.87	33,308.81	11,772.51	0.00
2004/05	25,371.76	44,515.21	22,399.49	4,165.00
2005/06	4,380.75	9,681.64	1,224.96	780.00
Totals	85,619.64	95,563.70	49,084.12	7,006.18

5. CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 Cabinet members are asked to note the content of this report

Contact Officer: Julia Barber, Head of Revenue Services ☎ [01480] 388105

CABINET

2nd February 2006

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY PORTFOLIO:
SUPPORTING A STRONG AND DIVERSE ECONOMY
(Report by Heads of Legal & Estates and Policy)**

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to propose a strategic direction on the (re)investment in the Council's commercial property portfolio to ensure —

- that the portfolio provides maximum support for the Council's priorities, specifically (but not exclusively) a strong and diverse local economy;
- retains physical assets for future generations;
- maximises the sustainability and profitability of the portfolio; and
- produces an acceptable return to support other (Council-wide) revenue projects.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Council has invested in a commercial property portfolio which has produced long-term benefits for the District. The portfolio is continually reviewed to ensure that the assets are suitable and maintained in an appropriate condition. The Council's existing policies and strategies provide for the continued investment and reinvestment to update the portfolio, specifically in locations and in types of provision that would otherwise not be achieved through the private market. Such investment needs to be in line with the Council's overall financial strategy and to ensure that the portfolio continues to be profitable. The Council is well placed to do this because it can take a long-term perspective on investment and a realistic view on acceptable returns.

2.2 Overall the commercial property portfolio produces a net surplus of around £200k per year, which is used to fund new or existing expenditure that otherwise would be met from Council Tax.

2.3 The Council's policies (supported by a Best Value Review) on the ownership of commercial property set out the criteria to be considered in deciding whether or not to retain or acquire particular assets—

- the generation of an acceptable return on capital;
- the contribution to economic strength and diversity in the District;
- encouragement of the development of enterprise and new businesses;

- the provision of economic and employment activities in key sectors or locations;
- assisting in the creation of a variety of employment opportunities; and
- the provision of additional control/involvement in key development opportunities.

2.4 In considering any (re)investment opportunities in the Council's property portfolio, every effort is made to lever-in external funding which will reduce the Council's capital contribution and/or reduce future revenue expenditure, both of which help to maximise surplus from the portfolio. Increasingly external funding requires an element of matched-funding, a partnership approach, and the ability to react quickly to short-term opportunities. In addition, it has not always been possible to match the reinvestment of capital receipts from the realisation of redundant assets with opportunities to obtain inward investment.

3. THE WAY FORWARD

3.1 To resolve these issues and to maximise the opportunities for external funding, Cabinet is invited to consider the adoption of a medium term strategic investment plan linked to the commercial property portfolio. This would support the Council's priorities and the consequential development of physical assets to help deliver the objectives of a number of Plans and Strategies (the Community Strategy, Local Economy Strategy, Market Town Vision Statement and Action Plans) together with Regional and Sub-Regional objectives. Some proposed schemes have been identified and prioritised in conjunction with partners, especially those involved in the Huntingdonshire Strategic Partnership. A full economic appraisal would be produced before authority was sought for any scheme to proceed and for the release of a contribution from the Council towards the cost the projects. The proposals are set out in the attached schedule.

3.2 The Council's current medium term programme includes (re-phased) funding of £563k in 2007/09 for the provision of small industrial/commercial workspace in St Ives. One option to achieve this type of workspace would be to redevelop – possibly in partnership with a private investor – a Council-owned site, which is likely to become available on the relocation of the Council's depot and/or other operational sites being declared surplus to operational requirements. Also included in the Medium Term Plan is a provisional contribution of £300k, conditional on Government funding and the contribution of land, to establish a creative industries centre in St Neots to provide workspace and business support for new or developing businesses. The other proposals in the investment plan do not include provision in the MTP.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The current allocations in the MTP help to combine the Council's objectives of reinvestment in its commercial property portfolio while maximising external funding. The proposed investment plan would provide flexibility to deal with a wide range of investment and reinvestment opportunities and provide a clear signal to inward investors of the Council's support for the local economy through commercial property activity.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Accordingly, it is —

RECOMMENDED

- (a) that the investment plan suggested for the Council's commercial property portfolio be approved and that the progress of each project be conditioned on approval of a detailed appraisal; and
- (b) that, subject to consideration of the Medium Term Plan, the re-phasing of expenditure as proposed be approved.

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

LABGI Scheme

Contact Officers:

Colin Meadowcroft, Head of Legal & Estates
☎ (01480) 388021
Ian Leatherbarrow, Head of Policy
☎ (01480) 388005

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Appendix

Year	2006/07	2007/8	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
MTP Provision (£,000)	300	284	289		
Projects	St Neots Creative Industries (Longsands Quarter) *Ramsey (Combined Heat & Power and Business Enterprise Centre)	St Ives (Industrial & Commercial Workspace) *Ramsey (Combined Heat & Power and Business Enterprise Centre)	St Ives (Industrial & Commercial Workspace)	Rural Workshops (possibly linked to extension of Paxton Pits and/or Great Fen Projects)	Serviced Offices, Huntingdon / St Ives

* Identification of potential funding already commissioned.

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CABINET)
JANUARY 2006

2ND FEBRUARY 2006

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS (Report by the Head of Policy)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Cambridgeshire is one of the areas in the East of England Region which has been selected by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to participate in the second phase of developing Local Area Agreements (LAA). The Agreements are an initiative intended to streamline Government funding, to encourage more partnership working – particularly through Local Strategic Partnerships – and to ensure investment is directed towards local priorities. The LAAs build on the Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) concept to improve services through targeted prioritisation of funding.

2. THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- 2.1 The process for developing LAAs requires both extensive partnership consultation and engagement while at the same time imposes a very restricted timetable. Work to date, therefore, has concentrated on using the five Community Strategies which exist in Cambridgeshire to identify local priorities and the objectives and themes from those Strategies have been incorporated into a draft LAA. This draft has been subject to some preliminary consultation with agencies across Cambridgeshire and has now been submitted to the Government Office for review. (A copy is appended.) A final draft will be submitted to Cabinet in February 2006 for endorsement.

3. STRUCTURE OF THE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

- 3.1 The format of the Agreement is largely defined by the Government and includes an introduction to the area; a joint vision for improving the quality of life; aims, objectives and cross-cutting themes; partnership arrangements; and the priority outcomes for each of four “blocks” —
- children and young people;
 - safer and stronger communities;
 - healthy communities and older people (two distinct subjects);
 - economic development and enterprise.
- 3.2 As an LPSA is already in place in Cambridgeshire, the topics and stretching targets in that agreement are automatically incorporated within the LAA.

4. GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 In the absence of a county-wide Local Strategic Partnership, the Agreement must be accompanied by agreed governance arrangements. While partner organisations will still be responsible for individual decision making, for an initial 12 months trial period these arrangements will include —

- a Local Area Agreement Board with approximately 12 members drawn from the County and District Councils/Local Strategic Partnerships, health, the Police, business and the voluntary sector; and
- a supporting Local Area Agreement Reference Group, including representatives of all District Councils, the Primary Care Trusts, the County Council, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, the voluntary sector, CALC, Job Centre Plus, the Learning Skills Council and Greater Cambridge Partnership.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 The LAA offers the potential to both reduce the work associated with administering Government funding streams, to improve partnership working in the area and to ensure that funding is targeted to local priorities. However, the nature of the Agreement, and in particular the timescale in which it must be achieved, might mitigate against the setting of true local priorities in favour of broader regional or national priorities.

6. RECOMMENDATION

6.1 The Panel are invited to comment on the draft Agreement.

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Cambridgeshire Local Area Agreement draft

Contact Officer: Ian Leatherbarrow, Head of Policy
☎ (01480) 388005

CAMBRIDGESHIRE'S LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

Working together to achieve better outcomes



2006 - 2009

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INTRODUCTION

The Benefits of developing and implementing Cambridgeshire's LAA

Developing and implementing the Local Area Agreement will improve coordination between central government, local authorities and partner agencies working through our Local Strategic Partnerships. Cambridgeshire is in a good position to build a robust framework for the LAA:

- It has a strong tradition of partnership working
- It has well established Community Strategies which have already been embedded into the Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) framework (identified in this document as 'LAA Stretch')
- It has an established framework for managing partnership wide arrangements within LPSA 2 that have been built on to develop arrangements for the Local Area Agreement

We have identified cross cutting themes within Cambridgeshire's Community Strategies to set the basis for the LAA strategic outcomes and priorities. It is important the LAA builds on current work and remains focused within a wider context of existing programmes and initiatives. It is also vital to have a coordinated response given the challenges -and opportunities - of the growth agenda.

We have used and will continue to use the LAA as a mechanism for articulating the area's need to central government and to work with partners to create a clear picture of work programmes and funding streams coming into the area. By bringing different work streams and strategies together partner organisations will be in a better position to join up public services more effectively and to work in innovative ways to benefit our local communities.

We also realise that the Local Area Agreement must be an adaptable document that enables us to be flexible and respond to future changes and challenges as they develop. To this effect initial aspirations for the next three years have already been included in this document.

We can foresee a number of benefits for the area to be achieved through the LAA, namely:

- Enhanced ability to deliver improved performance through partnership working
- Enhanced community leadership

- Further strengthening of the role of the LSPs; and
- Potential to increase impact and create efficiencies through the locally targeted prioritisation of funding;

Improving Quality of Life in Cambridgeshire - Our Vision

We aim to continue to work together as constituent partners in the development and delivery of the Local Area Agreement to enable Cambridgeshire to be a prosperous, inclusive, healthy and safe area where growth is sustainably managed for the benefit of current and future residents; where children and young people have the best possible start in life; where quality services enable all members of our communities to thrive; and where quality of life will improve along with the quality of the county's environment.

We will achieve this vision by continuing our commitment to:

- Recognising geographical, social and economic differences within the County and responding appropriately to challenges and needs;
- Working in partnership at the local, sub regional and regional level;
- Empowering our local communities to engage in shaping service delivery;
- Focusing on the service user;
- Celebrating Cambridgeshire's diversity by promoting social inclusion, health and healthy lifestyles;
- Recognising and supporting the role of the voluntary sector in service delivery and community and service user involvement

Cambridgeshire's five Local Strategic Partnerships have identified - through their Communities Strategies - the social, economic and environmental issues that matter to our residents. People, organisations, agencies and community and voluntary groups will keep working together to achieve communities that are:

- ◆ Sustainable;
- ◆ Inclusive;
- ◆ Safe;
- ◆ Healthy; and
- ◆ Learning

These are also the cross cutting themes running across the four blocks of the LAA as presented in the following table:

CROSS CUTTING THEMES	CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE OUTCOMES	SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES OUTCOMES	HEALTH AND OLDER PEOPLE OUTCOMES	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE OUTCOMES
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing supportive communities which provide opportunities for children and young people to participate fully 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services Support the development of the voluntary sector and increase their capacity to broker delivery against targets Improve the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support healthy lifestyles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable economic development and Local business growth Encouraging innovation & entrepreneurship
INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better outcomes for children looked after by the local authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote inclusive, diverse and cohesive communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce social exclusion by improving access to services Reduce local inequalities in health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting workforce development and Ensuring economic growth benefits all
SAFE COMMUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring all young people can lead safe and secure lives free from unreasonable risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce crime and the harm caused by illegal drugs Reassure the public by reducing the fear of crime and antisocial behaviour Increase participation in culture and sports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce crime and the fear of crime 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting workforce development and Ensuring economic growth benefits all
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving the emotional and physical health of children and young people Raising educational performance for all young people Raising the aspirations of young people to improve their employment and life prospects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage citizens in sports, arts and cultural heritage Better access to services and information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve access to services which support healthy lifestyles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting the skills base to support the Regional and local economy
LEARNING COMMUNITIES WITH HIGHER ASPIRATIONS				

OVERVIEW OF THE COUNTY

Cambridgeshire¹ remains a rapidly growing county, and an identified Government Growth Area. The population has grown by over 20% since 1981. National Statistics forecasts project one of the fastest growing populations in the country, over the period 1999-2011, with more than 10% growth. In particular the number of people aged 85+ in Cambridgeshire could grow by 7,200 to mid-2021, an increase of 67.3% compared to a national figure of 52.7%.

In 2001, 4% of the county's population was recorded as from a black/mixed minority ethnic community (and 5% from white non-British). In Cambridge the black/mixed minority ethnic community share was 10.5%, compared with just 1.4% in Fenland. Travellers form the largest ethnic minority group.

At a time of major growth in the economy and housing needs of Cambridgeshire sustainability is key for the county to meet the pressures development puts on the environment, infrastructure and other supporting services such as schools and health services. A 40% increase in the delivery rate of new housing and the doubling of affordable housing is needed to support growth. Investment in social infrastructure must also meet the demands of growth in development in order to tackle social deprivation. In addition, the potential effects of climate change are of particular significance with many areas at risk of flooding.

The county is relatively prosperous with earnings in Cambridgeshire above the national and regional average. In 2004, Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire were in the top three districts with shares of the working population with NVQ Level 4+. But prosperity and quality of life will not continue as a matter of fact without growth in the research and hi-tech sectors being met by affordable housing and infrastructure to support on going development.

In addition, existing contrasts between parts of the county need to be addressed. There are pockets in the county of significant deprivation. In 2001 for instance, 31% of the working age population in Fenland had no qualifications. A more equitable distribution of economic development and social opportunity is necessary, paired up with the provision of community services and facilities.

¹ Cambridgeshire excluding Peterborough

Existing challenges can be met by ensuring:

- Economic opportunities are maintained and improved
- There is increasing social equity for all areas
- The environment is protected and enhanced while the distinctiveness of each locality is maintained; and
- Natural resources are conserved; and
- By implementing the goals within our Sub-Regional Economic Strategy, namely:
 - Coordinate development and infrastructure implementation
 - Overcome barriers to development projects
 - Secure funding commitments for infrastructure and its timely implementation
 - Ensure developments are sustainable and of a high quality

The future transport policy for the county, as set out in our Local Transport Plan and embedded in the long-term transport strategy, is also important in maintaining and improving quality of life and quality of the environment. Produced in partnership, the LTP represents a consensus among stakeholders as to how we can provide the transport infrastructure required both to meet current and future needs and to meet the challenge of tackling growth in traffic within the county. This is set out under the following key objectives:

- To make travel safer
- To develop integrated transport
- To promote sustainable forms of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling
- To maintain and operate efficient transport networks
- To create a transport system that is accessible to all
- To provide a transport system that meets the needs of the economy; and
- To protect and enhance the built and natural environment

The LTP programme includes measures to connect urban and rural areas, as there are significant differences between the transport needs of people in the rural and urban core around Cambridge. Issues around accessibility - particularly in rural parts of the county, the efficiency of the transport network, traffic growth and congestion, and road safety can only be successfully addressed by continue to work in partnership.

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Under Safer and Stronger Communities (outcomes two and four in particular), we are proposing new ways of working that take into account current delivery and programmes of empowering local people. Work will centre on communities and the support needed at the organisational and individual level to develop community empowerment by joining up current initiatives relating to:

- Community Planning and Community Development work
- Community Cohesion Work
- Neighbourhood Management work
- Parish Plan development
- Parish Council development work
- Village Hall service
- Compact Development Work
- Volunteering support services
- Voluntary and Community Sector infrastructure support; and
- Voluntary and Community Sector training

Working with the Voluntary & Community Sector

A successful LAA includes the involvement of the third sector together with the empowerment of local people themselves in helping to identify, shape and deliver local services.

The involvement of the voluntary and community sectors in the ongoing design and delivery of the Local Area Agreement is essential. All LAA partners recognise and support the role of the voluntary sector in service delivery and user involvement.

The voluntary sector has been part of all consultation exercises and has been further involved in the development of this LAA through its engagement in the five district based LSPs, the LAA Reference Group and other stakeholder forums and events such as Cambridgeshire's Rural Forum, Cambridgeshire's Community Planning Partnership and stakeholder meetings to design future governance arrangements.

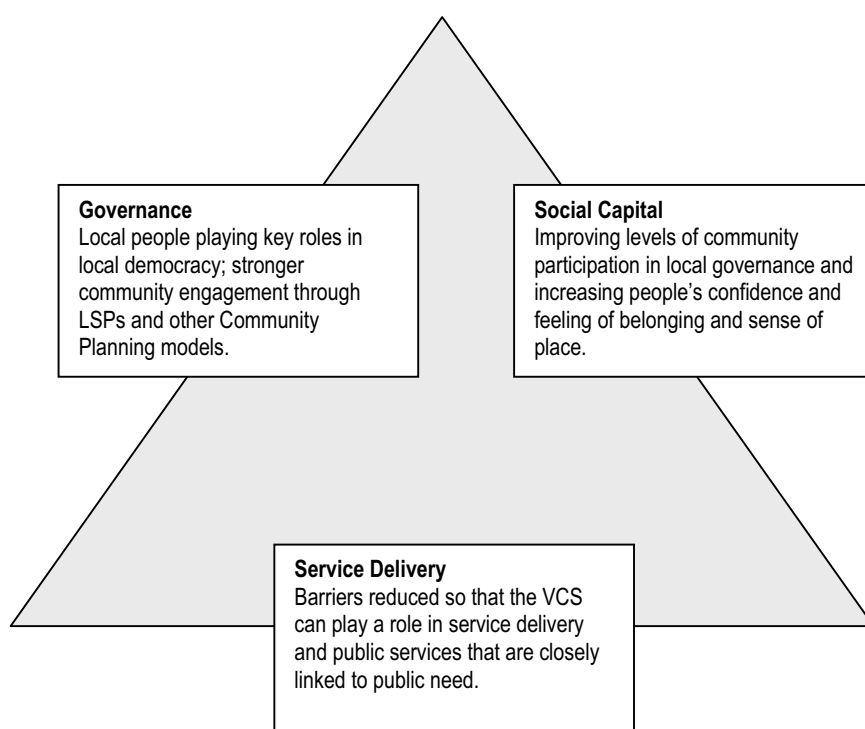
The relevant outcomes identified in this LAA offer a starting point from which to ensure involvement of the wider VCS making a link to the Change-Up Programme and other related initiatives such as the Rural and Social Community Programme.

Working with a focus in community empowerment will help organisations better define their services and understand the opportunities offered by the LAA. But

in order to effectively empower communities this must take place in a staged approach following three steps:

1. Community awareness raising
2. Developing a sense of place; and
3. Delivering local services

This way of working fits in with the 'balanced triangle' approach. The interdependence between governance, service delivery and social capital is acknowledged in the three-stage approach.



Future development of the VCS in Cambridgeshire

Through the LAA process it has been possible to identify capacity weaknesses within the CVS in Cambridgeshire as well as to identify solutions for improvement. Continued partnership work with the VCS should ensure better and more effective engagement of the VCS in the future development and delivery of the Local Area Agreement.

The proposals put forward in this LAA cannot be successful without the existence of a countywide group that can act to coordinate voluntary and community sector activity and capacity building. The four Councils for Voluntary Services (Cambridge City & South Cambridgeshire CVS, Huntingdonshire CVS, Fenland CVS and East Cambridgeshire CVS) do not have the capacity to take on this role individually and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Consortium (CVSIC) was established to deliver the Government's

Change Up programme and its remit is not fit for purpose under new developments.

The VCS cannot take on its role in the development of programme delivery, policy dissemination and strategic representation without the further development of VCS structures. This can be moved forward by:

- The establishment of a new overarching VCS Development Forum made up of both voluntary sector and public sector partners which will set the strategic direction
- The coordinating of work programmes and funding streams to ensure cost-effective achievement of strategic outcomes and targets
- Better arrangements for joining up the community sector work with the wider voluntary sector, local authorities and Local Strategic Partnerships

The VCS within Cambridgeshire is made up of many district or local level independent charities, which are traditionally structured around operational delivery.

Any new structure needs to start from the point at which it is possible to engage the sector and be achievable within the various organisations' current resources. It must also recognise that, in order to hold the engagement, there must be relevance in helping improve frontline delivery.

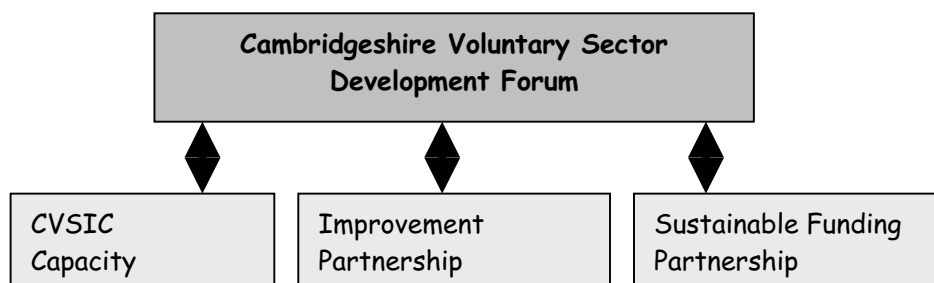
It is proposed that a Countywide Forum -led by Cambridgeshire ACRE- is developed into a structure with the capacity to sustain links to LSPs and that will strengthen VCS links enabling the VCS to engage effectively with the public and private sectors and facilitate the transition of organisations to become more sustainable thus building on the work started via Change Up / Capacity Builders. The structure would work as follows:

Cambridgeshire VCS Development Forum	Facilitation	S t r a t e g i c a n d C o - o r d i n a t i o n
Partners VCS and public sector	Cambridgeshire ACRE Cambridgeshire County Council (LAA)	
Role <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set strategic direction for VCS in Cambridgeshire • Support and develop programmes to raise VCS capacity to deliver on the strategic agenda • Inform the wider VCS networks of opportunities and develop 'fit for purpose' partnerships to respond • Disseminate policy and promote the 'involving' agenda • Co-ordinate representation and partnerships 	Resources Staff resource to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to build capacity • disseminate policy • communicate strategic implications • build partnerships • support monitoring and evaluation 	

Delivery	O p e r a t i o n a l
Front-line infrastructure delivery supported and disseminated at a district/local level by CVS and Volunteer Bureaux.	
Supported at a thematic level by sector specialists (eg. Rural, BME, Children and Young People, Disability, Old People)	

Forum supports frontline infrastructure agencies with the tools to enable delivery and capacity building of the wider sector.

The Forum will have important sub partnerships that will set out to engage the sector and create a state of readiness for them to be working in partnership to make use of the opportunities created through programmes such as the LAA and Investing in Communities. These are detailed below:



Links to Change Up/Capacity Builders

The Cambridgeshire Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Consortium was established in 2004 in response to the Government's Change Up programme and a comprehensive assessment of local infrastructure was completed.

Currently there are twenty-two infrastructure organisations as members of the Consortium, covering Councils for Voluntary Service, Volunteer Bureaux, Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum, Peterborough Racial Equality Council, Cambridge Co-operative Development Agency; Directions Plus, Care Network, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Council for Voluntary Youth Services, Cambridgeshire Independent Advice Centre and Cambridgeshire ACRE.

The geographical area covered by the programme is both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This remit is not coterminous with other programmes, particularly the LAAs and Investing in Communities.

The Consortium's main role has been to identify gaps in VCS infrastructure service provision and deliver a funded programme of improvements linked to such prioritised objectives as ICT, governance, workforce development, volunteering and front-line service delivery.

A benefit of Change-up is that it has driven infrastructure agencies to come together and the development of projects has been successful within the programme's context and the short time scales. However, this work has served to emphasise the genuine lack of capacity, sector strategic direction, consistent quality standards, funding sustainability and real ability to respond to new strategic agendas.

Limited joining-up to other programme/statutory priorities is currently happening or able to be achieved under current structures and sector capacity.

At a local delivery level a consultant has been engaged to carry out appropriate research to review local need, current service delivery, structures and associated resources and make recommendations on:

1. The most effective structure for the delivery by Cambridgeshire ACRE, CVS and Volunteer Bureaux/Centres of generic infrastructure services, including rationalisation, sharing of facilities and back office services among the project organisations across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, taking account of the city/rural differences;
2. The allocation of generic infrastructure functions within this structure to optimise the delivery of the full range of services to a consistent standard - PQASSO Level 2 - to meet the changing needs of frontline voluntary and community organisations across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough;
3. To identify current services and levels of funding (distinguishing between project, core and overhead funding) and future funding, e.g. Investing in Communities, to ensure sustainability of service delivery;
4. To clarify the roles and functions of Cambridgeshire ACRE and the other organisation(s) to avoid duplication of services and funding;
5. To integrate this work with proposals being made for specialist infrastructure services (e.g. BME, disability, children and young people, governance) and volunteering services.

To effectively take forward the results of this work there is a need for a countywide approach and statutory agency support and commitment as proposed in this LAA.

To date, most capacity building work has been developed through the Change Up programme in the form of individual projects. However, new programmes are now setting out to include VCS capacity building.

Areas for further development could include:

Quality Standards Improvement Group
VCS Lead: CCVYS
Peer group support with IIP and PQASSO
Workforce Development
VCS Lead: CVS
Co-ordination of training activities
Governance Trustee Network
VCS Lead: - Care Network
Trustee support network
Cambridgeshire Community Planning Partnership
VSC: Cambridgeshire ACRE
Delivery of Parish Plans and Market Town community-led regeneration work

ITC
VSC Lead: CIAC
Strategic improvement of sector ICT under circuit rider concept.

Developing the role of the 'third' tier of local government

The work of the Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils (CALC) is of extreme importance and currently under-resourced. A total of eight Parish Councils in the county have now achieved Quality Status. A barrier to achieving Quality Status is presented by the fact that 20 to 25% of Parishes do not have contested elections. By working as part of a more holistic community development process it is hoped that community members will be empowered to consider Parish Council elections a real possibility and therefore increase democratic participation at a very local level.

Links to Defra's Rural Social and Community Programme

The new Rural Social and Community Programme (RSCP) is designed to empower and enable VCS organisations with rural interests to build community capacity and address social exclusion. It is a two year programme launched from 1 April 2006 that will facilitate the streamlining of support for rural communities as the VCS increasingly moves to greater partnership work and joint delivery to respond to local priorities.

Cambridgeshire ACRE will be the lead agency to oversee the RSCP working through the Cambridgeshire Rural Forum Partnership and delivering through the VCS and Parish Councils.

The interventions proposed for Cambridgeshire under the RSCP offer a fit with LAA outcomes across the four blocks strengthening the role of the VCS in the delivery of LAA outcomes and targets.

These links are summarised below:

RSCP Priority	Lead Agency	Link to LAA
Access to Services	LSPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing children & young people's access to recreation, decision making and support Increase participation in culture and sports Improve access to services which support healthy lifestyles Reduce social exclusion by improving access to services Improving accessibility to social and economic networks
Building social capital and social infrastructure	Cambs ACRE and CALC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and delivery of services Enable older people to lead active lives and live independently in their own homes Enabling partnership and community asset development
Capacity building for the voluntary and community sector	Cambs ACRE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing children & young people's access to recreation, decision making and support Support the development of the voluntary sector and increase

		their capacity to broker delivery against targets
Affordable Housing	Rural Housing Partnership Cambs ACRE	•
Tackling Antisocial Behaviour	CCVYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce crime and fear of crime • Reduce antisocial behaviour
Health and Well Being	Fenland & East Cambs Improving Health Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the health of infant and primary age children • Support healthy lifestyles and prevent disease • Reduce local inequalities in health • Enable older people to lead active lives
Social and Community Enterprise	CCDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging business growth and economic development • Developing a skills base to support a world class economy • Improving accessibility to social and economic networks
Support for minority ethnic groups	Cambs ACRE Fenland Links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring vulnerable children and young people are protected • Promote social inclusion and diversity by eradicating discrimination and disadvantage • Reduce local inequalities in health
IT Infrastructure Development		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development of the voluntary sector and increase their capacity • Developing the skills base to support a world class economy • Adopt a culture of lifelong learning
Clustering and virtual market towns	Cambridgeshire Market Towns Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to services • Reduce social exclusion • Encouraging the enterprise environment

BLOCK 1

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

CONTEXT

There were 119,000 children and young people (aged 0-18) in Cambridgeshire at the 2001 Census, including 32,000 under 5. In 2001, 29% of Cambridgeshire households included dependent children. There are 42,800 children in Cambridgeshire primary schools and 30,300 young people aged 11-15 in secondary schools.

The Cambridgeshire Children and Young People Strategic Partnership has the key role for delivering improved outcomes for children and young people. In preparation for delivering the Children and Young People's Plan from April 2006 the partnership undertook an extensive needs assessment and consultation. This work establishes joint priorities to improve outcomes through integrated delivery underpinned by pooled resources. The LAA provides the partnership with a further opportunity to address the Every Child Matters and Change4Children agenda and the National Service Framework to embed close partnership working. The five Every Child Matters outcomes mirror the key objectives for the Children and Young People block:

- Be Healthy
- Stay Safe
- Enjoy and Achieve
- Make a Positive Contribution
- Achieve Economic Well being

The needs assessment identified six broad outcome areas where Cambridgeshire's Strategic Partnership has pledged to make major improvements in outcomes for children and young people. It is proposed that the focus for the Children and Young People block will be on preventative work linked to the six broad outcome areas and involve the Voluntary and Community Sector.

The block outcomes mirror the Children and Young People's Plan and the headline priorities from the plan are shown in bold.

Setting the scene - An Overview

- Over 40% of children living in parts of Wisbech, Huntingdon and Cambridge are in families receiving benefits. These high needs areas are typified by lower attainment levels at school, lower career aspirations and greater levels of health problems. North Fenland for instance has a greater proportion of young people who leave school with no GCSE passes and who do not continue in education, employment or training at 17+. Teenage conception rates in Fenland are above the national average.
- 6% of children are from a minority ethnic group: 18% in Cambridge. The largest minority group are Travellers. Some groups have a history of relative underachievement - average KS2 English test results for the past four years show that only 48% of Traveller pupils, 63% of Bangladeshi and 64% of Pakistani attained Level 4 or above compared with 80% of all Cambridgeshire pupils.
- Around 400 children and young people are Looked After by Cambridgeshire County Council, which has responsibility for their safeguarding and for ensuring they receive good healthcare and education. Evidence suggests that their attainment and career chances are less good than those to the average child and they are more likely to offend.
- There are 2,660 children with a statement of special education need in Cambridgeshire schools, of whom 70% attend mainstream schools. Over a one week period in February 2005 Cambridgeshire Social Services had contact with over 3,110 needy children, of whom 600 had a disability.

Mapping of Funding Streams for this Block

Funding Stream	Amount		
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Children's Fund	£776,000	Nil	Nil
Sure Start General Grant -			
Main	£5,340,000	£5,577,000	
Local	£1,330,000	£1,066,000	
Teenage Pregnancy	£155,000	£155,000	
Connexions	£4,515,000		
Extended Schools (through SF - not in SF figure)	£831,000	£831,000	
Standards Fund (revenue - provisional)	£21,832,000		
Health Promoting Schools -			
from PCTs	£75,000		
from SF but not in SF figure	£85,000		
Invest to Save	£166,000	£61,000	
YOS: Prevention Fund	£20,000	£190,000	£260,000
Fenland District Council	£1,600	£1,600	£1,600
LPSA (LAA Stretch Pump Priming Grant):			
Educational Attainment	£164,000		
Improving the achievement of Young & Vulnerable Children	£108,880		
TOTAL	£35,399,480	£7,881,600	£261,600

Our Priorities:

1. Improving the emotional and physical health and well being of children and young people and those responsible for their care

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Mothers to be who quit smoking	To reduce the proportion of women who smoke throughout pregnancy by 0.5% each year from an agreed PCT boundary baseline	(2002/03) S Cambs 10% C City 14.2% E Cambs and Fenland and Hunts PCT baselines tbc	Family support in early years focussing particularly on a countywide approach to the ante-natal preventative pathway; delivery of the smoking cessation plan	PCTs (owing to impending PCT reorganisation it is not possible to identify lead persons)
Breast feeding initiations	To increase by 2% year on year the breast feeding initiations from a countywide baseline (excluding Peterborough) with a focus on disadvantaged areas	(2004/05) 77%	Action plans through work with maternity units, Sure Start and Children's Centres	PCTs (owing to impending PCT reorganisation it is not possible to identify lead persons)
Incidence of obesity among children under 11	To halt the year on year rise in childhood obesity	To be established	To develop a county wide action plan with local variations to tackle childhood obesity: Sure Start LDPs; delivery of Health Promoting Schools programme; delivery of play, sports, arts and culture strategies	PCTs (owing to impending PCT reorganisation it is not possible to identify lead persons)
Teenage conception rate (BVPI 197)	To reduce by 45% (by 2009) the teenage conception rate (under 18 year olds) per 1,000 population aged 15-17 years in Fenland, North Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire	1998 Fenland 54.7 Cambridge 33.6 Hunts 30.1	Improving accessibility of sexual health advice services through ensuring young people have high quality information in appropriate media; access to trained professional who can provide guidance and sign posting to appropriate services; develop an action plan for the introduction of condom distribution schemes	Teenage Pregnancy Partnership Board (CCC Area Director)
Activity or establishment of CAMH Services (CF/A70 once agreed)	To achieve a 10% year on year growth in activity or establishment of CAMH Services	Awaiting agreement of PI definition from CSCI/DFES/DH	Develop multi agency behaviour services in each Area of the trust to support non specialist CAMH service referrals; 24 hour cover to meet the needs of children and young people with need of urgent psychiatric assessment	CAMHS (Mary Hanna)
Numbers of Yr 6 children in Fenland participating in educational sessions to promote healthy living and eating	Increase to 9 the number of Fenland Primary schools participating each year in a leisure centre 'adopt a schools scheme' to promote healthy living and eating	2004/05 - 0 schools		Fenland District Council

Percentage of children who regard themselves as smokers LAA STRETCH	Reduce to 9.3% by July 2007 the percentage of East Cambs and Fenland children in years 8 and 10 answering that they regard themselves as regular smokers.	10.8% (2004 SHEU Health Related Behaviour Questionnaire (HRBQ) Survey)	PHSE work with schools involving Proof of Age Card and health promotion	East Cambs and Fenland PCT/ OCYPS – PHSE Service and CCC Trading Standards
LAA STRETCH	Reduce to 6.4% by July 2007 the percentage of East Cambs and Fenland years 8 and 10 answering that they obtained cigarettes from shops.	7.4% (2004 SHEU HRBQ Survey)	Trader Training Programme aimed at warning shopkeepers about the law regarding selling cigarettes to under 16s	CCC – Trading Standards
Percentage of under 18s who quit smoking LAA STRETCH	Increase to 20 by March 2007 the annual number of under 18s recorded as having successfully quit smoking in East Cambs and Fenland.	14.5 (HNS Stop Smoking Service in East Cambs and Fenland)	Launch of Think 21 Campaign encouraging traders to ID anyone who appears younger than 21	East Cambs and Fenland PCT/ CCC – Trading Standards

Cross-reference:

- *Healthy Communities 1: Support healthy lifestyles and prevent disease*
- *Healthy Communities 2: Improve access to services which support healthy lifestyles*

2. Raising the aspirations of young people to improve their employment and life prospects

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Percentage of 16-18 year olds engaging in education, employment or training (EET)	i) Increase to 88% the proportion of 16-18 year olds in Fenland who continue in EET	87.2% (Baseline relates to 16+ leavers in 2004)	Identify target schools that have high levels of NEET; implement 14-19 curriculum to sustain engagement and increase attainment	OCYPS (Office of Children and Young People's Services) Connexions (Tom Jefford)

	ii) Increase to 70% the proportion of 16-18 year olds leaving PRUs who continue in EET (excluding young people who were dual registered at a PRU and mainstream secondary school)	51.1% (Baseline relates to 16+ leavers in 2004)	Reviewing curriculum offer at PRUs; providing appropriate support to individual young people to help them achieve	OCYPS Connexions (Tom Jefford)
(BVPI 161)	iii) Increase to 95% the proportion of young people looked after at age 16+ who were in EET at age 19 (the ratio of percentage of young people looked after in EET to percentage of young people in population in EET)	30.6% (Baseline relates to 16+ leavers in 2004)	Providing appropriate support to individual young people to help them achieve; ensuring effective partnership working	OCYPS Connexions (Tom Jefford)

Cross-reference:

- *Healthy Communities 2: Improve access to services which support healthy lifestyles*
- *Economic Development and Enterprise 3: Developing the skills base to support the regional and local economy*

3. Developing supportive communities which provide opportunities for children and young people to participate fully

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Children and young people reporting they are afraid of going to school because of bullying	Reduce to XXX the percentage of young people feeling afraid of going to school because of bullying	Yr 8 28.4% Yr 10 20.7% (2004 SHEU HRBQ Survey)	Promotion of local and national bullying initiatives; supporting individual cases and training for headteachers/senior managers and governors; Develop bullying strategies in response to the views and needs of young people as expressed in 'Getting It Right' consultation October 05	OCYPS/Schools
Question 61 Young people reporting that they exercise hard at least 3 times a week	Increase by 5% (by 2009) the percentage of young people answering that they had exercised hard at least three times a week	SHEU Survey Yr 8 48.1% Yr 10 39.6%	Delivering physical activity strategies in each District: delivery of sports programmes in village colleges	OCYPS/Schools Cambridge and Peterborough Sports Partnership
Question 84				

Cross-reference:

- *Children and Young People 4: Better outcomes for children looked after by the local authority*
- *Safer and Stronger Communities 7: Services and information accessible to all*

4. Better outcomes for children looked after by the local authority

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
The attainment of young people leaving care aged 16+ (BVPI 50)	Increasing to 77% (by 2009) the proportion of young people leaving care aged 16 or over with at least 1 GCSE A* - G or GNVQ	51.1% (Summer 2004 results)	Close monitoring of attendance and performance via ESLAC and intervening where necessary by Assigned Inspector	OCYPS/Schools (Head of ESLAC)
Offending rates for children aged 10 or over looked after continuously for at least 12 months (PAF C18)	Reduce to 2% (by 2009) the percentage of children looked after aged 10 or over given a final warning or reprimand	4.8% (2004/05)	Targeted approaches for children looked after at risk of being given a final warning or reprimand, in line with Prevention Strategy of the Youth Offending Service	OCYPS/ Schools (Tom Jefford)
Health assessments and dental check-ups for looked after children (PAF C19)	Increase to 95% (by 2009) the percentage of children looked after who had their teeth checked by a dentist and had an annual health assessment	66.5% (2004/05)	Agreements with foster carers and residential units emphasise responsibility to encourage children to attend dental appointments and ensure that details of appointments are properly recorded; ensuring proper systems are in place; information about dental and health assessments must be recorded on LAC review	OCYPS (Elaine Peitch)
The attainment of young and vulnerable children at KS1	Increase to 72% of children looked after in Year 2 (in academic year 2006/07) who achieve Level 2 or above in Key Stage 1 English Reading test.	62% (Average KS1 Reading Test results 2002/3/4)	Identification of looked after children at risk of not achieving level 2; assessment to identify reasons for under performance; introduction of support programme	OCYPS/ Schools
LAA STRETCH	Increase to 81% of children looked after in Year 2 (in academic year 2006/07) who achieve Level 2 or above in Key Stage 1 mathematics test.	71% (Average KS1 mathematics test results 2002/3/4)	Identification of looked after children at risk of not achieving level 2; assessment to identify reasons for under performance; introduction of support programme	OCYPS/ Schools
LAA STRETCH				

The attainment of young and vulnerable children at KS2 LAA STRETCH	Increase to 54% of children looked after in Year 6 (in academic year 2006/07) who achieve Level 4 or above in Key Stage 2 English.	44% (Average KS2 English test results 2002/3/4)	Identification of looked after children at risk of not achieving level 2; assessment to identify reasons for under performance; introduction of support programme	OCYPS/ Schools
LAA STRETCH	Increase to 53% of children looked after in Year 6 (in academic year 2006/07) who achieve Level 4 or above in Key Stage 2 mathematics test.	43% (Average KS2 mathematics test results 2002/3/4)	Identification of looked after children at risk of not achieving level 2; assessment to identify reasons for under performance; introduction of support programme	OCYPS/ Schools

Cross-reference:

- *Children and Young People 2: Raising the aspirations of young people to improve their employment and life prospects*
- *Children and Young People 3: Developing supportive communities which provide opportunities for children and young people to participate fully*



5. Raising the educational performance for all young people

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Attainment of children of i) Traveller; ii) Bangladeshi & iii) Pakistani heritage at KS2 Maths and English	i) Increase the percentage of Traveller children attaining Level 4 or above in KS2 Maths to 70% and in KS2 English to 65% in the 2008 tests (average performance of both Irish Travellers & Gypsy/Roma)	50% 30.8% (School year 2003/04)	Dissemination and implementation of county strategy for raising attainment of BME children and young people; work in partnership with School Improvement Teams and SIRT to improve the use of data for target setting at school and LA level	OCYPS/Schools (Bethan Rees)
Attainment of children of i) Traveller; ii) Bangladeshi & iii) Pakistani heritage at KS2 Maths and English	ii) Increase the percentage of Bangladeshi children attaining Level 4 or above in KS2 Maths to 73% and in KS2 English to 70% in the 2008 tests	56.7% 56.7% (School year 2003/04)	As above	OCYPS/Schools (Bethan Rees)

<p>Attainment of children of i) Traveller; ii) Bangladeshi & iii) Pakistani heritage at KS2 Maths and English</p>	<p>iii) Increase the percentage of Pakistani children attaining Level 4 or above in KS2 Maths to 78% and in KS2 English to 74% in the 2008 tests</p>	<p>66.7% 77.8% (School year 2003/04)</p>	<p>As above</p>	<p>OCYPS/Schools (Bethan Rees)</p>
<p>Attainment of pupils of Irish Traveller heritage at KS2 Maths and English LAA STRETCH</p>	<p>An annual increase in the average points scores of pupils of Irish Traveller heritage at Key Stage 2 English and mathematics in academic year ending July 2006 to English (at least) 11.1 and Maths (at least) 15.6</p>	<p>English 7.8 points Maths 12.3 points (Teacher assessment in year 2003/04)</p>	<p>Provision of additional intensive teacher support to targeted pupils</p>	<p>OCYPS/ Schools</p>
<p>Attainment of pupils of Irish Traveller heritage at KS2 Maths and English LAA STRETCH</p>	<p>An annual increase in the average points scores of pupils of Irish Traveller heritage at Key Stage 2 English and mathematics in academic year ending July 2007 to English (at least) 13.6 and Maths (at least) 18.1</p>	<p>English 7.8 points Maths 12.3 points (Teacher assessment in year 2003/04)</p>	<p>Provision of additional intensive teacher support to targeted pupils</p>	<p>OCYPS/ Schools</p>
<p>Communication, language and literacy of children at Foundation Stage for targeted schools</p>	<p>In 3 targeted schools increase to 31% (by academic year ending summer 2007) the number of children achieving 6 points or more on each of the assessment scales of Communication, Language and Literacy strand of the Foundation Stage Profile</p>	<p>16% (FSP results for 2003/04)</p>	<p>Provision of support programme to 3 targeted schools</p>	<p>OCYPS/ Schools</p>
<p>LAA STRETCH Educational attainment for targeted schools LAA STRETCH</p>	<p>By Summer 2007 increase to 40% of pupils (at 7 targeted secondary schools) achieving 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C and equivalent.</p>	<p>33.6% (Summer 2004)</p>	<p>Identified schools offered additional funding to improve performance</p>	<p>OCYPS/ Schools</p>
<p>LAA STRETCH</p>	<p>By Summer 2007 increase to 65% of pupils (at 25 targeted primary schools) achieving Level 4 and above in Maths at Key Stage 2.</p>	<p>57% (Summer 2004)</p>	<p>Menu of interventions provided; funding granted on approval of action plan and targets</p>	<p>OCYPS/ Schools</p>
<p>LAA STRETCH</p>	<p>By Summer 2007 increase to 79% of boys (at 30 targeted primary schools) attaining Level 4 and above in English at Key Stage 2.</p>	<p>74% (Summer 2004)</p>	<p>Identified schools offered additional funding to improve performance</p>	<p>OCYPS/Schools</p>
<p>LAA STRETCH</p>	<p>By Summer 2007 increase to 72% of boys (at 10 targeted secondary schools) attaining Level 5 and above in English at Key Stage 3.</p>	<p>66% (Summer 2004)</p>	<p>Menu of interventions provided; funding granted on approval of action plan and targets</p>	<p>OCYPS/Schools</p>

Cross-reference:

- *Economic Development and Enterprise 3: Developing the skills base to support the regional and local economy*

6. Ensuring that all young people can lead safe and secure lives free from unreasonable risk

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Number of child protection re-registrations (PAF A3)	Reduce to 12% (by 2009) the percentage of children registered during the year on the Child Protection Register who had been previously registered	21.3% (2004-05)	Develop a multi-agency Child in Need plan and Core Groups held for at least first six months after de-registration; Child Protection Conference chairs to sum up continuing risk to children when de-registration is being considered	OCYPS

Cross-reference:

- *Safer and Stronger Communities 1: To reduce crime, the harm caused by illegal drugs, and to reassure the public reducing the fear of crime and antisocial behaviour*

BLOCK 2

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES

The 'Safer' element of this block builds on the work of established local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships. The LAA will focus on achieving safer communities with less substance misuse, less fear of crime and less antisocial behaviour.

A successful LAA will include involvement of the voluntary sector, together with the empowerment of local people in helping to identify, shape and deliver local services. We want to develop new ways of working that take into account current delivery and build on the work of existing partnerships and programmes, while providing new opportunities for joined up working to build community capacity. We also aim to make stronger links to the Change-up programme and other VCS service providers and recognise and support the important role of the voluntary sector in service delivery.

Cambridgeshire is also the setting for one of only two rural Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder schemes approved by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in December 2003. The *Fenland Links* Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder covers an area in the north of the county that includes the wards of Elm and Christchurch, Parsons Drove and Wisbech St Mary and Wisbech North in the Fenland District. These areas fall into the 3% most deprived within Cambridgeshire, the 9% most deprived across the East of England, and the 25% most deprived nationally. Neighbourhood Management is a process designed to support communities to work with local agencies to improve and join-up their services at the very local neighbourhood level. Their focus is not project delivery but capacity building for both communities and agencies operating in the local area. The Oxmoor single Regeneration budget programme in Huntingdon, funded by East of England Development Agency, is also trialling a neighbourhood management approach to closing gaps in outcomes, and empowering local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services. Three Super Output Areas in Huntingdon North ward (Oxmoor) fall within the 10% most deprived across the East of England, and the fourth falls within the 20% most deprived.

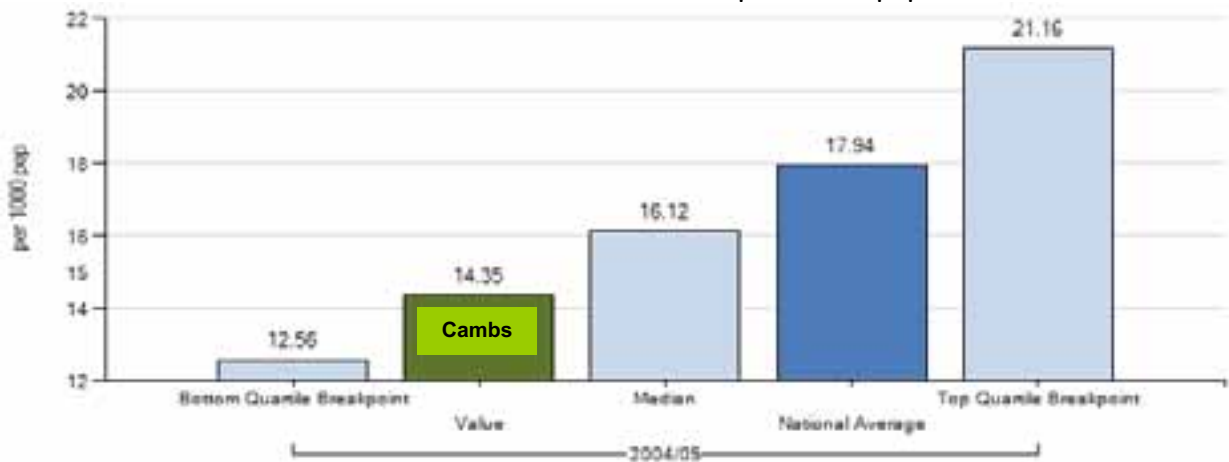
Environment - including all aspects of sustainability, access to services, social inclusion and community cohesion are other important aspects of this block. In addition to the outcomes developed for this first agreement, partner agencies responsible for the delivery of outcomes will continue to work together to achieve the aspirations noted in each section and add further value to the benefits of the Local Area Agreement.

Crime

Key points

1. Violent offences per 1,000 population: 14.35
2. Vehicle theft per 1,000 population: 2.61
3. Sexual offences per 1,000 population: 0.77
4. Theft from a vehicle per 1,000 population: 6.18
5. Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households: 8.28

6. Violent Offences committed per 1,000 population

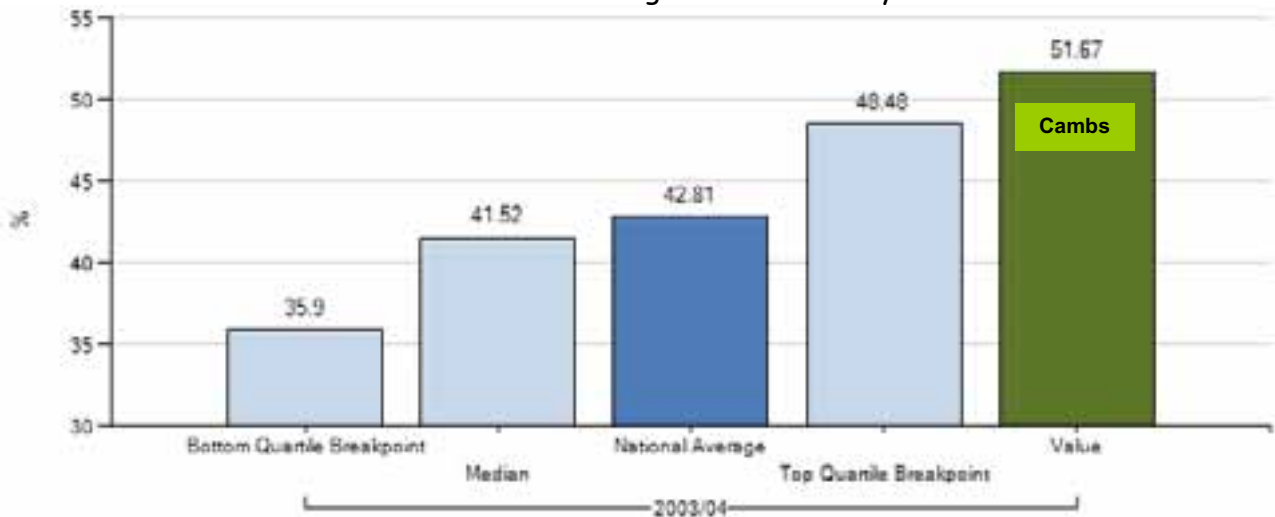


Perception of Crime

Key points

1. % residents who feel safe during the day: 96.6%
2. % residents who feel safe outside after dark: 71.5%
3. % residents who think vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area: 49.3% (03/04 figure)
4. % residents who think that people using or dealing drugs is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area: 22.2% (03/04 figure)
5. % residents who think people being rowdy or drunk is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area: 29.5

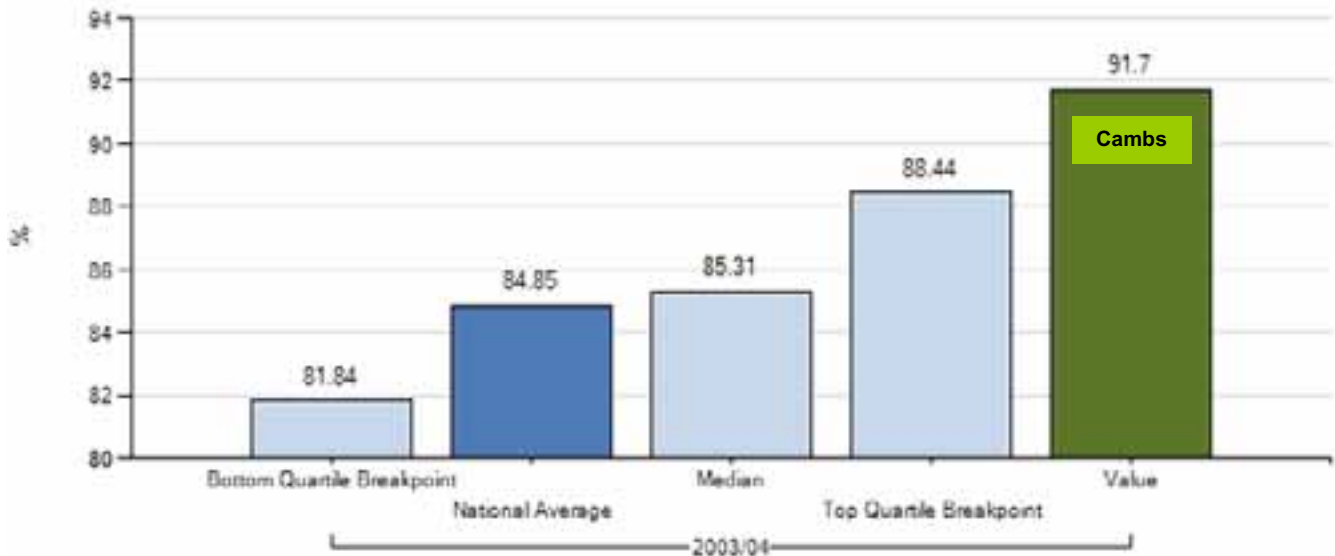
6. Percentage of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that the level of crime has got better or stayed the same.



Community Engagement and Cohesion

Key points

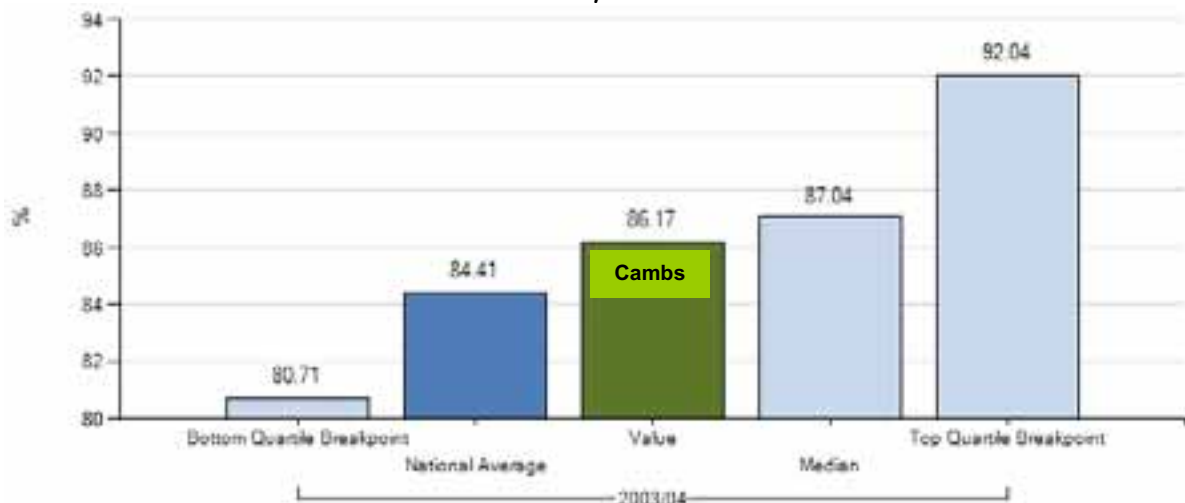
1. % residents who think that people being attacked because of their skin colour, ethnic origin or religion is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area: 3.1%
2. % residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, race relations has got better or stayed the same: 92.78%
3. % residents very satisfied with opportunities to participate in decision making processes which affect planning and other issues facing the area: 3%
4. Percentage of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that community activities have got better or stayed the same.



Culture and Leisure

Key points

1. % residents satisfied with local authority sports facilities: 39% (03/04 figure*)
2. % of residents who think that, over the past three years, that facilities for young children have got better or stayed the same: 69.13% (03/04 figure*)
3. % of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that activities for teenagers has got better or stayed the same: 31.06% (03/04 figure*)
4. % public libraries that provide public access to ICT facilities connected to the internet: 90% (03/04 figure*)
5. % residents who think that over the past three years cultural facilities have got better or stayed the same

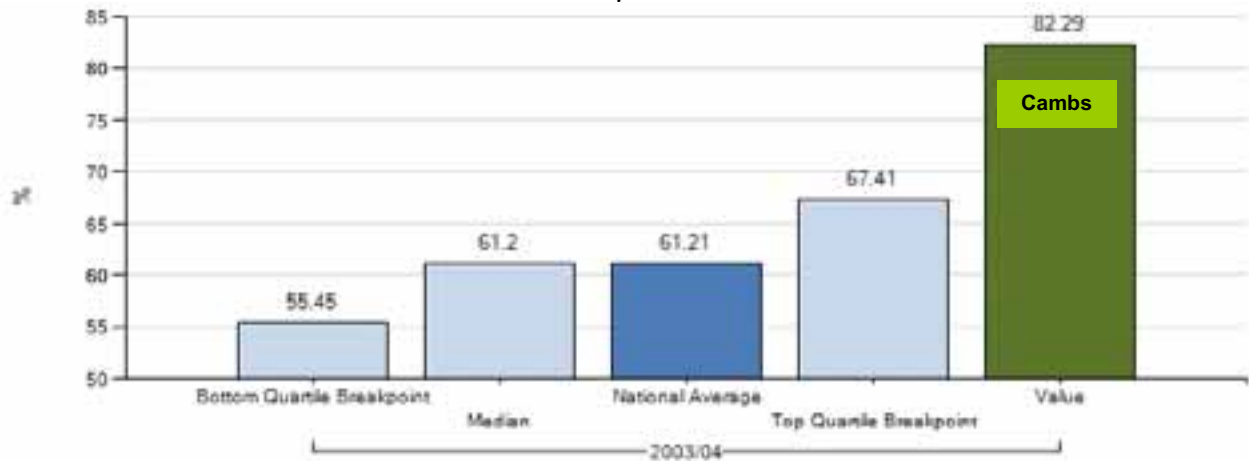


Environment

Key points

1. % residents who think that for their local area over the past three years the cleanliness of their streets has got better or stayed the same: 69.35% (03/04 figure*)
2. % of household waste recycled: 19.47%
3. % of household waste composted: 18.29%
4. % of household waste landfilled: 62.24%

5. % residents who think that over the past three years cultural facilities have got better or stayed the same

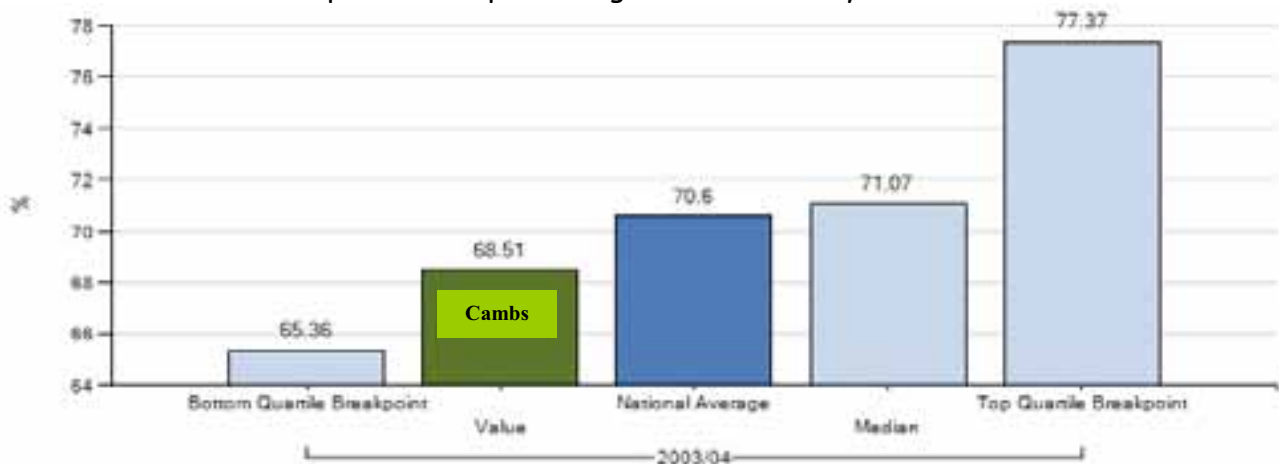


Transport and Access

Key points

1. Estimated traffic flows for all vehicle types (million vehicle kilometres): 6941 (2003 figures*)
2. % of the resident population who travel to work by private motor vehicle: 66.4% (2001 figure*)
3. % of the resident population who travel to work by public transport: 6.0% (2001 figure*)
4. % of the resident population who travel to work on foot or cycle: 17.1% (2001 figure*)
5. % of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that the level of traffic congestion has got better or stayed the same: 41.01% (03/04 figure*)

6. % of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that public transport has got better or stayed the same.



*Note: historical figures given are the latest currently provided and verified by the Audit Commission

Mapping of Funding Streams for this Block

Funding Stream	Amount		
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Safer & Stronger Communities Fund (including ASB fund) (Estimate based on 2005/06 allocation)	£765,685	TBC	TBC
BCU fund (2006/07)	£342,492	TBC	TBC
Pooled Drug Treatment Budget	£3,000,000	£3,000,000	£3,000,000
Drug Interventions Programme	£408,000	£408,000	£408,000
DAAT Partnership Grant	£87,000	£87,000	£87,000
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service	£66,283	£132,633	
LPSA (LAA Stretch) Pump Priming Grant:			
Alcohol Sales to Under 18s	£52,250		
Reducing Antisocial Behaviour	£60,000		
Reducing Illegal Drug Use	£100,000		
Reducing Waste to Landfill	£100,000		
Bus Patronage	£50,000		
Street Cleanliness	£90,000		
Footways	£30,000		
Single Regeneration Budget (Oxmoor - this funding stream ends in March 2007)	£165,000	Nil	Nil
Fenland Links	£350,000	£350,000	£350,000
Rural Social Community Programme	£110,000	£110,000	Nil
District Councils contributions to Parish Plan initiative (£6,000 each)	£24,000	£24,000	£24,000
County Council contribution to Parish Plan initiative	£8,000	£8,000	£8,000
CALC Quality Parish initiative	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000
Change Up (phase 3)	£30,000	Nil	Nil
CCC General Revenue Funding:			
Access to libraries and information services	£200,000	£200,000	£200,000
PFI Funding (access to archives) [£10.7 m over 25 years]	£428,000	£428,000	£428,000
Community Access Points [iC, UK on-line and District Contributions]	£75,000	£75,000	£75,000
Heritage Lottery	£148,500	£148,500	
TOTAL	£6,693,210	£4,974,133	£4,583,000

Our Priorities:

1. To reduce crime, the harm caused by illegal drugs and to reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Number of Police Recorded BCS Comparator Crimes	Reduction of BCS Comparator Crime by 17.81% by March 2008 <i>[08/09 draft projection target: Reduction by 23.75% by March 09 from 03 / 04 baseline.]</i>	30630 (2003/04 baseline)	Delivery of Prolific & Other Priority Offender Strategy Targeted enforcement and targeted crime reduction initiatives	Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs)
Number of police recorded violence against the person offences	Reduction of violence against the person (excluding domestic violence) by 18% by March 08 <i>[08/09 draft projection target: Reduction by 24% by March 09 from 03 / 04 baseline.]</i>	6574 (2003/04 baseline)	Delivery of Prolific & Other Priority Offender Strategy Targeted enforcement and targeted crime reduction initiatives <u>Fenland Links:</u> Reducing violence against the person offences committed in the town centre of March and Wisbech relating to the consumption of alcohol at night, particularly on Friday and Saturdays	CDRPs
Proportion of police recorded crimes with a 'DV marker' that are incidences of repeat victimisation	Decrease in the proportion of domestic violence incidences that are repeats to 11% by March 08 <i>[08/09 decrease the proportion of domestic violence incidences that are repeats to 10% by March 09 from 03 / 04 baseline.]</i>	14% (2003/04 baseline)	Sanctuary Scheme Awareness Raising Advocacy service and directory or services Freedom Programme and Perpetrator Programme Specialist Court	CDRPs
Number or premises in sample found selling alcohol to under 18 year olds surveyed in 2004 and same period 2006/07 (same premises as far as possible) LAA STRETCH	Reduce the number or premises found selling alcohol to under 18 year olds surveyed in 2004 to 29% by 2006/07	58% (2004 baseline)	Test purchasing Proof of Age Scheme Enforcement activity and publicity	CDRPs
Percentage of children in year 10 reporting they had consumed alcohol in a public space during the last 7 days LAA STRETCH	Reduce the percentage of children in year 10 reporting they had consumed alcohol in a public place during the last 7 days to 16%	19% (Academic year 2004)	Test purchasing Proof of Age Scheme Enforcement activity and publicity	CDRPs

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Drug Treatment: Number of problem drug users in treatment in Cambridgeshire LAA STRETCH	Increase the number of problem drug users in treatment in Cambridgeshire to 1205 by 2007	582 2004 baseline	Enhance the provision of drug treatment services to enable more clients to enter treatment Ensure services are available to all drug users	Drug and Alcohol Team (DAAT)
Drug Treatment: Number of problem drug users retained in treatment beyond 12 weeks LAA STRETCH	Increase the percentage of problem drug users retained in treatment beyond 12 weeks to 820 by 2007	105 2004 baseline	Review and enhance effectiveness of treatment provided to meet client need. Ensure services have the capacity to treat more people for a longer period of time.	DAAT
Number of Class A drug supply offences brought to justice per 10,000 population LAA STRETCH	Increase in the number of Class A drug supply offences brought to justice per 10,000 population to 2.75 by 2007	1.7 per 10,000 2004 baseline	Enhance covert capabilities in tackling Class A Drug supply Specific proactive operations against Class A Drug traffickers	DAAT
Numbers recorded as drug related deaths	Reduce the number of recorded drug related deaths to 2005 - 14 2006 - 13 2007 - 12	2003 - 15 2004 - 16	Provision of overdose training to drug users and professionals. Ensure easy access to clean needles to reduce blood borne infection.	DAAT
Number of cases managed through the Drug Interventions Programme	Increase the number of cases managed through the Drug Interventions Programme to 160 by 2006/07	Anticipated caseload 130	Develop systems further to increase referrals through outreach into the Criminal Justice System	DAAT
Of those Prolific and Other Priority Offenders assessed by the DIP as appropriate, case managed through the DIP	Of those Prolific and Other Priority Offenders assessed by the DIP as appropriate, maintain number of cases managed through the DIP at 95%	Figure to date (2005) 95%	Access all PPOs and ensure the DIPs can effectively meet the needs of those misusing class A drugs and offending.	DAAT
Number of accidental fire-related deaths in the home	Reduce the number of accidental fire-related deaths in the home by 20% by 2010	Average of 4 per year up to 1999	Campaign to fit smoke alarms and residential sprinklers Targeted home fire risk assessment (focus on the elderly as 50% of people who die in fire are over 60 years old)	Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service
Number of deliberate fires	Achieve a 10% reduction in deliberate fires by 2010	Average of 1100 per year up to 1999	Arson task force will work with partners to reduce arson related fires	Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

Cross-reference:

- *Children and Young People 6: Ensuring that all young people can lead safe and secure lives free from unreasonable risk*
- *Older People 2: Reduce crime and the fear of crime*

2. To build respect in communities and to reduce antisocial behaviour

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Percentage of people surveyed who think vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles is a very big/fairly big problem LAA STRETCH	Reduce the percentage of people surveyed who think vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles is a very big/fairly big problem to 50.2% by 2006/07	55.8% (2003)	Restorative Justice Project Problem Solving Groups (ABCs and ASBOS) Diversionary activities Publicity / media work <u>Feenland Links:</u> developing a flexible approach to antisocial behaviour that enables all agencies to respond to shorter term issues more effectively and carrying out targeted work with young people in order to reduce the rate of anti-social behaviour	CDRPs
Percentage of people surveyed who think teenagers hanging around the streets is a very big/fairly big problem LAA STRETCH	Reduce the percentage of people surveyed who think teenagers hanging around the streets is a very big/fairly big problem to 45.8% by 2006/07	50.9% (2003)	Restorative Justice Project Problem Solving Groups (ABCs and ASBOS) Diversionary activities Publicity / media work <u>Oxmoor:</u> deliver a free at point of access holiday scheme for young people in Huntingdon North in partnership with Youth Services, CDRP and DAAT	CDRPs
Percentage of people surveyed who think people being drunk or rowdy in public spaces is a very big / fairly big problem LAA STRETCH	Percentage of people surveyed who think people being drunk or rowdy in public spaces is a very big/fairly big problem to 36.7% by 2006/07	40.8% (2003)	Restorative Justice Project Problem Solving Groups (ABCs and ASBOS) Diversionary activities Publicity / media work <u>Feenland Links:</u> carrying out targeted crime prevention work with people in the age range of 16-24 in order to reduce rate of offending and age range 10-17 in order to reduce the rate of offending in the time period immediately after the end of school until the early evening	CDRPs

3. To empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Number of people very satisfied with opportunities to participate in decision making processes which affect planning and other issues facing the area	Increase the number of people very satisfied with opportunities to participate in decision making processes which affect planning and other issues facing the area by 1% each year	3% (2003)	Continue Parish Plan initiative Engagement with Local Strategic Partnerships Public and Stakeholder consultation throughout production of Local Development Frameworks	Cambridgeshire County Council District Councils PCTs Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Number of Parishes completing a Parish Plan	Increase the number of Parishes completing a Parish Plan by 5 per year	21 (2005)	Continue Parish Plan initiative to include: Collection of baseline data Support with parish plan developments Community organisation support Group / individual facilitation and training	Cambridgeshire ACRE
Number of Parish Councils achieving Quality Parish Status	Increase the number of Parish Councils achieving Quality Parish Status by 4 per year	8 (2005)	Parish Council specialist support Parish Councils working towards quality status Parish Councils demonstrating community leadership Parish Councils planning local services	CALC
Percentage of people in Oxmoor surveyed who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area	Establish a baseline in 2006 to develop a target to increase the number of people in Oxmoor surveyed who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area	N/A	Develop involvement of local people in the Neighbourhood Management Action Planning Support the development of residents' associations and their links with neighbourhood governance arrangements in Oxmoor	Oxmoor Opportunities Partnership
Percentage of residents in Oxmoor who think that their local area got better or stayed the same over the past three years	Increase the number of residents in Oxmoor who think that their local area got better or stayed the same over the past three years to 55% by 2009	46% (2003)	Develop neighbourhood agreements to deliver better quality services and involve residents in decision making process Involve ethnic minorities through sporting initiatives (annual football tournament targeting ethnic minorities and migrant workers in Oxmoor)	Oxmoor Opportunities Partnership
Citizen involvement in the creation of local Community Archives	Increase the number of Local Community Archives groups to 40 by 2009	7 (2005)	Two new full time community archive officers to develop and implement specific projects	Cambridgeshire County Council

Cross-reference:

- *Safer and Stronger Communities 5: Active citizens engaged and participating in the arts and the cultural heritage*
- *Safer and Stronger Communities 6: Improved local environment*

4. Inclusive, diverse and cohesive communities free from discrimination and disadvantage

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Number of people who agree or strongly agree that their local community is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously	Increase the no. of people who agree or strongly agree that their local community is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously by 1% each year	64% (2003)	Coordinate initiatives addressing the needs of communities such as migrant workers and travellers Develop a cross-organisational joined up approach to community cohesion	Cambridgeshire County Council, District Councils and Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Number of racial incidents recorded by the local authority per 100,000 population (BVPI 174)	Reduce the number of racial incidents recorded by the local authority per 100,000 population (BVPI 174) to 50 by 2008	59.7 2004/05 baseline	Ensure services recognise the needs of black and minority ethnic groups Roll out internal Equality Impact Assessment Programme across the full range of services delivered by the County Council	Cambridgeshire County Council
Percentage of racial incidents that resulted in further action (BVPI 175)	Maintain percentage of racial incidents that resulted in further action at 100% through the three years of the LAA (2006-2009)	100% 2004/05 baseline	Ensure services recognise the needs of black and minority ethnic groups Roll out internal Equality Impact Assessment Programme across the full range of services delivered by the County Council	Cambridgeshire County Council

Cross-reference:

- *Children & Young People 3: Developing supportive communities which provide opportunities for CYP to participate fully*

5. A better supported voluntary sector with more capacity to broker delivery against targets

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
N/A	Establish a countywide VCS forum bringing together voluntary and public sector partners that will facilitate the coordination of work programmes and funding streams to ensure effective contribution and achievement of strategic outcomes during 06/07	0	Develop a new overarching VCS Development Forum made up of voluntary and public sector agencies	Cambridgeshire ACRE and Cambridgeshire County Council

Cross-reference:

- *Safer and Stronger Communities 2: To empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services*
- *Older People 1: Less social exclusion and improved access to services*

6. Citizens engaged and participating in the arts, sports and the cultural heritage

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Active libraries borrowers as a percentage of population	Increase regular use of libraries to 20.5% by 2009	19.12% (2004/05)	Campaign to encourage enhanced take up	Cambridgeshire County Council
Percentage of adults participating in at least thirty minutes moderate intensity sport and / or active recreation on three or more days a week	Establish a baseline during 06/07 in order to increase in following years the percentage of adults participating in at least thirty minutes moderate intensity sport and / or active recreation on three or more days a week by 1% each year to 2009	N/A	Work with partners through the newly established Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Sports Partnership to develop appropriate interventions	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Sports Partnership
Percentage of residents satisfied with arts activities	Establish a baseline during 06/07 in order to increase in following years participation in community events in the arts by 1% each year to 2009	N/A		Cambridgeshire County Council
Number of adult participants in Vital Communities Programme arts activities	Involvement in arts programme and focus groups by at least 180 family and community members in 8 specific locations by 2009	0	Delivery of sustained arts programme through externally funded partnership project	Cambridgeshire County Council

Cross- reference:

- *Children & Young People 1: Improving the emotional and physical health and well being of children and young people and those responsible for their care*

7. An improved local environment

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Number of bus journeys into, out of and within Cambridge	Increase the number of bus journeys into, out of and within Cambridge to 56000 by 2007	48670 2003 baseline	Implement a multi operator bus ticket with provides the holder with unlimited travel in any participating bus operator services in Cambridgeshire for a specified period	Cambridgeshire County Council
LAA STRETCH BV 82d Percentage of total household waste going to landfill	Reduce the percentage of total household waste going to landfill to 54% by 2007	71.1% 2003/04 baseline	Encourage more residents to home compost through the Master Composter Programme and thus keep waste out of refuse bins and divert it from landfill	Cambridgeshire County Council
LAA STRETCH Percentage of land and highways that is assessed as having combined deposits of litter and detritus that fall below an acceptable level	Reduce the percentage of land and highways that is assessed as having combined deposits of litter and detritus that fall below an acceptable level to: Fenland - district wide 18% Target area 30% East Cambs - district wide 28% Target area 13.2% Cambridge - district wide 9% Target area 5% South Cambs - district wide 29% Target area 30% Hunts - district wide 10% Target area 17%	Fenland district 21% Target area 55% East Cambs district wide 37.4% Target area 24% Cambridge district wide 15.5% Target area 21.7% South Cambs district wide 35% Target area 43% Hunts district wide 15% Target area 20%		District Councils
LAA STRETCH % of the category 1, 1a and 2 footway network where structural maintenance should be considered	Reduce the % of the category 1, 1a and 2 footway network where structural maintenance should be considered to 19.85% by March 2007	23.85% (2004)		Cambridgeshire County Council

8. Services and information accessible to all

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Access to archives either remotely or through physical visits	Meet annual service targets for access to archives services, either remotely or through physical visits and increase access by 15% by 2009	8000 (2005)	Campaign to encourage enhanced take-up and enhance facility provision	Cambridgeshire County Council
Access to libraries and information services, either by physical visit or remotely, per head of population.	Meet annual service targets for access to libraries and information services, either by physical visit or remotely, regaining the current baseline position by 2009	5.4% (2005)	Campaign to encourage enhanced take-up New Library management system	Cambridgeshire County Council
Percentage of archives collection listed to current professional standards	Increase the percentage of collection listed to current professional standards to 3.5% by 2009	1.53% (2005)	Specific projects and focus work	Cambridgeshire County Council
Percentage of archives collection record descriptions publicly available	Increase in the percentage of collection record descriptions publicly available to 99.6% by 2009	0	Specific projects and focus work	Cambridgeshire County Council
Number of individuals receiving training/learning opportunities in their local communities delivered through Community Access Points or Learning Centres	Increase the numbers of individuals undertaking training/learning at rural CAPS and community Learning Centres to 400 per annum by 2009	250 per annum (2005)	10% of individuals undertaking training/learning at rural CAPS or community Learning Centres to achieve recognised qualification at Level 1 or Level 2 (subject to funding) Recruitment of 20 volunteers to act as ICT mentors to support the use of rural CAPS or community Learning centres (subject to funding)	Cambridgeshire County Council

Cross-reference:

- *Older People 1: Reduce social exclusion by improving access to services*

Our Aspirations for this block:

Further details on aspirations for the Local Area Agreement can be found on page 62
The main headings relating to this block are:

- Reduce Re-Offending
- Build a range of strategically positioned quality sports facilities in Cambridgeshire to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing population (linking to the development of the Sub Regional Sports Facility Strategy produced in partnership with Cambridgeshire Horizons)
- Help meet the cultural, arts, sporting and leisure needs of communities, including increasing generic access for those with mental and / or physical health problems (link to improving the physical and mental health of Cambridgeshire's population)
- Promote learning through increased participation and volunteering
- Develop Community Access Points (CAPs) as learning hubs for the local community and repositories for local and regional information and cultural resources encouraging local interest and community groups to take ownership of the CAP.
- Enabling existing and new communities to develop a sense of place and local distinctiveness through engaging with the local heritage, community activities and cultural development of their area.
- Access to information for older people on what help and support exists locally, how to access it and how to get involved in planning and decision making and in the community and community activities
- Enable some piloting/action – research learning opportunities to be tested by public sector agencies to improve participation by 'harder to reach groups'
- Work jointly with partners to develop plans and indicators for tackling social exclusion, including exclusion affecting disabled people, and increasing community involvement.

BLOCK 3

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES & OLDER PEOPLE

CONTEXT

The Healthy Communities and Older People Block aims to increase the health and quality of life of all the people of Cambridgeshire and to reduce the inequalities in health between places and people. It focuses on working in partnership to deliver high-quality services for vulnerable people with more focus on community-based support that offer real choice for people and help prevent future health problems. The focus for the Healthier Communities and Older People's block will be on safeguarding vulnerable adults and children, promoting independence and choice for older people to sustain their quality of life and working locally in partnership, through community development and service user involvement to implement the Choosing Health White Paper Delivery Plan.

Growth in the county has major implications for health and social care. Population projections indicate that the increase in population could be in the region of 100,000 people in Cambridgeshire. The proportion of people aged 75 and over is predicted to increase from 7% in 2001 to 9% in 2021. It is our aim to ensure that our present and future residents can access the support they need to be healthy, and contribute their knowledge and skills towards building healthy communities. We want to minimise health inequalities and maximise health gain through services and prevention.

Measured by occupation, nationally there are marked differences in health from top to bottom of the occupational hierarchy. People's life expectancy and health gradually decline as we look across the social classes from the most affluent to the most disadvantaged. There is a social gradient.

The Healthier Communities element of the block has been developed from the health priorities identified in the five Local Strategic Partnership Community Strategies for Cambridgeshire. This initial list of priorities, based on the Community Strategies was consulted on with partners, as part of the wider initial consultation on the Vision for the Cambridgeshire LAA. Consultation feedback included the need for more emphasis on Choosing Health, more emphasis on community development approaches and voluntary sector involvement and a greater emphasis on the needs of people with disabilities and carers.

A process of consultation with local Improving Health Partnerships which act as sub-groups of the Local Strategic Partnerships has been incorporated. The involvement of the voluntary sector, and the need to address the broader social inclusion agenda, is recognised as key to achieving the outcomes of the Healthier Communities and Older People's Block. Generic outcomes in these areas are described under Block 2 "Safer and Stronger Communities" and Block 4 "Economic Development and Enterprise" and the intention is to incorporate

health issues into these outcomes rather than deal with them in an isolated fashion.

Setting the scene - An Overview

A comprehensive picture of Cambridgeshire's Health Area Profile is provided in **Appendix A** of this document.

Mapping of Funding Streams for this Block

Funding Stream	Amount		
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
<u>HEALTHY COMMUNITIES</u>			
LPSA (LAA Stretch) Pump Priming Grant:	£90,000		
Smoking Prevalence in the Workplace	£95,700		
Road Safety			
<i>[Note: NHS funding details will not be available for the production of this draft of the Local Area Agreement Framework due to structural and budgetary changes taking place within Cambridgeshire's Primary Care Trusts]</i>			
<u>OLDER PEOPLE</u>			
LPSA (LAA Stretch) Pump Priming Grant:			
Quality of Life for Older People (including performance measures - survey based)	£167,000		
Independence for Older People	£45,000		
Supporting People (estimated spend on older people)	£2,925,096	£2,779,000	£2,640,000
Disabled Facilities Grant (approx. spend on older people)	£92,000	£92,000	£92,000
CCC Villages Advice Service (20% of cost of service)	£15,000	£15,000	£15,000
CCC Carers' Grant			
CCC Fairer Charging Financial and Benefit Assessment Service (5% of cost of service)	£280,000	£280,000	£280,000
CCC General Revenue Funding - 'Older People's Librarian'	£35,000	£35,000	£35,000
	£30,000	£30,000	£30,000
FDC Exercise Referral Scheme	£7,000		
TOTAL	£3,781,796	£3,231,000	£3,092,000

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

The outcomes described in the following sections are based on the work that can be done by several local organisations from the public, voluntary and private sectors, working in partnership with local communities to promote health and prevent disease.

The outcomes have been developed in partnership, based on the existing health priorities of Local Strategic Partnerships, in the context of the local health needs and inequalities outlined in the Cambridgeshire Health Profile. They link closely with many of the priorities of the national "Choosing Health" White Paper:

- Tackling health inequalities
- Reducing the numbers of people who smoke
- Tackling obesity
- Improving sexual health
- Improving mental health and well-being
- Reducing harm and encouraging sensible drinking
- Helping children and young people to lead healthy lives
- Promoting health and active life amongst older people

Some outcomes can be monitored from the start of the Local Area Agreement in April 2006. Other important outcomes need more work during the next year to develop local plans and appropriate targets/indicators.

OLDER PEOPLE

In line with the forthcoming White Paper on Health and Social Care and the approach taken in the Healthy Communities Block, the outcomes for the Older People Block will be achieved through a partnership approach, with health and social care services provided through PCTs under a Section 31 Partnership Agreement (monitored by the Adult Task Group - see below). Local organisations from the public, voluntary and community sector will work together to promote social inclusion and improve access to services. The outcomes for older people in Cambridgeshire will be achieved in line with the clear outcomes set out in the Green Paper *Independence, Well-being and Choice*. These are:

- Improved health
- Improved quality of life
- Making a positive contribution
- Exercise of choice and control
- Freedom from discrimination or harassment
- Economic well-being
- Personal dignity

Key to achieving the above outcomes and those set out in the Block will be the

need to make the most effective use of existing grants such as Supporting People and the Disabled Facilities Grant. These grants are used to support older people to remain in their own homes, or return to them if hospitalised. The Supporting People Programme supports the strategic shift for older people from residential to extra care sheltered housing which is central to the older people strategy. The strategy for older people requires joint working with District Councils and other sections of the County Council and engagement of groups representing older people e.g. Age Concern. The PCTs, supported by the County Council are continuing to develop relationships with groups of older people to improve engagement and involvement.

To ensure the outcomes for this Block are embedded into the everyday work of the key Stakeholder organisations in Cambridgeshire the Adult Task Group will take on the ownership role of the Block. Membership of the Adult Task Group comprises Chief Executives and Directors of the Primary Care Trusts, Deputy Chief Executive of the County Council and the Director of Adult Social Services for the Council. The Adult Task group will develop effective arrangements for engaging with the LAA Governance systems and ensure there are sufficient mechanisms in place to take account of other local Stakeholder and Interest Groups

Our Priorities – Healthy Communities

1. Service providers that support healthy lifestyles and prevent disease

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Mortality from cancer in people aged under 75 per 100,000 directly age standardised population.	To reduce the death rate from cancer in people under 75 years by at least a fifth by 2010 (trajectory for each Local Authority area maps annual targets from baseline in 1995/7)	LA areas 1995/7 Cam City: 116.8 E Cambs: 139.2 Fenland: 134.9 Hunts: 128.8 S Cambs: 115.3	Local PCTs will continue to implement the National Cancer Plan, supported by the West Anglia Cancer Network Uptake of the NHS Cervical and Breast Screening Programmes will be monitored with steps taken to support uptake as necessary. In the longer term, partnership interventions to reduce smoking rates and obesity, support healthy eating and reduce health inequalities will contribute to this target	Primary Care Trusts (PCTs)
Number of people employed in workplaces with smoke free policies that meet the National Clean Air Standard <i>LAA Stretch</i>	Increase in the number of people employed in workplaces with smoke free policies that meet the National Clean Air Standard to 30,000 by 2007	8,760 (2004)	The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Smoke Free Alliance will work with employers and licensed premises to develop smoke free policies, with local support where agreed from District Environmental Health Departments and PCT Smoking Cessation Services	PCTs
Number of fully licensed premises that are smoke free as of 31 st March 07 <i>LAA Stretch</i>	Increase the number of fully licensed premises that are smoke free as of 31 st March 07 to 15	2 (2004)	As above	PCTs
BV 99a Number of road casualties <i>LAA Stretch</i>	Reduce the number of road casualties to 447 by 2007	503 (2004/05)	Targeted programme on route studies on A roads with KSI rates to inform prioritisation of casualty reduction measures; Speed Awareness Seminars; and Education and Training of Drivers	Cambridgeshire County Council
Mortality from circulatory diseases in people aged under 75 per 100000 directly age standardised population. Source NCHOD Compendium of Clinical and Health Indicators	To reduce the death rate from coronary heart disease and stroke and related diseases in people aged under 75 years by at least two fifths by 2010 (trajectory for each Local Authority area maps annual targets from baseline in 1995/7)	LA areas 1995/7 Cam City: 107.4 E Cambs: 111.4 Fenland: 154.2 Hunts: 114.3 S Cambs: 101.3	Local PCTs will take forward implementation of the NSF for Coronary Heart Disease, supported by the Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Cardiac Network PCTs will support risk factor management for circulatory disease in primary care, through implementing the Quality and Outcomes Framework Community nursing support and rehabilitation for patients with long term circulatory conditions such as heart failure and stroke In the longer term, partnership interventions to reduce smoking rates and obesity, support healthy eating and reduce health inequalities will contribute to this target	PCTs

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Number of people who attended NHS Stop Smoking Services who succeed in stopping smoking as measured at four weeks. Source: PCT Local Delivery Plans (targets) and quarterly NHS Stop Smoking Services return	Targets to be confirmed later in 2005/6	Cambridgeshire performance in 2004/5: 2504 smoking quitters	Local PCT Stop Smoking Services will put into practice the lessons learnt from the current Health Care Commission Review Partnership work to publicise local Stop Smoking Services and Support employers and licensed premises in becoming smoke free.	PCTs
Mortality from suicide and undetermined injury per 100000 directly age standardised population. Source NCHOD Compendium of Clinical and Health Indicators	To reduce the death rate from suicide and undetermined injury by at least one fifth by 2010 (trajectory for each Local Authority area maps annual targets from baseline in 1995/7)	LA areas 1995/7 Cam City: 8.9 East Cambs: 4.5 Fenland: 9.4 Hunts: 6.8 S Cambs: 7.2	Continuing implementation of existing Locality Suicide Prevention Plans, through multi agency Mental Health NSF Local Implementation Teams Development and implementation of mental health promotion action plans	PCTs
Number of people in the Fenland District benefiting from an exercise referral scheme	Increase the number of exercise referrals from GPs and Physiotherapists to fenland Leisure Centre exercise schemes to 300 by 2007	160 (2004/05)	Visits to clients Implement exercise referral scheme	Fenland District Council

Cross-reference:

- *Children and Young People 6: Ensuring that all young people can lead safe and secure lives free from unreasonable risk*
- *Safer and Stronger Communities 1: Communities with less crime, reduced harm caused by illegal drugs, and less fear of crime and anti-social behaviour*

2. Better access to services which support healthy lifestyles

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Access to mental health crisis services	Target to be developed on basis of 2005/6 outturn	2005/6 outturn on numbers of people using mental health crisis services	PCTs, CCC and the Cambs and Peterborough Mental Health Partnership Trust to work together to develop crisis resolution and home treatment teams to cover all of Cambridgeshire	PCTs
Number of patients waiting more than 48 hrs to be seen at a genito-urinary medicine clinic. Source: Health Protection Agency Quarterly Survey	No patients waiting more than 48 hours by 2008	May 2005 (PCT) Cam City 75% EC/Fenland 77% Hunts 80% S Cambs 59%	Development of additional GUM capacity in the community, linking GUM, Family Planning and GPs with a specialist interest Training within Primary Care Development of Chlamydia screening Continued work with the voluntary sector on sexual health promotion	PCTs

Cross-reference:

- *Children and Young People 1: Improving the emotional and physical health and well being of children and young people and those responsible for their care*

3. Reduce local inequalities in health

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Narrow the difference in life expectancy between the 20% of areas in Cambridgeshire with the highest IMD2004 scores and the average.	Further work needed to develop trajectories and target.	Difference in life expectancy was 1.7 years in 2001/2003	Equity audits of access to services including smoking cessation Local regeneration and health programmes, e.g. Sure Starts, Healthy Living East Cambridgeshire, Fenland Links Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder, Oxmoor Regeneration Scheme Partnership programmes engaging with particular vulnerable groups; e.g. migrant workers, homeless people and travellers	PCTs
Narrow the gap between male life expectancy for Fenland LAD and the national average by 20% by 2010. Source NSCSHA spearhead target for Fenland LAD	2008/10: Fenland male life expectancy target 77.61 years England male life expectancy target 78.60 years.	2001/3: Fenland male life expectancy 75.00 years England male life expectancy 76.24 years	Implementation of the Fenland Spearhead Action Plan, which focuses on reducing road traffic accidents amongst young people and local implementation of Choosing Health, together with equity audit of service provision	PCTs
Assessment of the effective use of health equity audit Cambridgeshire wide in service planning, commissioning and delivery in order to tackle health inequalities (5 point scale 0-4). Source: Healthcare Commission 2004/5 star ratings indicator set.	Score 4 across a range of partner organisations on an annual basis	Baseline 2004/05: All Cambridgeshire PCTs achieved score 4 on self-assessment.	Local PCTs and other partners as appropriate, to agree a health equity audit programme and self assess against the programme on an annual basis	PCTs
Number of Fenland residents with disabilities who are members of Fenland District Council gyms	Establish a baseline in 2006 to develop appropriate target in 2007	N/A		Fenland District Council

Cross-reference:

- *Safer and Stronger Communities 5: Active citizens engaged and participating in the arts, sports and the cultural heritage*
- *Economic Development and Enterprise 4: Promoting workforce development and ensuring economic growth benefits all*

Our Priorities – Older People

1. Less social exclusion and improved access to services

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Numbers of older people participating more in the community generally Cambridgeshire Quality of Life Survey question 7	Increase by 2% per year the number of people aged over 55 engaged in 'active' volunteering (providing services for someone who is not a relative)	57% (Survey 2004)	Age Concern programmes: Pre-retirement courses that include a module on volunteering Volunteers supporting over 250 Over 60s Clubs Quarterly Newsletter including articles with information about volunteering Voluntary visiting schemes - recruiting, training and supporting volunteers to sit with lonely and isolated older people; Contact telephone scheme where volunteers make regular contact calls to older people at risk of social exclusion Supporting volunteers to develop an Older People's Centre in Cambridge	Cambridgeshire County Council/ Cambridgeshire Care Partnership
Numbers of older people over 55 years old using the library service	Increase by 5% by 2009 the numbers of older people over 55 using the library service	48.1% (2004/05 Adult Plus Survey)	Appointment of 'Older People's Librarian' to enhance service including ensuring that stock provision is in line with tastes and preferences of people aged over 55	Cambridgeshire County Council (Lynda Martin)
Take up of Pension Credit	To establish a baseline during 06/07 in order to develop a target to increase the take up of Pension Credits	N/A	Local statutory and voluntary sector organisations to work together with the Pension Service to gather information on the level of Pension Credit Take Up in Cambridgeshire broken down in Guaranteed Credit and Savings Credit	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)
Increase the level of satisfaction with social services among people aged 65+ who use social care services LAA STRETCH	Increase by 20% the level of satisfaction with Social Services	69.4% (2004)	Production and dissemination of information leaflet and/or calendar providing details of services and how to access them. Various locality projects under Improving the Quality of Life for Older People (LAA Stretch)	PCTs County Council District Councils

Cross-reference:

- *Safer and Stronger Communities 7: Services and information accessible to all*

2. Less crime and less fear of crime

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Number of recorded dwelling burglaries of people aged 60+ <i>LAA Stretch</i>	Reduce to 420 the number of recorded dwelling burglaries of people aged 60+ by March 2007	560 (2003/04)	Identify and establish additional 'No Cold Calling Zones' Implement and promote the Registered Trader Scheme Hold 'crime awareness raising events' Establish 'rogue trader early warning networks'	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Distraction Burglary and Rogue Trader Task Force
Improving the Quality of Life for Older People <i>LAA Stretch*</i> <i>* This indicator appears in outcome 2 and 3 but the interventions are split</i>	By June 2007 to reduce by 40% the number of people aged 65+ living in their own homes with a 'quality of life index' below 10	24.4% (2004)	Increase the number of older vulnerable people visited by the Bobby Scheme Various locality initiatives including: Appointment of new part time warden to extend scheme to people in East Cambs Extra resource for Care and Repair Scheme Increased Number of Community Alarms Joint project to develop and distribute information on crime and fear of crime for older people about the help and support that exists locally and how to access it	District Councils Cambridgeshire County Council - Trading Standards and PCTs

Cross-reference:

- *Safer and Stronger Communities 1: Communities with less crime, reduced harm caused by illegal drugs, and less fear of crime and anti-social behaviour*

3. Older people leading active lives and living independently in their own homes

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Promoting independence of older people <i>LAA Stretch</i>	PSS PAF AO/AF By March 07 to reduce by 5 per 1000 the number of emergency admissions of people aged 75 or over BV 54 PSS PAF AO/C32 By March 2007 to increase by 5 per 1000 the number of people aged 65+ helped to live at home	298.9 (2004) 69.6 (2004)	Implement intensive case finding process to identify vulnerable older people who are at risk based on agreed criteria Providing vulnerable older people with the services to meet their assessed needs; Supporting People Grant contributing to the development of Extra Care Housing; DFG supporting people to remain in their own homes by providing adaptations	PCTs PCTs/ Cambridgeshire County Council/ District Councils
	By March 2007 to reduce to 1,800 the number of people aged 65+ supported in residential care	1920 (2004)	Providing vulnerable older people with the services to meet their assessed needs in their own home (including rented accommodation); Supporting People Grant contributing to the development of Extra Care Housing; DFG supporting people to remain in their own homes by providing adaptations	PCTs
	PSS PAF C33 by March 2007 to reduce by 20 the number of people aged 75+ admitted to hospital because of falls or hypothermia	24.7 (2004)	Create a MIS which can be accessed by primary / secondary and community ambulance staff to ensure older people supported in the community with appropriate treatment / care	PCTs
Improving the Quality of Life for Older People <i>LAA Stretch</i>	By June 2007 to reduce by 40% the number of people aged 65+ living in their own homes with a 'quality of life index' below 10	24.4% (2004)	Various locality projects including: Provision of Assistive Technology to Cambridge City Sheltered Housing tenants Home Help Scheme Commissioning of a Handyperson scheme with Huntingdon Housing Partnership Piloting of a Rural Taxi Card Scheme through South Cambs DC Home Improvement Agency Projects Supporting People Grant contributing to the development of Extra Care Housing DFG supporting people to remain in their own homes by providing adaptations	PCTs District Council County Council Housing Association

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
	PSS PAF C33 by March 2007 to reduce by 20 the number of people aged 75+ admitted to hospital because of falls or hypothermia	24.7 (2004)	Create a MIS which can be accessed by primary / secondary and community ambulance staff to ensure older people supported in the community with appropriate treatment / care	PCTs
Improving the Quality of Life for Older People <i>LAA Stretch</i>	By June 2007 to reduce by 40% the number of people aged 65+ living in their own homes with a 'quality of life index' below 10	24.4% (2004)	Various locality projects: Provision of Assistive Technology to Cambridge City Sheltered Housing tenants Appointment of new part time warden to extend scheme to people in East Cambs Extra resource for Care and Repair Scheme Increased Number of Community Alarms Home Help Scheme Commissioning of a Handyperson scheme with Huntingdon Housing Partnership Piloting of a Rural Taxi Card Scheme through South Cambs DC Home Improvement Agency Projects	PCTs District Councils County Council Housing Association
Carers' Support Services (PAF C62)	Number of carers receiving a specific carers service as a percentage of clients receiving community based services	New DH target baseline to be developed 2006/07	Raising awareness of Carers support issues across GP practices in Cambridgeshire; Improving Carers' Newsletter and other communication media for Carers' information; Updating and simplifying the paperwork and guidance for Carers Assessments and Services	Cambridgeshire County Council (Ann Davison, Carers Strategic Development Manager)

Cross-reference:

- *Safer and Stronger Communities 5: Active citizens engaging and participating in the arts, sports and cultural heritage*
- *Economic Development and Enterprise 3: Developing the skills base to support the regional and local economy*

Our Aspirations for this block

Further details on aspirations for the Local Area Agreement can be found on page 62
The main headings relating to this block are:

- To develop and distribute joint information on crime and fear of crime for older people on the help and support that exists locally and how to access it.
- Develop further work and indicators on reducing the health consequences of problem drinking.
- Help reduce the health consequences of obesity by improving access to services and environments that help people who want to lose weight.
- Reduce differences in life expectancy between the more socio-economically deprived areas of Cambridgeshire and the county as a whole
- Understand inequalities in health and in access to services which influence health by increasing the use of health equity audit by local organisations
- Recognise the health and social needs of carers and ensure they are addressed
- Reduce fuel poverty
- To implement the core standards of the National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services, in particular Standard 1. Partners will work through the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership. A key output will be the rate of completion of the comprehensive assessment of the 'child's physical, emotional and social development and family needs by the health visiting team'. In year 1 of the LAA to establish the baseline.
- Build on current health needs assessment work to address the health needs of travellers, migrant workers, homeless people and prisoners, developing appropriate plans and indicators for improvement.

BLOCK 4

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE

CONTEXT

Cambridgeshire has a diverse and dynamic economy. It has a strong global profile and it is also functioning as a hub of the economy in the East of England. Our contribution to the UK economy can be seen both directly in GDP growth and indirectly through a whole range of equally important productivity gains including attracting world class research and development facilities, transferring ideas and knowledge to other parts of the economy, and the start up and growth of many highly entrepreneurial companies.

As one of the fastest growing counties in the country we also face some challenges to achieving an economy that is prosperous, diverse, dynamic and sustainable. We lack the infrastructure that may be available to other areas and we need to balance housing growth with employment growth, offering quality job opportunities and equality of access to training opportunities.

Greater Cambridge is a successful economic sub-region with job growth at a rate of 5,000 per annum and GDP growth at 6.5% per annum between 1971 and 2001. With such growth pressures there are inevitably a range of infrastructure deficits that will have to be addressed for many years.

The rapid demographic growth in the county translates into a need for considerable investment in infrastructure. The County Council's Long Term Capital Strategy to 2016 sets out the strategy to meet Cambridgeshire's infrastructure needs as required by the Structure Plan. Within this strategy, the scale and scope of the infrastructure needed in the county is taken into account with costs to meet need identified at £1.282 billion.

Major interventions in this area provide useful context but are not appropriate for inclusion in this Local Area Agreement. Other strategies and organisations, such as Cambridgeshire Horizons, are already in place to take into account the overall impact of investment programmes such as the A14 Improvements (£500m to 2012). Demographics, growth requirements and maintenance needs are factors providing a framework for LAA partners to consider their impact on their responsibility for asset and service provision in Cambridgeshire and for consideration in medium and long term planning such as the development of Local Development Frameworks by the Districts.

Very high housing costs and increasing commuting from outlying areas are also key characteristics of the sub region. Within the labour market, skill shortages are becoming an increasing impediment to realising investment in the area, particularly in construction, health, education and other public services. In addition, there remain large numbers of the population locked into low paid employment often involving long hours of shift work with little prospect of career progression or personal improvement.

There is a strong correlation between poor literacy/numeracy, deprivation and employability. There is a need to ensure Cambridgeshire's workforce have the relevant skills base to participate fully in the local economy; however, there are issues around the provision of skills for life that we hope the LAA will help us address in the longer term. These are:

- Unexpected high pressures on Skills for Life (S4L) budgets due to the increasing demand for English as a Second Language (ESOL) courses that cannot be met with current funding allocations; and
- The high demand among communities and individuals for S4L courses that cannot be counted towards the national PSA target in this area. In 03 / 04 alone 40% of S4L enrolments were on courses that did not count towards the target.

The LSC is currently running five projects across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough delivering a spectrum of Skills for Learning to both economically inactive and employed individuals. The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Learning and Skills Partnership aims to work with 10,000 beneficiaries with a target to achieve 2,600 Adult Basic Skills Qualifications at Entry Level 3 and above. This is delivered by partners such as FE Colleges and Adult Colleges. The proposed new build of a flagship post 16 centre for the Fens will also have a major impact in the area. This is scheduled to take place from September 2006 and will be approximately a £21.6 m build of over 9,650 sqm.

The East of England Development Agency (EEDA) is the regional development agency responsible for setting the strategic direction for economic development in the region and ensuring that the East of England remains one of the UK's top performing regions. EEDA is increasingly acting as principal advocate for development of the region as well as strategic 'navigator' influencing major strategic change.

At sub-regional level the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) brings together a broad based group of stakeholders from the 25 mile Cambridge radius and which includes the private sector, public sector and community/voluntary sector interests. The GCP's aim is to encourage and facilitate a balanced framework for structural, economic, social, environmental and cultural development of the Greater Cambridge area. They have identified the infrastructure issues that are restricting growth and the need for ensuring that people who live across the region are able to contribute to and benefit from its economic growth, including the market towns and rural areas. This information is contained in the goals of the Greater Cambridge Sub Regional Economic Strategy (GC SRES), 2005-2008.

As part of its role as a SREP, receiving significant amounts of funding from EEDA, the GCP has been required to produce a Framework document to indicate its priorities and activities in delivering EEDA's Investing in Communities (IiC) programme. The Framework presents the priorities and key actions for the area over the next 10 years with a particular focus on the period 2005-08. The

Greater Cambridge area has a dynamic and diverse economy that has performed impressively over the last three decades. However some sections of the community have not benefited as much as they could have from this general prosperity. The IiC draft Framework seeks to address this through four strategic interventions:

- Empowering communities
- Encouraging the enterprise environment
- Raising aspirations and motivating progression
- Partnership and community asset development

GCP however covers a wider area than the LAA County boundary. In addition Fenland district is covered by the Greater Peterborough SREP. Discussions will continue during implementation of this Local Area Agreement about how to work within this complexity and it is believed that arrangements can be found to implement the LAA Block 4 to the benefit of Fenland as well as all other areas of the County.

The Greater Peterborough Sub Regional Economic Development Strategy and Investing in Communities Framework will identify priorities covering Fenland. By identifying common priorities the two SREPs will benefit from joint working through the respective LAAs. Further discussion and agreement is needed to conclude common priorities and areas of joint working.

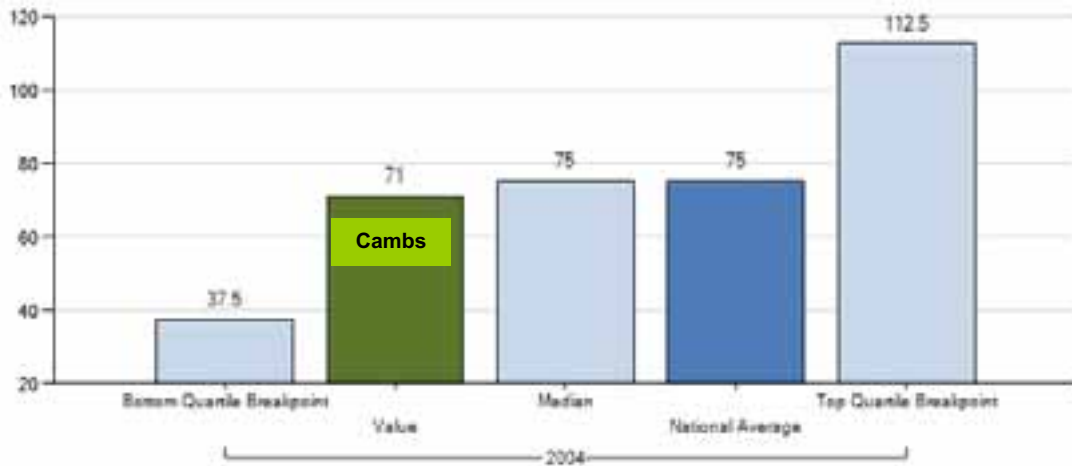
Yet the focus of this block is on countywide priority areas that cover the five Cambridgeshire Districts and take account of the needs in all areas within the county - both urban and rural.

Employment

Key points

- 1.% of total population who are of working age 61.8%
- 2.% of working age population who are in employment 81.4%
- 3.% of the economically active population who are unemployed 3.5%
- 4.% of Job Seeker's Allowance claimants as a percentage of the working age population 1.3%

5. Rank of employment deprivation, relative to all county, unitary and metropolitan areas (Scale 1 (most deprived) to 149 (least deprived))

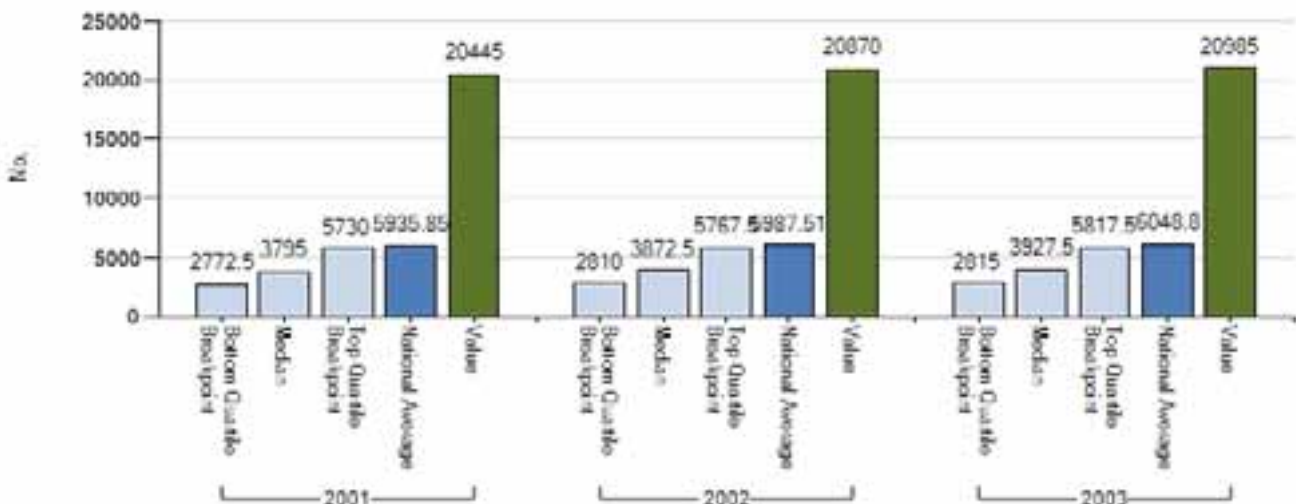


Economic Development

Key points

1. Total number of VAT registered businesses in the area at the end of 2003: 20985
2. % change in the number of VAT registered businesses 0.5% (downward trend)
3. Rank of the average indices of multiple deprivation super output area scores, relative to all county, unitary and metropolitan areas (Scale 1 -most deprived- to 140 - least deprived): 135 (2004 figures)
4. Rank of income deprivation, relative to all county, unitary and metropolitan areas (Scale 1 -most deprived- to 140 - least deprived): 71 (2004 figures)
5. % of the population of working age that is claiming key benefits 7.5%

6. Total number of VAT registered businesses in the area at the end of the year



Mapping of Funding Streams for this Block

Funding Stream	Amount		
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
EEDA: <i>[EEDA funds are based on estimates. Confirmation on these is expected around March/April 06]</i>			
Enterprise Hubs	£1,000,000	£4,000,000	
Enterprise Education	£250,000		
Social Enterprise	£250,000		
Research Job Growth	£40,000		
Promoting workforce development and ensuring economic growth benefits all	£620,000		
LPSA (LAA Stretch) Pump Priming Grant:	£100,000		
Lifelong Learning	£164,000		
Educational Attainment			
East Cambs DC Supported Units for Start Up and Growth Companies	£93,000		
Fenland DC Occupancy at South Fens Business Centre	£50,000		
GADG:			
Cowley Road Junction Improvements (£3,000,000 to 2008)	£1,500,000 ^{-e}	£1,500,000 ^{-e}	
Addenbrookes Access Road Stage 1 (£6,000,000 to 2008)	£3,000,000 ^{-e}	£3,000,000 ^{-e}	
Riverside Pedestrian & Cycle Bridge	£1,500,000		
Wicken Fen Vision	£1,000,000		
Developer Contributions			
Riverside Pedestrian & Cycle bridge	£500,000		
LTP			
Guided Bus	£34,000,000	£34,000,000	
National Trust			
Wicken Fen Vision	£500,000		
TOTAL	£44,567,000	£42,500,000	

Our Priorities

1. Encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Number of enterprise hubs developed in Cambridgeshire	Increase the number of enterprise hubs by 4 as follows: 2006/07 - 2 2007/08 - 1 2008/09 - 1	2 (2005)	Currently GCP has 16 expressions of interest for investment in Enterprise Hubs. A strategy is to be developed to determine the optimum investments to be made in respect to sector, impact, and growth potential by early 2006. It is anticipated investment in such hubs will exceed £10 million and the extent of this investment will be influenced by EEDA support and the private sector.	Greater Cambridge Partnership
Enterprise education (<i>Investing in Communities</i>)	Increase the number of meaningful work-education experience for 14-19 year olds in order to reduce the number not in education training or employment by 3% per year	A baseline will be established during 2006/07	Broadening vocational and work based provision in schools Creating a virtual Industry web based career service for pupils Identifying potential employer engagement through Corporate Social Responsibility Activity Undertaking of preventative work through provision of additional adviser time with young people at risk Supporting the expansion and enhanced capacity of Romsey Mill to increase the number of young people assisted	Cambridgeshire County Council Connexions Romsay Mill
Occupancy figures at E Space North and South Business Centres	Increase the occupancy at E Space North and South Business Centres to 100% by 2009	ES North - 75% ES South - 80% (2005)	Continued availability of supported units for start up and growth companies Enterprise agency business support and advice to tenants	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Occupancy at South Fens Business Centre	Increase the occupancy at South Fens Business Centre to 85% by 2009	50% (205)	Centre Management in delivery Specialised business support provision	Fenland District Council

Cross Reference:

- *Safer and Stronger Communities 7: Services and Information accessible to all*
- *Economic Development and Enterprise 2: Sustainable economic development and local business growth*
- *Children and Young People 2: Raising aspirations of young people to improve their employment and life prospects*

2. Sustainable economic development and local business growth

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Social Enterprise (<i>Investing in Communities</i>)	Establish a baseline during 2006/07 on the current volume of social enterprises in order to develop a target to increase advice and guidance for social enterprise development across Cambridgeshire	N/A	Training for individuals Support for voluntary organisations Support for community groups Recruit new volunteers Create and safeguard jobs	Cambridgeshire CDA Enterprise Fenland Cams Business Link
Research Job Growth	Develop a comprehensive piece of research to identify the nature and sectoral job growth over the next 15 years to ensure employment and housing growth balance	0	Research will identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needed skills • Sectoral growth potential • Forward investment requirements of training providers • Factors to influence private and public sector investment 	Greater Cambridge Partnership Cambridgeshire Horizons
Proportion of the Population who have good access to main centres and key services by public transport and cycling	Increase Public transport access 51% (rural) and 77% (urban) by 2011 Maintain Cycle access 81% (rural) and 99% (urban) by 2011	Public transport 46% (rural) and 72% (urban) Cycle access 81% (rural) and 99% (urban)	Guided Bus Cowley Road junction improvement Addenbrookes access road Stage 1 Build new link across river Cam to link housing to commercial and retail areas and encourage walking and cycling	Cambridgeshire County Council
% of Land held by National Trust in Wicken Fen vision area	Increase land held by National Trust in Wicken Fen vision area by 10% per year	370.5 ha (2005)	Acquire land from landowners in the Wicken Fen vision area as it becomes available Fundraising	National Trust

Cross Reference:

- Safer and Stronger Communities 7: Services and Information accessible to all
- Healthy Communities 2: Better access to services which supports healthy lifestyles

3. Developing the skills base to support the regional and local economy

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Number of adults obtaining a Skills for Life qualification at entry levels 1-3 LAA STRETCH	Increase the number of adults obtaining a Skills for Life qualification at entry levels 1-3 to 60 by 2007	0	Target priority areas and groups. Areas of deprivation: - Fenland and adjoining areas of East Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire - The Oxmoor area of North Huntingdon - The Arbury, King's Hedges and Abbey Wards in the North and East of Cambridge City Key groups: - people with low skill levels - travellers, homeless, single parents, unemployed, migrant workers and refugees	Cambridgeshire County Council
Number of Adults passing a Level 1 National Test in Adult Literacy LAA STRETCH	Increase the number of Adults passing a Level 1 National Test in Adult Literacy to 49 by 2007	3 (2004)	Use innovative and collaborative programmes to engage key groups Target priority area groups Priority groups to include the economically inactive and the low skilled	Cambridgeshire County Council
Number of Adults passing a Level 1 National Test in Adult Numeracy LAA STRETCH	Increase the number of Adults passing a Level 1 National Test in Adult Numeracy to 114 by 2007	18 (2004)	As above	Cambridgeshire County Council
Number of Adults who gain a Level 2 qualification in the subjects listed above or any other Level 2 qualification LAA STRETCH	Increase the number of Adults who gain a Level 2 qualification in the subjects listed above or any other Level 2 qualification to 70 by 207	27 (2004)	Use of innovative and collaborative programmes to engage key groups Target key groups, particularly the economically inactive and low skilled with programmes linked to priority employment fields such as childcare, construction, healthcare and other public services	Cambridgeshire County Council

Cross Reference:

- Older People 1: less social exclusion and improved access to services
- Safer and Stronger Communities 5: citizens engaged in the arts, sports and cultural heritage

4. Promoting workforce development and ensuring economic growth benefits all

Performance Indicator	Target	Baseline	Interventions	Lead Agency
Number of employees participating in employer sponsored training	Establish a baseline during 2006 across LAA partner organisations in order to develop a target for 2007	N/A	LAA Partner organisations to identify existing opportunities for employer sponsored training and explore ways to encourage employees to participate	LAA Board
Mean indices of deprivation score across Fenland Links super output areas	Reduce the Mean indices of deprivation score across Fenland Links super output areas to the 2004 median (23.09) by 2009	30.20 (2004)	Deliver the Fenland Links Strategy and increase both organisational and community capacity in the Fenland Links area	Fenland Links
Numbers of disabled people supported into work (<i>Investing in Communities</i>)	120 people with mental health needs supported back into work across Cambridgeshire	Client group is estimated at 7,480 people (2005) in Cambridgeshire	Provide support in three different health referral agencies across Cambridgeshire - a General Practice, a Health Centre/Hospital and with outreach provision. Undertake cost benefit analysis to assess which approach has the greatest success and impact with a view to further investment and wider roll out.	Cambridgeshire County Council
Reduce discrimination from employers against disabled people (<i>Investing in Communities</i>)	Engage with 50 employers and broker 30 employment opportunities for disabled people	Estimated 14,800 disabled people across Cambridgeshire	Undertake a series of awareness raising meetings which identifies the rich talent to be found amongst the labour pool of disabled people. Follow up employer involvement and encourage the recruitment of disabled people Match skills, capabilities and job opportunities at the outset and where possible promote client interests recognising that success breeds success.	Papworth Trust
Aspirations, skills and employment potential of deprived communities	Identify a 'learning deprived community' in order to develop baseline data and targets to contribute to raising aspirations, skills and employment potential	N/A	Develop a learning community to foster widespread culture of learning in a targeted community Pilot initiatives to raise participation in deprived community yet to be fully identified. This will potentially include employer involvement, whole family learning, skills for life, literacy and numeracy targets and general confidence building activity.	Greater Cambridge Partnership

Cross Reference:

- *Healthy Communities 3: Reduce local inequalities in health*
- *Healthy Communities 2: Better access to services which support healthy lifestyles*

Our Aspirations for this block:

Further details on aspirations for the Local Area Agreement can be found on page 62
The main headings relating to this block are:

- Explore the opportunities and impact of the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics in the local area
- Increase provision of **Affordable Housing**
- Delivering **Sustainable Communities**
- To be able to extend the range of Skills for Learning (S4L) qualifications to include Entry Level 1 and 2 as part of a progression pathway to higher achievement (this will require a flexibility in current policy)
- Finding a mechanism to unlock new business parks / employment sites in areas where there is currently market failure
- Improving business engagement and awareness of training opportunities that reflect the needs of local business
- Helping disadvantaged people into work, as a route out of poverty
- Working with employers and partners to address market failure in the labour market
- Increasing employment rates, achieved through an emphasis on parity both within and across local authority areas, with a focus on specific wards where indicators suggest there are (multiple) problems. The output from this would be a reduction in economic inactivity rates for key groups.
- Enable a thriving rural business economy and increase service provision and the number, diversity and quality of employment opportunities in the market towns and rural centres

ASPIRATIONS FOR THE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

There are some initial aspirations for Cambridgeshire's Local Area Agreement. These are areas of work where the LAA approach would add value, but where further work and clarification on evidence and funding is needed before we are in a position to develop specific targets.

The following pages set out cross-cutting proposals to be included in the LAA from which the LAA Board -and appropriate partnerships- can build on during the first years of delivery.

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY COHESION

Social inclusion, social cohesion, poverty, safer communities, health inequalities, discrimination, stronger communities and deprivation are all inter-related. Within Cambridgeshire there is a lot of work taking place across many agencies in these areas. In developing the LAA, it has become clear these could be more joined up.

Much effort is appropriately targeted locally at those most in need, but there is also recognition that to promote social inclusion and work effectively across these subject areas all services must be responsive to those they serve.

Over the coming year, work will be undertaken to link the local action taking place to promote social inclusion and explore how this can be better supported by mainstream policies with partner organisations, e.g. through joint work on implementation of the race equality act and public involvement. This will build on the approach set out in the Cambridge Social Inclusion Strategy. The benefits of an overarching social inclusion target will be explored.

The Health Development Agency now recommends that rather than focusing actions on the socially excluded alone the social gradient is also considered. Effort must be targeted at those most in need but also services must be responsive to they needs of everyone they serve.

Some initial points for further work in this area include:

- Access to information for older people on what help and support exists locally, how to access it and how to get involved in planning and decision making and in the community and community activities
- Raise aspirations and motivating progression by developing 'outreach' taster sessions for individuals to encourage learning and improve their employability
- Promote community involvement in decisions and actions linked to wider agency approaches to public involvement

- Establish a Social Inclusion Small Grants budget to promote community work on cross-cutting issues which contribute to community safety, cohesion, social capital and health
- Enable some piloting/action - research learning opportunities to be tested by public sector agencies to improve participation by 'harder to reach groups'
- Reduce differences in life expectancy between the more socio-economically deprived areas of Cambridgeshire and the county as a whole
- Understand inequalities in health and in access to services which influence health by increasing the use of health equity audit by local organisations
- Recognise the health and social needs of carers and ensure they are addressed
- Reduce fuel poverty; and
- Work jointly with partners to develop plans and indicators for tackling social exclusion, including exclusion affecting disabled people, and increasing community involvement.
- Build on current health needs assessment work to address the health needs of travellers, migrant workers, homeless people and prisoners, developing appropriate plans and indicators for improvement.

The Home Office, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) and the Local Government Association (LGA) have agreed an overarching definition of a cohesive community as one in which:

- There is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities
- The diversity of people's different backgrounds and circumstances is appreciated and positively valued
- Those from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities; and
- Strong and positive relationships are being developed between people from different backgrounds in the workplace, in schools and within neighbourhoods.

The Government has developed a framework of practical measures that help to mainstream the process of community cohesion, emphasizing that community cohesion is achieved through community members working together for the benefit of all.

The LAA will enable partner agencies to evaluate community safety, policing and education practices for instance and how these can contribute to community cohesion. Community and voluntary organisations also have an important role to play as they have close contacts with sections of the community. Through networking and joint activities they can draw together the different communities to promote common interests.

HEALTH

Health outcomes that can be monitored from the start of the Local Area Agreement in April 2006 have been included under the 'Healthy Communities and Older People' block in this document.

Other important outcomes, not already identified under aspirations on social inclusion and culture and sport, need more work during the next year to develop local plans and appropriate targets/indicators.

These are:

- Develop further work and indicators on reducing the health consequences of problem drinking.
- Help reduce the health consequences of obesity by improving access to services and environments that help people who want to lose weight.

These areas require further discussion and planning between partner agencies, and the completion of national work on outcome indicators.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Affordable housing is needed to support growth. This is a priority area in Cambridgeshire that will need to be worked out in more detail for inclusion in the Local Area Agreement and the Chief Housing Officer Group, representing all the Districts in the sub-region, have agreed to progress this to ensure agreed actions are in place for April 2007.

Considerable work was done in an effort to agree an affordable housing target as part of Cambridgeshire's LPSA but because of a general difficulty around the reliability of housing targets (anticipating the timing of construction works) the topic area proved to be unsuitable for inclusion as a 'stretch' target. The provision of Affordable Housing continues to be a priority for the Local Strategic Partnerships in Cambridgeshire and there is a commitment to develop joint targets as part of the LAA.

The specific development of a homelessness target for 16-18 year olds could be done by building on new work of local authorities as a sub set of BVPI 213 'Housing Advice Service: Preventing Homelessness'. All Districts are working to refocus resources on preventative work with all age groups.

LAA partners are particularly keen to address Migrant Workers housing needs. The results of recent regional research will be used -once available- to generate some partnership work in this area in order to develop focused outcomes.

TRANSPORT AND ACCESS

The LAA will also be a useful mechanism for partners to work jointly on transport and access issues and explore whether plans and indicators can be developed to improve accessibility to services in rural communities.

Addressing transport issues is key to inclusion, economic growth and job creation, among other things.

We must ensure people can access key services at reasonable cost, in reasonable time and with reasonable ease. Improving accessibility is the main way in which we can ensure that transport addresses the issues of rural isolation, social exclusion and the transport difficulties of vulnerable people.

As part of the County's Local Transport Plan (LTP), and accessibility audit of each of the twelve main transport corridors in the county has been carried out, which has enabled the development of the corridor approach and provided an LTP strategy to tackle accessibility needs throughout the county. The successful delivery of such strategy is underpinned by effective coordination and integration of commercial public transport with subsidized services and community transport.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The economic and social benefits of the London Olympics and Paralympics 2012 are potentially very significant. There are opportunities to integrate activity associated with the London Olympics 2012 within a broader regeneration programme. ESF is offering an opportunity to ameliorate these potential problems through bringing more people into the labour force, increasing the skills base of the current workforce and improving the adaptability of businesses.

Over £15m million has been allocated across the three regions to provide training in three key sectors, construction, sports and leisure and logistics. Each region has, or is putting together a series of specifications aimed at some of the key skills gaps within these sectors and to help to provide the regional workforce and SMEs with the skills required to ensure that they fully benefit from the successful bid. These specifications have been worked up in conjunction with each relevant Sector Skills Council.

A launch event is due in February 2006. Activity will begin in the summer of 2006 and will end by July 2008.

Other aspirations for the LAA include:

- Increase the provision of Affordable Housing
- Helping disadvantaged people into work, as a route out of poverty
- Working with employers and partners to address market failure in the labour market
- Increasing employment rates, achieved through an emphasis on parity both within and across local authority areas, with a focus on specific wards where indicators suggest there are (multiple) problems. The output from this would be a reduction in economic inactivity rates for key groups.
- Enable a thriving rural business economy and increase service provision and the number, diversity and quality of employment opportunities in the market towns and rural centres
- To be able to extend the range of Skills for Learning (S4L) qualifications to include Entry Level 1 and 2 as part of a progression pathway to higher achievement (this will require a flexibility in current policy)
- Finding a mechanism to unlock new business parks / employment sites in areas where there is currently market failure
- Improving business engagement and awareness of training opportunities that reflect the needs of local business

SUSTAINABLE NEW COMMUNITIES MITIGATING AND ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

The Cambridge Sub-region falls within the London-Stansted-Cambridge growth corridor, and is set to grow by 47,500 households between 1999 and 2016. The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Structure Plan in policy P1/3 sets out policies to require a high standard of sustainable design and construction in new development to include:

- Attractive green spaces and corridors for recreation and biodiversity
- Renewable energy sources, energy from waste or combined heat and power where possible
- Water efficiency measures
- Sustainable drainage systems
- Minimising the need to travel and reducing car dependency
- Sustainable construction

The County Council's Climate Change Strategy, which includes contributions from all the Districts, was adopted in March 2005. The Strategy's includes objectives to:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through adopting energy efficiency measures and promoting renewable energy
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport...through travel planning
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through better waste management, more efficient use of resources and more environmentally aware

procurement

Consider climate change adaptation in all new and reviewed Council policies and in new buildings

This particular package offers the following benefits:

- Builds on existing partnership working, including experience of combining small scale budgets across local authorities and experience of joint working involving statutory and voluntary sectors
- Supports the achievement of objectives across several LAA blocks
- Relates to other national agendas including sustainable communities and climate
- Gives practical effect to aspirations for new communities expressed in community strategies
- Identifies activities which fall between "business as usual" and "pie in the sky" providing stretch without completely unrealistic aspirations
- Identifies activities which may be able to secure a wider range of funding than existing LA budgets (GAFF, EU funding, S106, external grants) and where inclusion in the LAA may help to facilitate this.

There is a considerable amount of formal and informal partnership working on specific issues within the Sub-region. Much of this is supported by Cambridgeshire Horizons; in particular the Sustainable Communities Task Group. In addition existing and proposed EU funded projects can bring in considerable sums for demonstration and pilot projects and capacity building.

Scope

The current proposal covers 5 strands of work, where there has already been a degree of partnership working and partners are keen to do more:

- Business travel plans
- Strategic Open space and biodiversity
- Renewable energy
- Integrated urban drainage
- Sustainable construction

There are a number of other strands of work that could be incorporated into the framework, if a decision was made to include more aspirational or "business as usual" activities. These include:

- Energy management within county council and partners
- Community development for sustainability: work focussed around individual households in new communities encompassing personalised travel planning, energy and water efficiency advice, gardening advice
- Work on delivery of local transport plan objectives
- Awareness raising activity on climate change and sustainable living

There are some risks attached to this proposal that should also be considered. These are:

- Failure to secure additional funding where this is necessary to enable projects to be implemented -may require "fall-back" outcomes
- Other organisational priorities reducing partner capacity to support outcomes -requires a robust and adequately resourced project management mechanism and good sign-up from partners
- External factors beyond the control of partners affecting achievement of targets e.g. fall in private transport costs affecting individual decisions on travel to work - need to identify and monitor these and recognise them in PI definition
- Insufficient capacity to maintain an adequate level of support to drive and co-ordinate projects

A summary of the proposal's objectives, links to other initiatives, funding and PI's -among other details- can be found in the following two pages.

	Workplace Travel plans	Strategic Open space	Renewable energy capacity	Integrated Urban Drainage	Sustainable construction
Overarching objective	To tackle climate change by reducing travel to work by car; increasing the amount of strategic open space and its role in mitigating climate change flood prevention, increasing the supply of renewable energy; reducing the likelihood of flooding and increasing the environmental sustainability of new buildings.				
Workstream objective	To increase coverage and implementation of travel plans within Cambridge Sub-region	To develop and implement a strategic open spaces strategy focussing on the needs of new communities	To increase the capacity for generating renewable energy	To build organisational and partnership capacity to design and develop integrated urban drainage management systems.	To secure more sustainably constructed buildings in the Cambridgeshire Sub Region
Current situation	Travel for Work Partnership in existence for 8 years. XX employers registered. 2.4 dedicated staff reporting to partnership, funded by LTP and partnership contributions	County commissioned Countywide Strategic Open space Study, reported ?? Current work on Strategic Open Space Strategy, due to report Jan 2006.	County, City and S Cambs commissioned Cambridge Sub Region renewable energy study reported ?? With additional EST funding commissioned study of potential ESCO for Northstowe. Draft report Nov 2005.	Current EU-funded FLOWS project includes demonstration SUDS project at Cambourne Preliminary discussions and research on proposal for LAA	Smartlife Project promoting MMC through training centre and demonstration projects Draft sustainable construction guidance developed by a consortium of local authorities
Reln to climate change	Mitigation: reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport	Mitigation: planting to absorb CO2 emissions, Adaptation: wetlands to act as water detention areas, helping to prevent flooding	Mitigation: increasing the amount of low or zero carbon sources of energy	Adaptation: reducing rapid run off caused by more extreme weather events to help prevent flooding Incorporation of water efficiency features to reduce demand.	Mitigation: higher levels of energy efficiency and lower embodied energy in new development; adaptation: greater water efficiency and integrated cooling features.
Reln to safer and stronger communities	Impacts on local air quality, increasing cycling and walking for health	Local green space for recreation and health	Potential for community ownership and involvement with renewables. Renewables as a community development opportunity	Opportunities for open space, planting Reduce flood risk downstream from new developments.	Lower running costs for energy and water-efficient homes
Other key policy links Healthier Communities, economic development and enterprise Partnerships (existing)	Economic development: tackles congestion	Economic development: makes area attractive to employers	Economic development; could develop capacity in this sector of the local economy e.g. biomass fuels.	Economic development: helps prevent losses through flooding	Development of efficiencies in construction industries
Partnerships (existing)	TfW partnership (City, S Cambs, County, PCT, voluntary sector)	Steering group for strategic open space study (Horizons, County, Districts... Biodiversity partnership in existence since 1996 (County, districts, Peterborough, Wildlife Trust,	Steering group for Northstowe Renewable Energy Study (City, S Cambs, County, Horizons)	A senior level Partnership commitment needs to be established and could use an existing partnership e.g. Cambridgeshire Horizons or the current stakeholder group for Cambourne SUDS	Smartlife partnership and stakeholder groups Sustainable Communities Task Group (Horizons, Districts, GO-East, House builders Federation)

FENS RURAL PATHFINDER

The Fens Rural Pathfinder has been set up to demonstrate how the delivery of Government programmes to rural communities can be improved at sub-regional level, under the leadership of local authorities. They provide an opportunity to develop and test ways of delivering existing funding streams in a more coordinated and efficient way. It is therefore clear that there are strong overlaps in purpose and objectives between this initiative and the LAA.

Rural Pathfinders have been established in each region as part of the Government's Rural Strategy 2004. The Fens Pathfinder area covers the Fens of Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Peterborough; an area defined by a distinctive landscape and a set of issues typical of peripheral rural areas.

The Pathfinder is lead jointly by Cambridgeshire and Norfolk County Councils. Management is shared with the District councils of Fenland, Kings Lynn & West Norfolk, East Cambridgeshire, South Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Peterborough City Council and associated Local Strategic Partnerships. These local authorities are working with over sixty organisations representing social, economic and environmental interests and the community and voluntary sector.

Pathfinder organisations have agreed to focus on four topics plus a crosscutting issue. These are:

1. Learning & Skills
2. Economic Development
3. Improving Access to Services
4. Enhancing the value of the environment; and
5. Migrant Workers as a crosscutting issue

The long-term ambition is to link the full Pathfinder initiative to the LAA as the two initiatives mature. There is however sufficient information on the Pathfinder's topic 4 - enhancing the value of the environment - to include in the current LAA as an additional environmental outcome shared across political boundaries.

Environmental outcome for the Fens

"A high quality and accessible environment in the fens, which contributes to the well being of local communities and visitors, and will be achieved by working across local authority boundaries."

Indicators²

- Area of land managed for environmental benefits increased from x hectares to y hectares over z years.³

² Note, it is difficult to find an indicator to measure this outcome because many existing indicators are not statistically valid at a sub county level (eg farmland birds PSA), or they follow administrative boundaries (eg residents surveys), or their scope is too narrow (eg BV178 for RoW ease of use).

- Increased recreational use of fens countryside. Base line data for this to be established in 06/07.⁴
- An agreed environmental action plan for the area.

It is important to recognise the limitations of these indicators. For example an increase in the area of land managed for environmental benefits can be dependent on land acquisitions that can be unpredictable. Similarly recreational use of the countryside is influenced by factors such as spells of good or bad weather. An additional risk factor is that joined up working in the area is at an early stage and joint activities are still to be agreed.

The project has identified that one of the main obstacles to achieving a higher quality environment is the lack of co-ordination of activity in the area. It is intended that this can be addressed by including agreed outcomes and indicators within the three LAAs that cover the area.

The fens environment is important in the East of England region because of:

- increasing recreational pressure in the area due to the planned growth around and between Peterborough and Cambridge;
- the particular susceptibility of the area to the effects of climate change;
- the economic underperformance, low pay, low educational achievement and pockets of social exclusion in the area, and the potential for a higher quality environment to help to attract inward investment, and provide opportunities to improve people's health through outdoor recreation;
- the unique and distinctive quality of the landscape, which lacks sufficient quality to attract any national designations. In fact large parts of it are environmentally degraded and only 8% of the fens remains in a semi natural state.

Using the Rural Pathfinder project as an initial co-ordinating mechanism, the local authorities and other partners are committed to improving environmental delivery arrangements in order to enhance the environment and to contribute to the well being of residents and visitors to the area. Over the life of the LAA the partners will investigate the potential for:

- an agreed vision for the fens environment;
- agreed priority activities and outcomes for the environment;
- alignment and pooling of resources;
- any freedoms and flexibilities that may be required;
- improved performance management arrangements to deliver cross boundary outcomes;

³ This would measure land in agri-environment agreements, sites managed by the voluntary sector eg National Trust, RSPB, Woodland Trust, SSSIs, EN management agreements, nature reserves, county wildlife sites, country parks etc.

⁴ Options for establishing this data include use of England Day Visits survey (sourced via Countryside Agency). 2005 survey results will be available summer 2006, but there is a risk that the sample for fens could be too small to be valid. Another alternative is to measure use of fens waterways (source Environment Agency, indicator currently being developed)

- extension of this approach to other strands of Pathfinder Project activities.

Activities and funding that will contribute to the achievement of this outcome and indicator.

A number of activities and their associated funding sources can contribute to this outcome. It must be recognised that the projects listed below are managed independently and that their priorities and budgets may change.

Activity (lead organisation)	Indicative budget April 06 – March 09	Additional financial contributors
Great Fen project (English Nature)	In addition to regular contributions both financial and in kind from the project partners for developing and managing the Great Fen Project, the project hopes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the restoration of Darlow's Farm (83ha) to wet grassland with grant from HLF by end 2007; • Secure £1.3m to purchase and restore 137 ha of wetland habitat between Huntingdon and Peterborough with new opportunities for access and undertake a sustainable transport study. This is at Stage 2 of bidding for Growth Area Funds (Round 2), with match funding from Grantscape; • Raise approximately £3 million for major land purchase/restoration in the project area; • Undertake a detailed feasibility study on access and interpretation for the whole project area; • Develop a 'fen harvester' to improve the efficiency and productivity of habitat management in the Great Fen Project area. 	Contributions from partners: English Nature, Environment Agency, Huntingdonshire District Council, Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire and Peterborough. ODPM Growth Areas Funds Grantscape Biffaward HLF Funds Charitable Trusts Landfill tax Private individuals
The Wicken vision (National Trust)	In addition to regular National Trust budget for managing Wicken Fen the NT hopes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put 100 ha of recently acquired land into Higher Level Stewardship in 06/07. • Acquire 7.5 ha land in 06/07 using ODPM money (Growth Areas fund round 1) • Secure £1m for access links and land acquisitions. This is at stage 2 approval in the bidding process for the Growth Areas fund round 2. • Hopefully acquire over 200ha of land around Wicken Fen by 2016. 	ODPM Growth Area fund HLS funds from RDS
Fens Waterways project (Environment Agency)	The EoE section of this project will be rolled out mainly after March 09, when the Lincolnshire section has been done. Significant budget is currently being brokered for Boston section. There is also a maintenance and capital works budget for the Nene and the Great Ouse.	EMDA, Lincs CC
RSPB activities		
Fens Tourism project	Future funding arrangements for this project are	

(Lincs CC)	currently being reviewed.	
Agri-environment schemes (RDS)	Budget is not specific to the fens but amount going to the fens could be increased through proactive publicity in the area.	None
Right of Way Improvement plans (Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Norfolk)	In addition to any money that local authorities might expect to put into managing rights of way in the fens, the Countryside Agency expects to deliver a ROWIP implementation grant for Defra in 06/07 and 07/08 (amount unknown still) and would welcome applications from the fens area.	Countryside Agency

CULTURE AND SPORT

The County Council is working in partnership with Cambridgeshire local authorities and Arts Council England East (ACEE) on a longitudinal study called *Vital Communities* that will show the effect of participation in high quality arts activity on children, their families and communities. The *Vital Communities* project is taking place in 9 locations across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The locations have been selected to be representative of the breadth of social conditions across the county. Arts and creative activity is taking place in school and out of school settings, involving families and communities as well as children.

An important objective is forging effective partnerships by generating inward investment through funding applications for projects to enhance provision of the arts, sports and the cultural heritage in the county. Local community heritage, arts and sports initiatives need the promotion and support of all relevant partners.

Cambridgeshire Horizons is also conducting work on strategies to inform the next 30 years approach to Arts, Culture, Sport and Green/Open Spaces. The LAA can be a good vehicle for partners to work closer together and join up initiatives so that strategic and resourced provision for existing and new communities is achieved.

Some of the aspirations on this area are:

- Increase economic growth by creating jobs within the sports industry (linking to the creation of a Countywide Sports Partnership with access to external funding, and to the 2012 Olympic Games)
- Increase employment opportunities of local residents by creating a sports learning pathway (coach and official training packages)
- Build a range of strategically positioned quality sports facilities in Cambridgeshire to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing population (linking to the development of the Sub Regional Sports Facility Strategy produced in partnership with Cambridgeshire Horizons)
- Help meet the cultural, arts, sporting and leisure needs of communities, including increasing generic access for those with mental and / or physical health problems (link to improving the physical and mental health of Cambridgeshire's population)

- Promote learning through increased participation and volunteering
- Develop Community Access Points (CAPs) as learning hubs for the local community and repositories for local and regional information and cultural resources encouraging local interest and community groups to take ownership of the CAP.
- Enabling existing and new communities to develop a sense of place and local distinctiveness through engaging with the local heritage, community activities and cultural development of their area.
- Work with local authorities and cultural providers in Cambridgeshire to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing population, informed by the Arts and Cultural Strategy produced in partnership with Cambridgeshire Horizons
- Work with Sport Colleges and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Sports Partnership to increase the percentage of 5 to 16 year olds engaged in two hours a week minimum on high quality PE and sport
- Work in partnership with District Councils to increase the number of sports facilities that have achieved quality assured standard

PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS, GOVERNANCE AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Cambridgeshire does not have a countywide Local Strategic Partnership to oversee the development and implementation of the Local Area Agreement. In order to fulfil the requirement of having a LAA framework that builds on the work of our district-based LSPs the main priorities identified in Cambridgeshire's five Community Strategies have been consolidated and integrated in this document.

Our vision and LAA framework demonstrates evidence of strategic leadership at a local level and involvement of all stakeholders in influencing agendas and targets. This has been accomplished by building on Cambridgeshire's strong tradition of partnership working at different levels and recent experience of developing a framework for managing partnership wide arrangements within LPSA2 while embedding LSP involvement within the LAA development process. The governance arrangements for Cambridgeshire's Local Area Agreement are under development. A countywide group of stakeholders has come together to consider several options that take account of local circumstances. There is consensus among all partner organisations that there is a need to establish a high-level forum or group at a countywide level that can achieve strategic coordination, focus on collective outcomes and crosscutting themes, and incorporate contributions from individual LSPs.

Partner agencies have agreed that this strategic group - or LAA Board- will contain representatives from key organisations in the business, public and voluntary and community sectors with strong links to the Local Strategic Partnerships and the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership.

The purpose of this Board is to develop, communicate and ensure achievement of the LAA framework outcomes to improve quality of life for Cambridgeshire's residents and to act as an executive body for the Local Area Agreement.

The LAA Board will:

- Facilitate and deliver improvement to public services in the county by delivering the LAA vision.
- Provide the leadership required to achieve delivery of the LAA having regard to our Community Strategies and Plans and other jointly agreed strategies
- Improve partnership working be open to new ideas that will lead to continuous improvement
- Ensure cross-cutting themes are explored and developed so that the full potential of the LAA can be realised
- Oversee the pooling and alignment of resources to tackle priorities in the most cost-effective way for the communities it serves
- Oversee the effective use and management of resources

- Demonstrate flexibility and take account of the different needs of different partners
- Maintain clarity as to where responsibility and accountability lie and identify and address areas of underperformance
- Play a high level role in performance review and management to ensure priorities are being delivered
- Respond to Government reviews of the LAA

In fulfilling these roles, the LAA Board will be guided by the following principles:

Equality: celebrating Cambridgeshire's diversity and recognising geographical, social and economic differences within the county and so respond appropriately to different needs

Partnership: working in partnership at the local, sub regional and regional level

Outcome Focus: ensuring the Board's agenda and decision-making focus on outcomes and tangible progress towards LAA priorities

Inclusive Participation: recognising and supporting the role of all sectors in service delivery and empowering local communities to engage in shaping services

Membership:

The Board will have 12 executive members drawn from businesses, Local Strategic Partnerships, the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership, public sector and voluntary and community sector organisations as follows:

<i>District Councils/LSPs</i>	<i>5 representatives (one representative from each District who is also a member of the LSP Board)</i>
<i>Cambridgeshire County Council</i>	<i>2 representatives (one to represent the interest of the Children & Young People Strategic Partnership)</i>
<i>Cambridgeshire Constabulary</i>	<i>1 representative</i>
<i>Health</i>	<i>1 representative</i>
<i>Business</i>	<i>1 representative (also member of Greater Cambridge Partnership)⁵</i>
<i>Voluntary Sector</i>	<i>2 representatives (one representative covering rural interests)</i>

⁵ The District of Fenland is covered by the Greater Peterborough Sub regional Economic Partnership; Fenland Strategic Partnership will develop the priority outcomes on economic development for this area via the work of its Business Forum. The relevant District/LSP delegate will represent the interest of the latter on the LAA Board.

PARTNERSHIP CONTEXT

The detail in each of the LAA blocks has been developed by existing partnerships already involved in priority setting and delivery over relevant areas.

These partnerships will continue to play an important role in the delivery and performance management of LAA outcomes and targets and therefore need to be actively engaged in providing support and advice on specific issues for the LAA Board.

A countywide officer group -the LAA REFERENCE GROUP - that includes representation at the officer level from individual organisations and LSPs and other partnerships has carried out the overall coordination of the LAA development.

The LAA Reference Group will become the LAA Board's supporting and facilitating group responsible for setting the LAA Board's agenda, ensuring the right information and advice is provided to the LAA Board to facilitate appropriate decision-making, and providing important feed back to the organisations and partnerships represented in the LAA Reference Group.

LSP representation is important to provide the LAA Board with the appropriate locality focus. In addition, LSPs are a good potential vehicle for extensive community engagement capable of offering a good representation of local needs and views.

The interaction between the LSPs, other relevant partnerships, the LAA Reference Group and the LAA Board must be taken into account in the development of a robust and supportive process that fits in with the decision making mechanisms within constituent partners.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

Our approach to performance managing the LAA has been drawn on our experience working together on the LPSA and within the context of our five LSPs.

Our approach is based on our need to:

- Monitor and review the LAA outcomes and the supporting plans
- Monitor and review performance of individual and shared targets

- Use resources effectively in order to deliver outcomes, taking into account an holistic view of performance in terms of resources, outputs and outcomes
- Identify and tackle barriers to improvement
- Assess the overall effectiveness of the partnership

To assist us in doing this we have agreed a set of common principles to help build on the trust that already exists between us and to ensure that the right focus remains on the arrangements. These principles are set out below:

Principles For Performance Managing the Cambridgeshire LAA

Drives Improvement

The performance management arrangements drive improvement, focusing on outcomes as well as efficiency, effectiveness and economy and are fit for purpose and do not become an end in themselves

Leadership

Representatives on the Board, the Reference Group and the LSPs ensure individual partner organisations engage in and prioritise the LAA work - influencing and negotiating as necessary to ensure performance reports and information are delivered on time

Accountability

LAA must help improve local and national accountability by increased engagement and communication. The LSPs and individual partnerships should empower the LAA to be able to investigate performance issues with a view to finding solutions quickly

Ownership

Individual partnerships and organisations (and their respective officers) 'own' performance reporting and data to help ensure deadlines and timetables are met

Challenge and Support

Adequate resources support the performance management arrangements and there is an equal emphasis on challenging and learning

Reporting and Reviewing Structure

A model for our performance management arrangements linked to the overall governance of the LAA is set out in page 82 of this document. It defines 4 levels of 'activity':

- Reviewing and directing
- Implementing and delivering
- Challenging and Verifying

The principle groups reviewing overall performance will be the LAA Board and Reference Group and the individual LSPs assisted by Go East [and a scrutiny/challenging body if/when put in place].

How this will be done is based on 4 elements:

- (a) Performance and targets will be measured against a set of key performance indicators drawn from each of the agreed LAA outcomes and reported quarterly to the Reference Group. These reports will also contain an analysis of budgets and an understanding of progress against the potential 'LAA stretch' reward grant on offer
- (b) Thereafter a report will be considered by the individual LSPs and LAA Board (exception reporting unless otherwise requested) supported by recommendations for how performance might be improved
- (c) Progress against outcomes based on PIs and progress against individual plans will be considered 6 monthly - looking back and projecting forward - by the LSPs, Reference Group and LAA Board
- (d) An annual report to Go East with a review meeting 6 weeks before, including and examination of:
 - Progress against outcomes
 - Performance against targets
 - The effectiveness and added value of the LAA

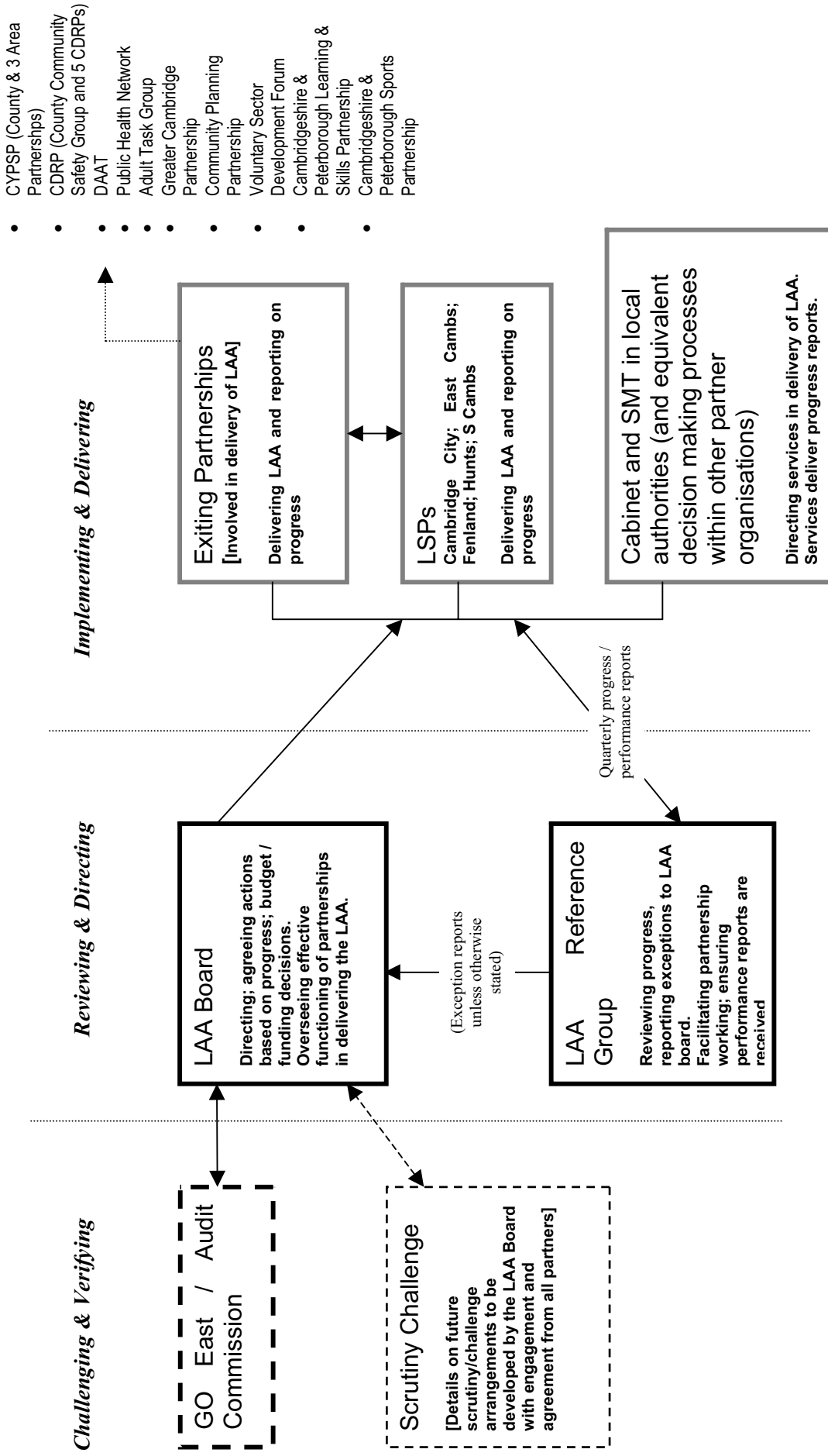
The LAA Reference group will be able to initiate 'start and finish' groups to examine any performance problems identified with a view to proposing actions to be adopted by relevant parties.

The draft reporting timetable will be as follows:

What	When	Who
	April	
	May	
Quarterly Report 1	June	Reference Group
	July	
	August	
Quarterly Report 2	Sept	Reference Group
Look Back Look Forward	October	LAA Board/LSPs
	November	
Quarterly Report 3	December	Reference Group
Annual Review Prepared	January	LAA Board
	February	
Annual Review with GO East	March	GO East/LAA Board

Note: this process is yet to be 'trialled and tested' and therefore further refinements are likely to be made during years one and two of the LAA.

Overview: Governance, Performance Management and Responsibilities



ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability to Government

One of the aims of the LAA process is to streamline, simplify and integrate existing performance management arrangements into one area-based framework.

It appears that for funding streams pooled in the LAA, current monitoring and reporting arrangements will be replaced by the need to only monitor and report those outcomes and targets agreed as part of the LAA, unless otherwise stated.

Local areas are expected to demonstrate they have agreed:

- Outcomes, indicators and targets
- Reporting chains between partners
- Robust processes for identifying locally when performance is succeeding or failing
- Partners' responsibility for individual outcomes; and
- Clear mechanisms for identifying and addressing changes in performance against trajectories

The Government Office will conduct six-month and annual reviews where partners will have to demonstrate their direction of travel towards achieving LAA outcomes.

Public Accountability

The LAA Board is accountable to the people of Cambridgeshire. It will be open and transparent in their decisions and activities and communicate them effectively to the public. The Board needs to ensure service users are involved in decision-making and operational activities through direct involvement and through consultation, and provide service users with the means for redress when things go wrong.

In order to achieve this the LAA Board will:

- Publish agendas in advance
- Produce a progress against targets report to be published annually and presented in a public forum
- Demonstrate open decision making (all meetings of the LAA Board will be public)
- Document all decision making processes and have these available to the public
- Consult their local communities and develop joint communities consultation strategies

Arrangements for Scrutiny

There is potential for large amounts of public money to be channelled through the LAA. As the money will be channelled through the County Council, it will presumably be the responsibility of the County Council's auditors to ensure that these resources are properly managed and accounted for.

There is however also a need to consider whether the LAA Board needs to be supported by scrutiny arrangements and, if so, how this might work. Detailed proposals as to the scrutiny arrangements best suited for this purpose will be developed during the first year as it becomes clearer what the role of the LAA Board will become in practice.

THE ROLE OF THE LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Guidance provided by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) on Local Area Agreements states that it is the responsibility of local authorities (County Councils in two tier areas) and Local Strategic Partnerships to take forward the development and successful implementation of the LAA.

The final agreement is expected to be signed off by the Leader of the County Council and the Chair of the LSP or another representative where appropriate.

Countywide governance arrangements should incorporate contributions from individual LSPs and so ensure the group remains strategic but has also an opportunity to keep a clear locality focus in the consideration of crosscutting themes.

LSPs also have an important role to play in the achievement of Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) targets and investment of the reward grant in local priorities. LPSA reward moneys will be distributed equally among the five LSPs in Cambridgeshire.

The LPSA and the LAA present an important step toward increasing the capacity to deliver improvements through targeted prioritisation of funding and improved identification of available resources. They can also serve as useful mechanisms to enhance community leadership and increase public accountability with the key agenda of partners being driven by the needs of their communities determined locally.

APPENDIX A

Cambridgeshire Health Profile

Cambridgeshire's population

In 2004, Cambridgeshire had an estimated resident population of 565,700. Cambridgeshire is part of the London-Stansted-Cambridge corridor, which is one of four national growth areas identified by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. The draft Regional Spatial Strategy plans for 68,100 dwellings to be built across Cambridgeshire by 2021, and the population is forecast to increase by 20% to 679,900. Planning for such significant population growth presents a major challenge.

Within the county, patterns of population change are complex. Most rural areas are forecast to show stable or slightly declining populations to 2021. New housing will be concentrated around Cambridge, in the new town of Northstowe and in and around the market towns. Population growth will be concentrated in these areas. The highest proportional growth is forecast for South Cambridgeshire, with a 36% increase between 2001 and 2021, and Cambridge City, at 33%.

Table 1: Population forecasts, 2001-2021, Local Authority

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group 2003-based population forecasts

Note: These forecasts are based on a series of assumptions and are indicative only;

Local authority	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021	% Change
Cambridgeshire	552,400	574,000	606,700	645,800	679,900	23.1%
Huntingdonshire	157,200	159,400	163,200	166,800	169,700	8.0%
East Cambridgeshire	70,900	75,400	78,500	80,900	82,800	16.8%
Fenland	83,700	89,300	94,100	98,500	103,200	23.3%
Cambridge	110,000	113,600	120,400	135,200	146,400	33.1%
South Cambridgeshire	130,600	136,300	150,500	164,400	177,900	36.2%

they do not represent the policy of the County Council or any district council

Table 2: Population change by age group, 2001-2021, Local Authority

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group 2003-based population forecasts

Note: These forecasts are based on a series of assumptions and are indicative only; they do not represent the policy of the County Council or any district council

Local authority	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75-84	85+	Total
Cambridgeshire	18.4%	8.3%	26.8%	14.1%	23.2%	47.9%	50.0%	74.8%	23.1%
Huntingdonshire	-8.9%	-17.4%	4.8%	-11.3%	19.2%	67.3%	70.0%	87.0%	8.0%
East Cambridgeshire	4.8%	2.2%	19.4%	-15.3%	32.4%	60.7%	60.0%	85.7%	16.8%
Fenland	25.0%	12.1%	28.6%	26.7%	12.2%	20.9%	51.8%	68.4%	23.3%
Cambridge	57.7%	36.4%	35.2%	50.7%	14.7%	7.2%	-9.4%	9.1%	33.1%
South Cambridgeshire	32.1%	25.9%	39.6%	21.1%	34.8%	69.3%	71.2%	116.0%	36.2%

It is not only overall growth or decline that will affect Cambridgeshire's population. While new housing will lead to considerable population growth, population ageing will also be an important demographic trend over coming years. Across Cambridgeshire, the greatest proportional population change will be in the population aged over 75. Between 2001 and 2021 this age group is forecast to increase by 75%. The lowest

proportional increase is forecast for children aged 5 to 14; this age group is forecast to increase by just 8%.

Population ageing is likely to have the greatest impact in the rural districts, with an 84% increase in the population aged 75 and over in South Cambridgeshire, a 74% increase in Huntingdonshire, a 67% increase in East Cambridgeshire and a 56% increase in Fenland. Increases in the number of children and adults of working age will be concentrated in areas of new housing. In contrast to the other districts, Cambridge City's population aged over 75 is forecast to decrease by 4%, while the population aged 0 to 4 is forecast to increase by 58%. There is further information about the effects of an ageing population in the "Older People" section below.

The exact nature of population growth will depend on the nature of new housing and, in particular, on the proportions of family housing, affordable housing and social housing. This will need to be closely monitored over the coming years to inform planning.

In April 2005, 554,600 people were registered with Cambridgeshire GPs. This is the population served by Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire PCTs, East Cambridgeshire and Fenland PCT and Huntingdonshire PCT. Part of Cambridgeshire's population is served by Greater Peterborough Primary Care Partnership. As the resident population grows so will the registered population.

1 Older People

In general, people are living longer and there are therefore increasing numbers and proportions of people aged over 75 years and over 85 years. The likelihood of having poor health increases with age but research shows that it is possible to increase the number of disability free years lived. Healthy living strategies will need to be implemented early on in life to secure the maximum number of disability free years of life.

In 2004, over 85,000 people were aged 65 or over (15% of the total population) nearly half of whom were over 75 years (7% of the total population). The highest number of older people were resident in Huntingdonshire but Fenland had the highest proportion of its population aged 65 and over (19% compared with the national average of 16%).

Table 3: The older population in 2004, resident population.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group mid-2004 population

LA	65-74	75+	All ages	65+	75+
Cambridge City	6,700	7,300	110,300	12.7%	6.6%
East Cambs	6,300	5,900	74,600	16.4%	7.9%
Fenland	9,300	7,500	86,600	19.4%	8.7%
Huntingdonshire	11,900	9,700	159,000	13.6%	6.1%
South Cambs	10,700	9,900	135,200	15.2%	7.3%
Cambridgeshire	44,900	40,300	565,700	15.1%	7.1%

estimates

Age is by far the most significant determinant of health and health service use. People aged over 65 account for 46% of emergency hospital admissions, 41% of elective hospital admissions and 40% of day cases. The risk of emergency admission increases markedly with age. Looking at bed usage, people aged over 65 years account for 75% of occupied hospital bed days after emergency admission and 55% of occupied hospital bed days after elective admission.

Older people risk becoming frail and therefore vulnerable to falls and to fractures. These can reduce people's abilities to look after themselves, reducing their quality of life and increasing their need for social care. Active rehabilitation and support can improve outcomes. Across Cambridgeshire, around 14,000 people are estimated to be physically or mentally frail.

As described in the previous section, many districts will see an increase in their older population over the next twenty years, which is likely to lead to increased requirements for health and social care, including preventive work and rehabilitation.

Wider determinants of health

An individual's health experience is understood to relate not only to biological and genetic factors, but also to the environment they are exposed to over their life course, including the lifestyle and behavioural choices they make. It is widely accepted that people living in areas of material, economic or environmental deprivation are more likely to have poorer health.

As a whole, Cambridgeshire is an affluent county. In the ODPM Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004, Cambridgeshire ranked 134 out of 149 shire counties and unitary authorities, placing it among the least deprived 20% of authorities in the country. Within the county, however, there is considerable variation. Out of the 354 district councils and unitary authorities, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire score among the least deprived 20%, Cambridge City and East Cambridgeshire score among the least deprived 40% and Fenland scores among the most deprived 40%. Employment rates are relatively good within the county, even in Fenland which has the highest rate of unemployment at 2.2%, this is lower than the national average of 2.4%.

Below district council level there is considerable variation in deprivation. Four small areas of the county (known as super output areas) fall within the most deprived 20% of super output areas in the country. All of these are in or around Wisbech in north Fenland. A further five super output areas fall among the most deprived 25% nationally. Three of these are in Fenland, one is in the Oxmoor area of Huntingdon and one is part of Abbey ward in Cambridge. Therefore, while much of the county has relatively low deprivation, there is considerable inequality, with some small areas experiencing high levels of deprivation. It is also likely that there is additional deprivation across the county that is concentrated in areas that are too small to be picked up when analysis is carried out at super output area level.

Map 1 overleaf shows the distribution of deprivation by super output area across the county. This map divides all Cambridgeshire's super output areas into five equal groups, or quintiles, based on their Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) score, and therefore shows relative deprivation within the county.

Table 4: % of household population aged 16+ classified to highest approximate social grade (AB)

Source: 2001 Census

Source: 2001 Census

Local authority	% of household population aged 16+
England	22.2%
Cambridgeshire	27.2%
Fenland	14.8%
East Cambridgeshire	23.8%
Huntingdonshire	27.2%
Cambridge	32.8%
South Cambridgeshire	32.9%

According to the 2001 Census, 27% of Cambridgeshire's population aged 16 and above are in the highest socio-economic group, which is higher than the national average of 22%. There is marked variation across the county,

with one third of Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire residents in this group, compared to 15% of Fenland residents.

Table 5: % of population aged 16-74 with degree or equivalent qualification

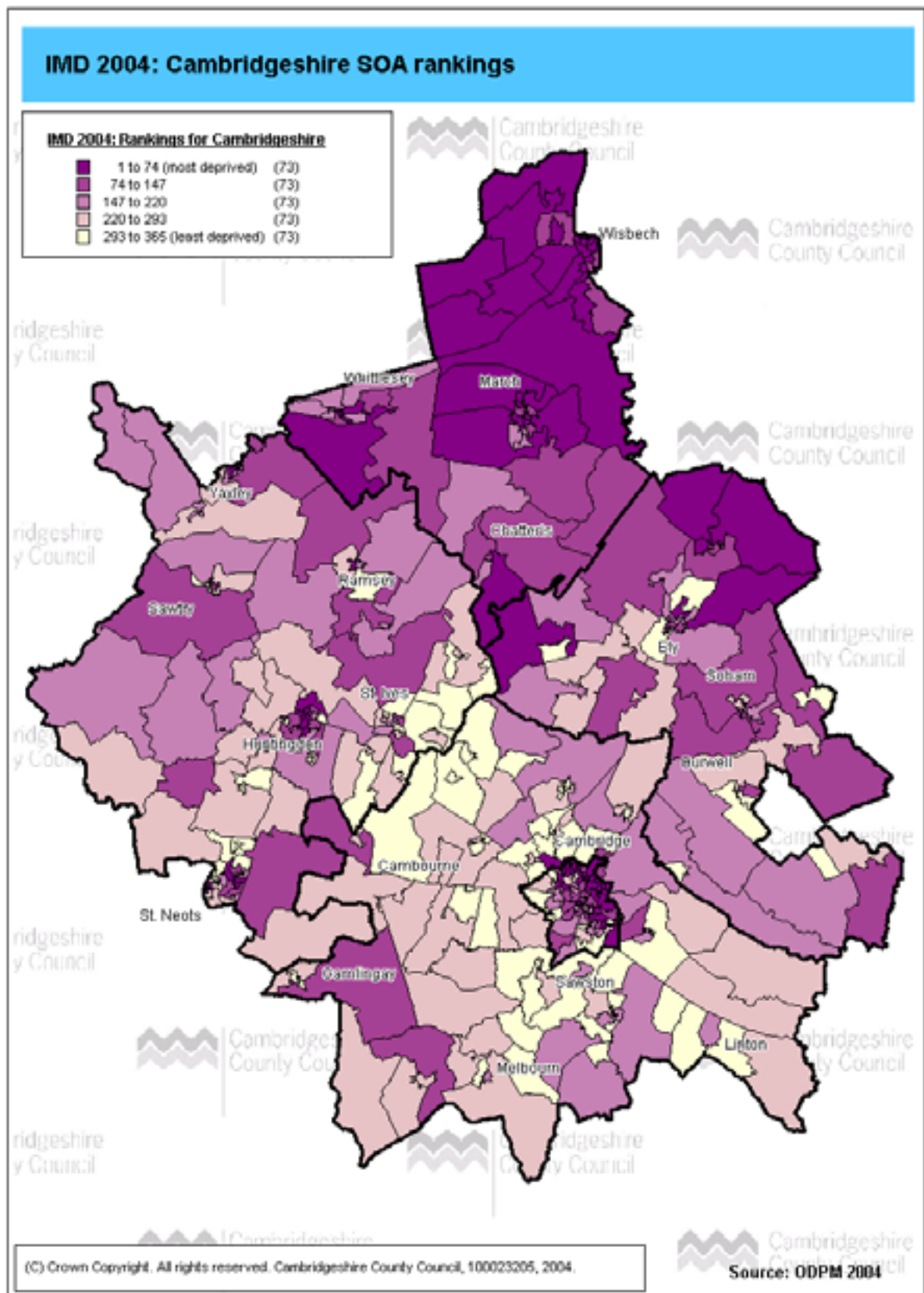
Source: 2001 Census

Local authority	% of population aged 16-74
England	19.9%
Cambridgeshire	25.2%
Fenland	9.5%
Huntingdonshire	20.0%
East Cambridgeshire	20.2%
South Cambridgeshire	29.8%
Cambridge	41.2%

Cambridgeshire residents are, in general, well qualified. 25% of the county's population has a degree or equivalent qualification, compared to 20% in England as a whole. There is, however, marked variation in qualifications across the County. 41% of Cambridge City residents aged 16 to 74 have a degree or equivalent, compared to just 9.5% of Fenland residents. In Fenland 38% of residents have no

qualifications compared to 16% in Cambridge City and 24% nationally.

Map 1: Index of Multiple Deprivation, Cambridgeshire rankings
 Source: Indices of Deprivation 2004, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister



Specific population groups

Cambridgeshire's population contains a number of specific population groups with different health needs to the general population. Cambridge has a large and diverse student population totalling almost 27,000, including post-graduates, representing almost 25% of the City's total resident population. Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire PCTs' recent student needs assessment highlighted three key health issues: sexual health, mental health and alcohol misuse. It recommended the need to plan specifically for students and others in this age group.

Travellers are an important minority group across much of the county, particularly in South Cambridgeshire and Fenland. At present, it is not possible to identify accurate numbers of Travellers, although regular counts of caravans are published by ODPM. The latest figures available, from January 2005, show there are 572 caravans across South Cambridgeshire and 436 in Fenland. National studies have shown inequalities in health experience between Travellers and the settled community, for example higher accidental injury rates and infant mortality rates and lower life expectancy. An extensive needs assessment survey is being carried out across Cambridgeshire and neighbouring districts, which should provide better demographic data and local information related to accommodation and health needs.

Table 6: Ethnic composition by Local Authority

Source: 2001 Census

Local authority	% White British	% White Irish/Other	% Other ethnic groups
England	87.0%	4.0%	9.0%
Cambridgeshire	91.0%	5.0%	4.0%
Cambridge	78.5%	11.0%	10.5%
South Cambridgeshire	93.3%	3.8%	2.9%
Huntingdonshire	93.4%	3.8%	2.8%
East Cambridgeshire	93.6%	4.3%	2.1%
Fenland	96.9%	1.7%	1.4%

At the time of the 2001 Census, 4% of Cambridgeshire residents defined themselves as coming from an ethnic group other than White, compared to 9.1% across England as a

whole. Cambridge City had a higher proportion at 10.6%. The largest minority groups in Cambridge were Chinese and Asian or Asian British - Indian. Many people in these groups are students or academics associated with universities in the City. In many cases, Cambridgeshire residents from ethnic groups other than White experience less deprivation than the White population. Adults from minority groups, for example, are nearly twice as likely to have a degree or equivalent qualification. There are exceptions to this, however, and there is some evidence to suggest that Pakistani and Bangladeshi residents experience lower socio-economic status and have poorer health.

As a predominantly rural county, Cambridgeshire has many migrant and seasonal workers. Very little is known about these groups but it is likely that some are living and working in poor conditions and are not accessing appropriate health care. A health needs assessment for migrant workers is currently being carried out in Fenland. This indicates that significant numbers of local migrant workers come from Portugal, Lithuania and Poland.

Health status

Table 7: % of residents with a limiting long-illness and % with “not good” health

Source: 2001 Census

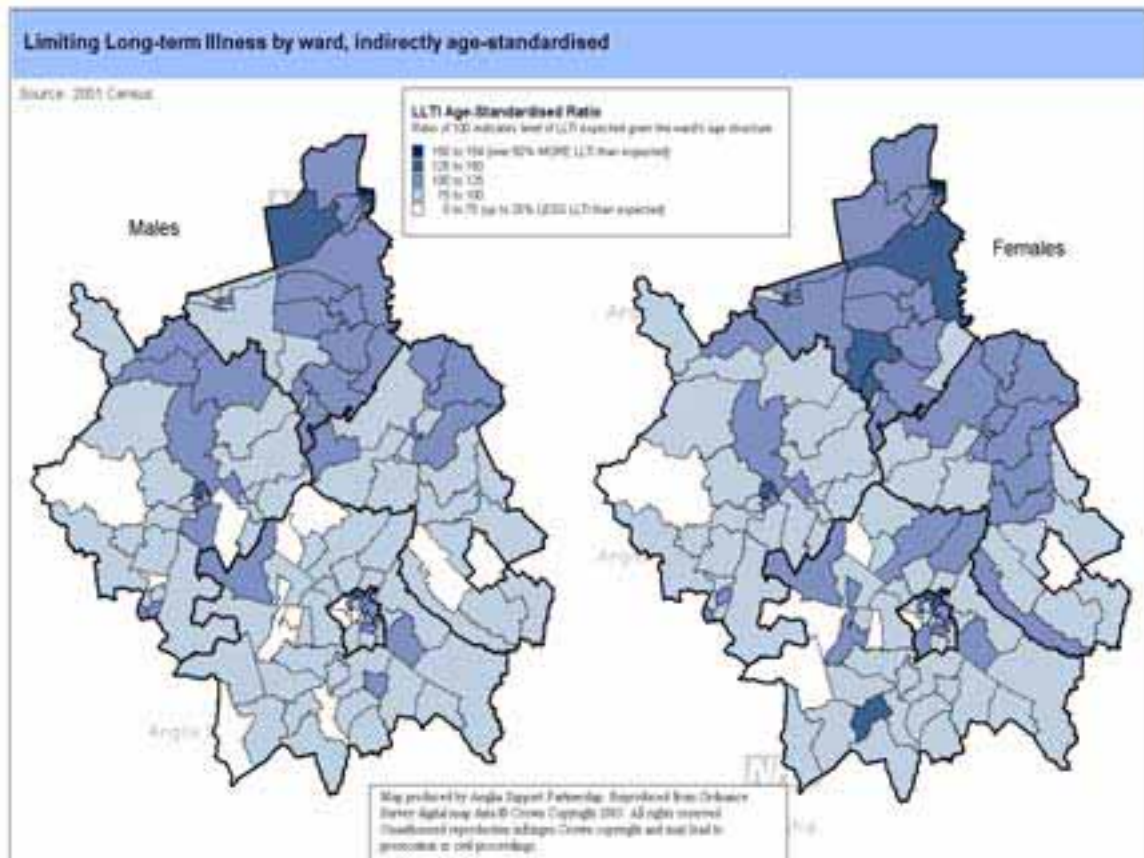
Local authority	% Limiting long term illness	& "not good" health
England	17.9%	9.0%
Cambridgeshire	14.6%	6.6%
South Cambridgeshire	13.3%	5.5%
Huntingdonshire	13.5%	6.0%
Cambridge	13.7%	6.8%
East Cambridgeshire	15.2%	6.8%
Fenland	19.4%	9.1%

Patterns of health across the county broadly follow the patterns of deprivation shown by the Index of Multiple Deprivation. As a whole, Cambridgeshire has a healthy population. In all districts except Fenland, fewer residents perceive their health to be poor than average for England. Across the county as a whole, 15% of residents have a limiting long-term illness and 7% perceive their health to have been “not good” in the year prior to the Census.

Maps 2 and 3 show the variation in self-reported health status across Cambridgeshire, taking the age and sex structure of the population into consideration. There is a fairly consistent pattern across the county, with residents being more likely to have a limiting long-term illness or to perceive their health to be poor in wards to the north of the county particularly in and around Wisbech, Huntingdon North, and in parts of Cambridge City. The pattern of poor health, as measured by the Census, is broadly similar to the pattern of deprivation seen in Map 1.

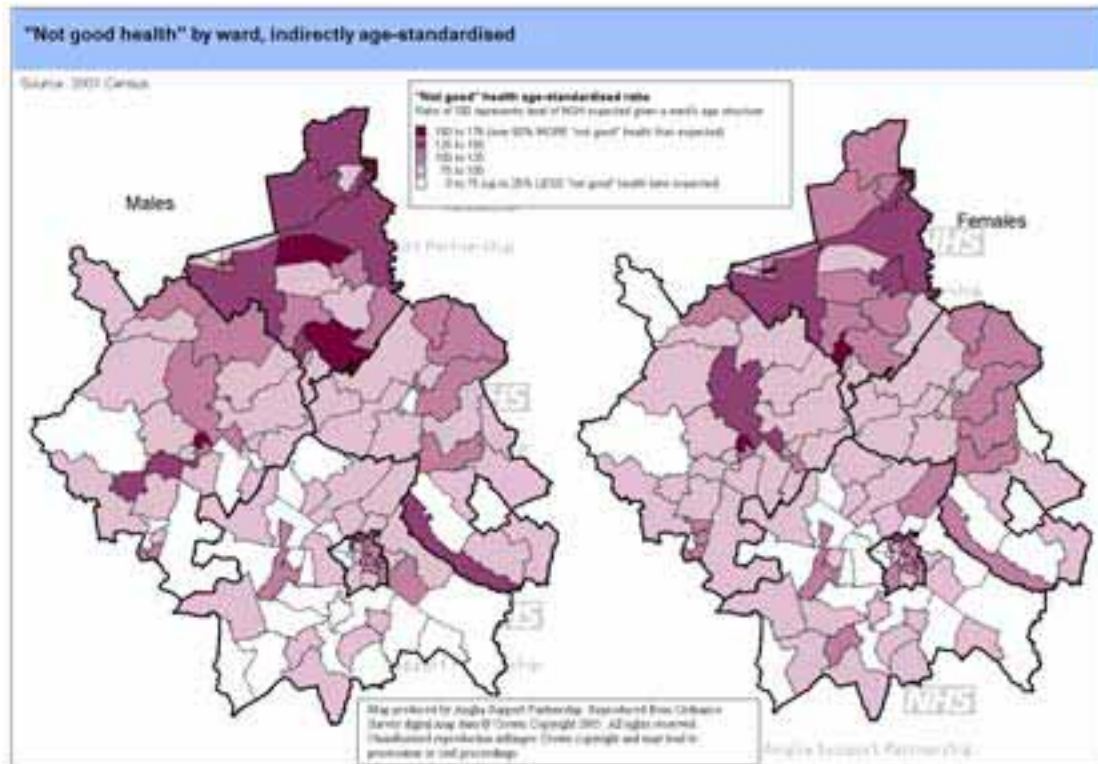
Map 2: Limiting long-term illness by ward, indirectly age-standardised

Source: 2001 Census



Map 3: Self reported “not good” health by ward, indirectly age-standardised

Source: 2001 Census



Life expectancy is higher than the England and Wales average in all districts except Fenland. In South Cambridgeshire, men can, on average, expect to live 3.3 years longer than average and women can expect to live 2.4 years longer than average. Life expectancy in Cambridge, East Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire is closer to the average for Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. In Fenland, male life expectancy is 1.1 years shorter than the national average and female life expectancy is 0.3 years shorter.

Table 8: Life expectancy at birth, Local Authority, 2001-2003

Source: Compendium of Clinical and Health Indicators

Local Authority	Male 2001-2003	Female 2001-2003
England & Wales	76.1	80.7
Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire SHA	77.4	81.7
Cambridge	77.3	81.7
East Cambridgeshire	77.3	82.7
Fenland	75.0	80.4
Huntingdonshire	77.5	81.6
Peterborough	75.2	79.7
South Cambridgeshire	79.4	83.1

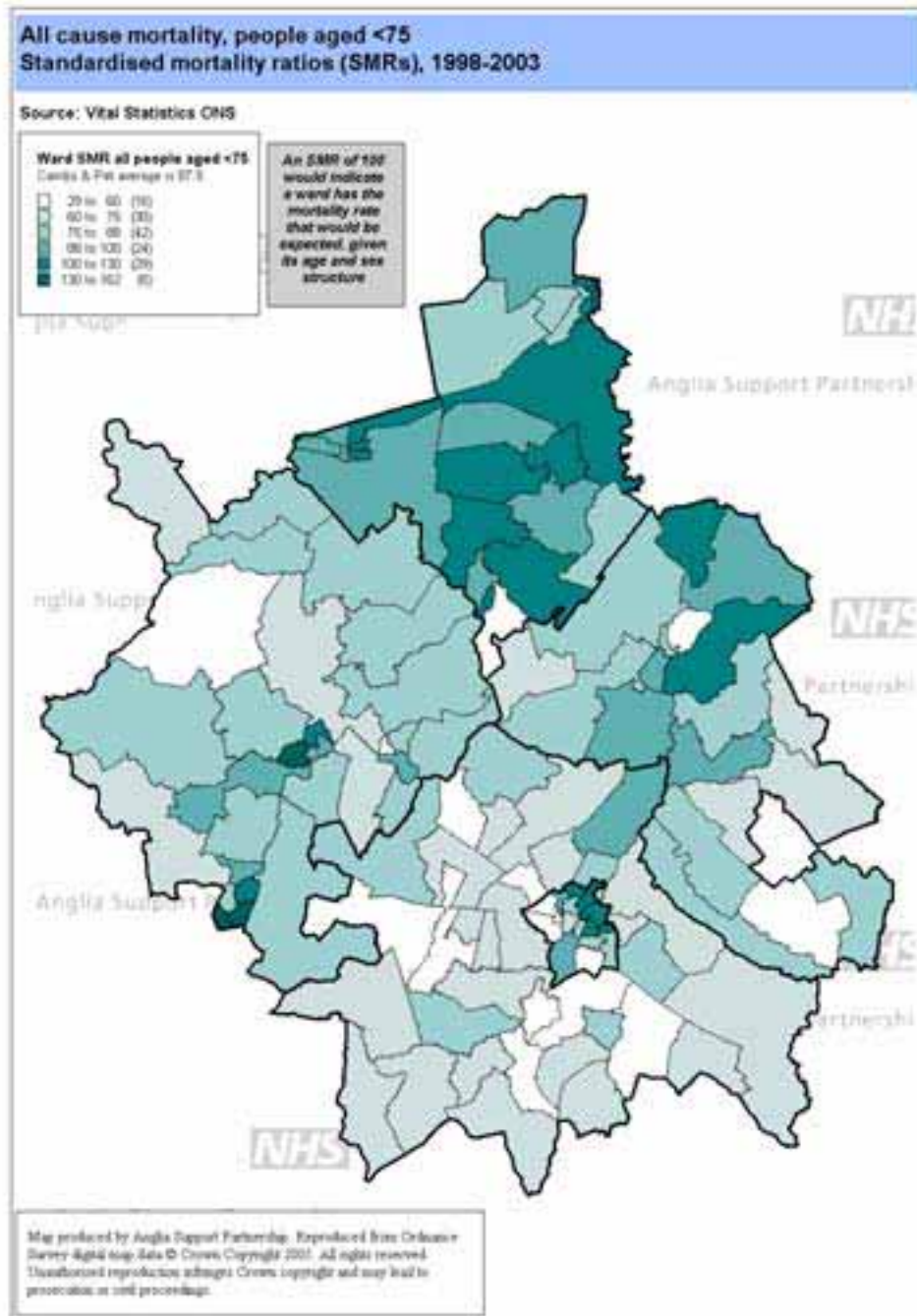
With the exception of Fenland, mortality rates in Cambridgeshire are significantly lower than the national average. The rates of death from cancers, circulatory disease and coronary heart disease are considered relatively low when compared to England and Wales, but these diseases still remain the largest causes of death. For all these diseases Fenland District has the highest rate within Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire the lowest.

Map 4 shows variation in mortality in people aged under 75 by electoral ward, compared to what would be expected given each ward's age structure. The highest levels of mortality are found in Huntingdon West, St Neots Eynesbury and St Neots Eaton Socon, across much of Fenland, Littleport West, Ely East and the north-

eastern wards of Cambridge. The results for individual electoral wards must be treated with considerable caution, as the presence within the electoral ward of nursing or residential homes which cater for people with life limiting illnesses, can give the appearance of high mortality rates in an otherwise healthy ward population.

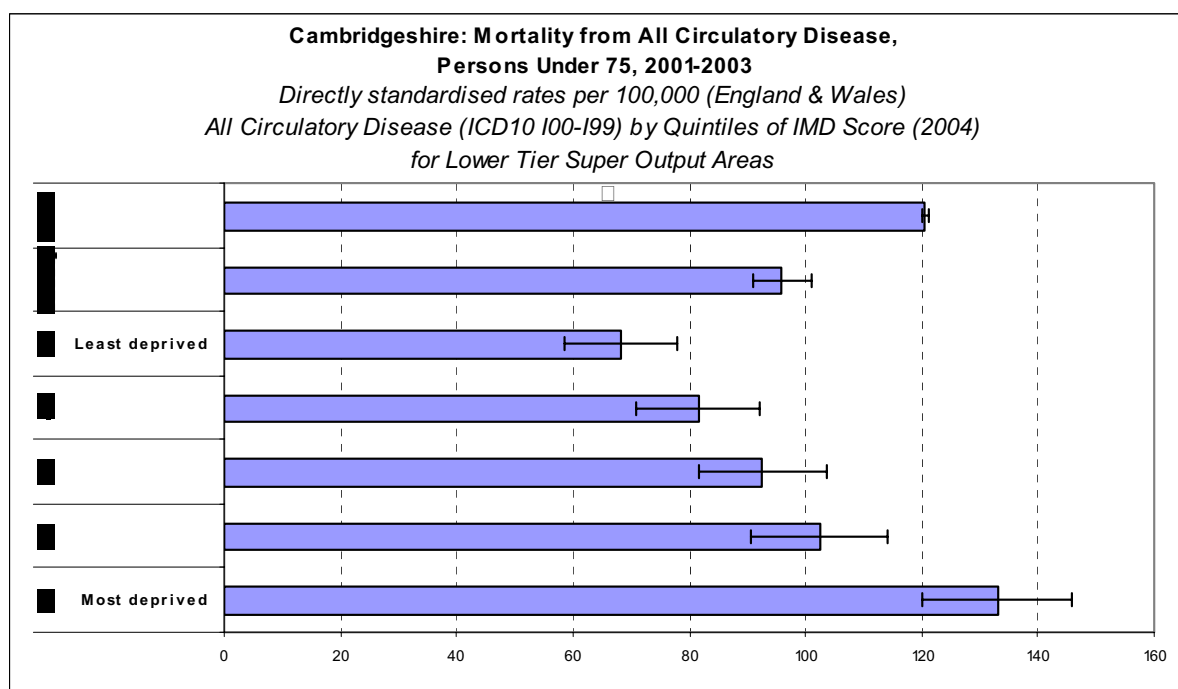
Map 4: All cause mortality in people aged under 75, by ward, 1998-2003

Source: Office for National Statistics Vital Statistics



An analysis of the relationship between life expectancy and socio-economic deprivation has also been carried out for Cambridgeshire at super output area level (see Map 1). Super output areas are geographical areas which are smaller than electoral wards, so analysis on this scale is sensitive to smaller areas of socio-economic deprivation such as individual housing estates. The analysis divides all Cambridgeshire's super output areas into five equal groups, or quintiles, based on their Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) score and therefore shows relative deprivation within the county. Of the most socio-economically deprived quintile of super output areas in Cambridgeshire: 30 are in Fenland, 23 in Cambridge City, 13 in Huntingdonshire, 6 in East Cambridgeshire, and one in South Cambridgeshire.

Average life expectancy in the most deprived quintile of super output areas is 2.1 years less than the Cambridgeshire average and 3.7 years less than the least deprived quintile. Death rates below 75 years of age from heart disease, stroke and related diseases (circulatory diseases) in the most deprived quintile of super output areas is almost double the death rate in the least quintile.



Source: Anglia Support Partnership Public Health Analysts

Accidents

An area where Cambridgeshire differs noticeably to the national picture is accidents. East Cambridgeshire, Cambridge and Fenland have significantly high numbers of accidental deaths, particularly when compared to those that would be expected given their population structure and the death rates seen nationally.

Table 9: Accidents in people of all ages, LA, 2001 and 2002 pooled

Source: Compendium of Clinical & Health Indicators 2003

LA	Average annual deaths	Rate/ 100,000	95% CI
ENGLAND AND WALES	991	15.4	(15 - 16)
Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire SHA	63	24.8	(20 - 29)
South Cambridgeshire	32	17.9	(13 - 23)
Huntingdonshire	35	21.1	(16 - 26)
Fenland	27	23.9	(17 - 31)
Cambridge	35	25.8	(19 - 32)
East Cambridgeshire	23	26.9	(19 - 35)

East Cambridgeshire and Fenland have a significantly high accidental death rate in young people (15-24 years), which has been shown to be due to road traffic accidents. Cambridge City has a high accidental death rate for people aged 65 years and over.

Mental Health

Mental health service usage varies greatly across the county, with noticeably high hospital admissions for schizophrenia and, to a lesser extent, neuroses in Cambridge City. Cambridge City also has the highest suicide rate, significantly above the national average. There may be several reasons for this, including migration to urban areas by people with mental health problems, the presence of Fulbourn Hospital and the relatively high numbers of homeless people in the city, who generally have a higher prevalence of mental illness

Table 10: Mortality from suicide and injury undetermined in people of all ages, LA, 2001/2002

Source: Compendium of Clinical & Health Indicators 2003 based on Hospital Episode Statistics

LA	Average annual deaths	Rate/100,000	95% CI
ENGLAND AND WALES	4,815	8.8	(9 - 9)
Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire SHA	206	8.9	(8 - 10)
East Cambridgeshire	3	8.0	(2 - 14)
Huntingdonshire	7	8.1	(4 - 13)
Fenland	8	12.3	(6 - 18)
South Cambridgeshire	7	15.2	(7 - 23)
Cambridge	11	19.8	(11 - 28)

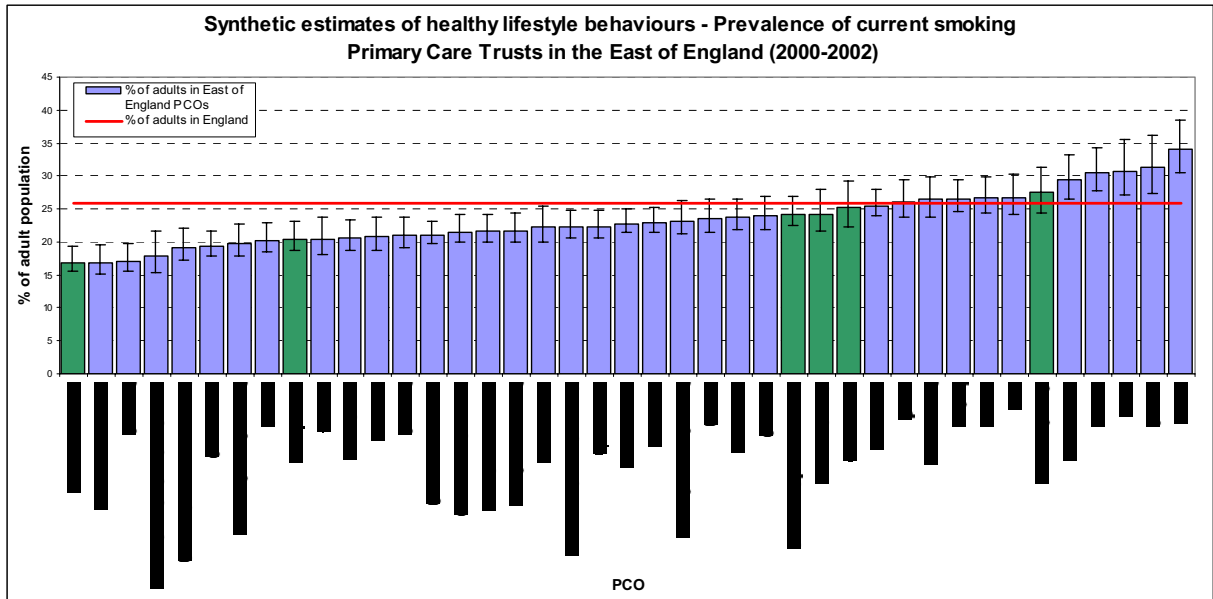
Lifestyle behaviour

In November 2004 the Department of Health published the public health white paper 'Choosing Health: Making Healthier Choices Easier'. It sets out the key priorities of tackling health inequalities, reducing the number of people who smoke, tackling obesity, improving sexual health, improving mental health and encouraging sensible drinking, helping children and young people to lead healthy lives and promoting healthy and active life amongst older people.

It is well documented that many deaths are due to smoking related illnesses and therefore smoking reduction is a priority in all areas. South Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire PCT have estimated smoking prevalence significantly lower than the national average, whilst Cambridge City and East Cambridgeshire and Fenland PCTs are close to the national average.

Figure 1: Synthetic estimates of smoking prevalence, by PCT

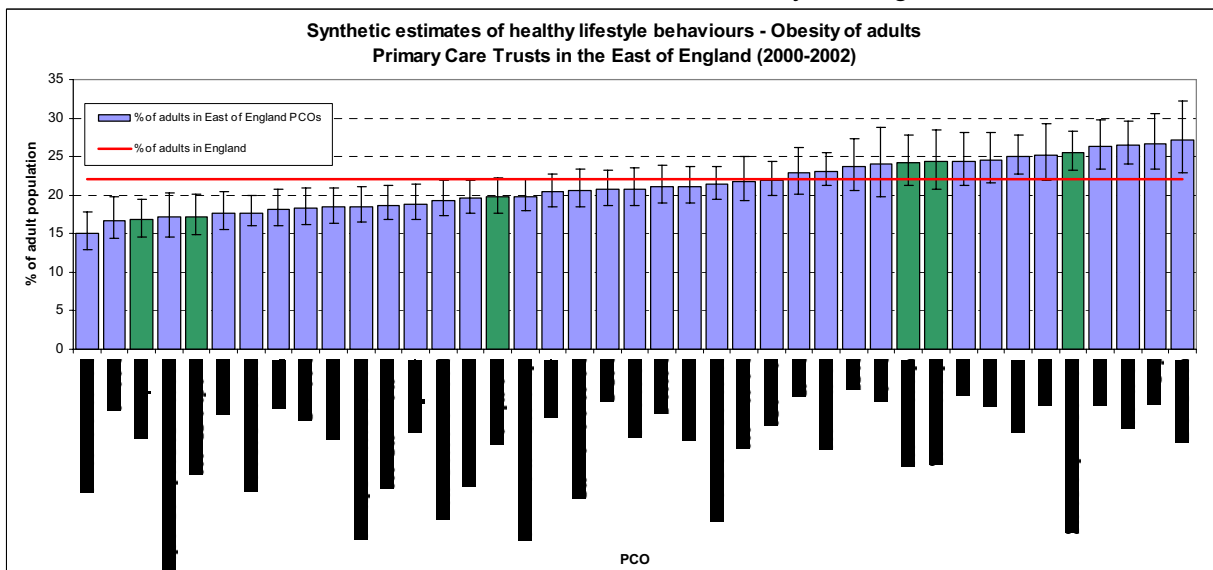
Source: Office for National Statistics, based on Health Survey for England data



Estimated levels of obesity vary across the county, from approximately 17% in Cambridge City PCT to 26% in East Cambridgeshire and Fenland PCT (national average 22%).

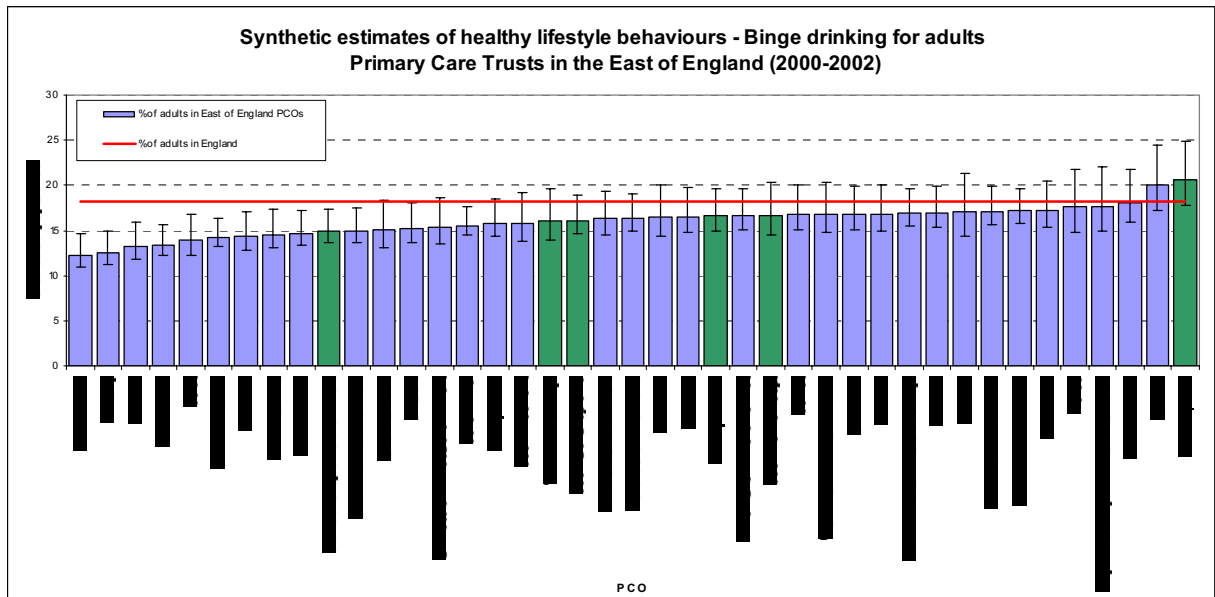
Figure 2: Synthetic estimates of obesity, by PCT

Source: Office for National Statistics, based on Health Survey for England data



It is thought that Cambridge City PCT has the highest rates of binge drinking in the Eastern Region with over a fifth of adults classed as binge drinkers. The PCT also has higher rates of hospital admissions for alcohol related problems than other PCTs in Cambridgeshire; these are highest in the age group 40-64 years.

Figure 3: Synthetic estimates of binge drinking, by PCT



Source: Office for National Statistics, based on Health Survey for England data

It is estimated that over 42,000 adults aged 16 to 59 years in Cambridgeshire have taken at least one illegal drug in the last year, along with approximately 3 in every 10 14-15 year old pupils. It would appear that drug-related hospital admissions are highest in Cambridge City PCT and higher in middle aged and older people. Huntingdonshire PCT has noticeably higher admission rates in younger people.

Sexual health continues to be a major issue in Cambridgeshire. As has been seen nationally, the incidence of diagnosed chlamydia (a common, sexually transmitted disease which can affect future fertility) has increased dramatically in recent years. In 2004 there were nearly 600 new diagnoses of Chlamydia seen at Addenbrookes and Hinchingbrooke, a 44% increase since 1998.

Cambridgeshire has a significantly low teenage conception rate in girls aged under 18 years when compared to England and Wales, but it is currently not in line to meet the reduction in these conceptions by 2010. While teenage conceptions are, on average, low, except in Fenland, there are small areas within the county that have noticeably higher teenage conception rates, often linked to higher levels of socio-economic deprivation.

Table 15: Conceptions in girls aged under 18 years, Local Authority, 2000-2002

Source: Office for National Statistics and Teenage Pregnancy Unit

Local Authority	Average number of conceptions per year	Rate per 1,000	95% CI
England and Wales	41,708	42.6	(42.3 - 42.8)
South Cambridgeshire	44	18.7	(15.5 - 21.9)
East Cambridgeshire	26	19.4	(15.1 - 23.7)
Huntingdonshire	91	30.8	(27.1 - 34.4)
Cambridge City	55	33.2	(28.1 - 38.3)
Fenland	75	50.4	(42.8 - 57.0)
Cambridgeshire County	290	29.7	(27.7 - 31.7)
Peterborough	167	52.2	(47.6 - 56.8)

CABINET MEETING

2ND FEBRUARY 2006

**GREATER CAMBRIDGE PARTNERSHIP
(Report by the Head of Legal and Estates)**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider a request for the Council to become a member of the recently incorporated Greater Cambridge Partnership.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Greater Cambridge Partnership was established in 1997/98 to encourage and facilitate a balanced framework for the structural, economic and cultural development of the greater Cambridge area and comprised representatives from both the public and private sectors. The Council's representative on the Partnership is Councillor Holley.

2.2 The Partnership has now formed itself into a company limited by guarantee. The principal objects of the Company, as set out in the Company's Memorandum of Association are:-

- to stimulate economic growth, community development, inward investment and business training in Greater Cambridge (meaning the local authority districts of Cambridge City, East Cambridgeshire, South Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Uttlesford, Forest Heath, St Edmundsbury and any geographically adjacent districts where the local authority is admitted to membership of the Company) through the periodic development, management and implementation of a sub-regional economic development strategy and action plan;
- to secure commitment and contributions from public, private and voluntary sector organisations to the strategy and plans;
- to promote Greater Cambridge positively at regional, national, European and international levels on matters affecting its economic development; and
- to provide the link between Greater Cambridge and the East of England Development Agency or any successor organisation carrying out the same function.

2.3 The Company has been incorporated by Cambridgeshire County Council and Cambridge City Council and the Company is now asking other relevant local authorities to become members of the Company. In order to do this the Council needs to complete an "Application for Membership" and a "Deed of Adherence".

2.4 The initial membership fee for a District Council is £5,000.00 per annum, which is the same figure as the Council currently contributes to the Partnership. The County Council will pay £10,000.00 per

annum and provide the services of the economic development manager for 50% of his working time. These fees are subject to change in future by a decision of the Board of Directors, but it is intended that fees will normally increase annually in line with inflation.

- 2.5 The Articles of Association of the Company provide for a minimum of 5 directors, with no maximum number specified. The Local Authority Members together have the right to appoint 2 directors to the Board
- 2.6 As the Company is Limited by Guarantee, the Council's liability is limited to £10 in the event of the Company being dissolved.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Council become a member of the Greater Cambridge Partnership Company and the Director of Central Services be authorised to complete the Application for Membership and execute a Deed of Adherence.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Memorandum of Articles of Association of Greater Cambridge Partnership.

Contact Officer: Colin Meadowcroft, Head of Legal and Estates
☎ (01480) 388021

CABINET MEETING

2NDFEBRUARY 2006

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE HORIZONS LIMITED
(Report by the Head of Legal and Estates)**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Cabinet approval to English Partnerships becoming a member of Cambridgeshire Horizons Limited.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 At its meeting on 13th November 2003, Cabinet resolved to support the establishment of the Cambridge Sub-Region Infrastructure Partnership and appointed Councillor Holley as the Council's representative on the Board.

2.2 The Partnership was subsequently incorporated under the name "Cambridgeshire Horizons Limited" with the County Council and the five District Councils being founder members. The principal purpose of Company is to help deliver the agreed development strategy for the sub-region.

2.3 It was always envisaged that other organisations would become members of the company and indeed the Members Agreement requires each Local Authority Member to use all reasonable endeavours to procure the acceptance of English Partnerships and the East of England Development Agency as members.

2.4 Under the terms of the Members Agreement, the admission of any new organisation requires the "unanimous approval" of all the founder member organisations. Unanimous approval needs to be evidenced by an actual resolution passed at a meeting of each founder member.

2.5 Consequently it is necessary to seek a formal resolution from Cabinet approving the application of English Partnerships to become a member of the company.

3 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approve the application by English Partnerships to become a member of Cambridgeshire Horizons Limited and that the Council's representative on the Board be authorised to take any necessary action to enable this.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Cambridgeshire Horizons Memorandum & Articles of Association/Members Agreement

Contact Officer: Colin Meadowcroft Head of Legal & Estates
☎ (01480) 388021

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CABINET

2nd February 2006

**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (2nd AMENDMENT):
SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE ON
A) PLANNING CONTRIBUTIONS
B) AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

(Report by Planning Policy Manager)

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report proposes two changes to the Local Development Scheme (LDS) in respect of Supplementary Planning Documents for a) Affordable Housing and b) Planning Contributions and seeks Cabinet's approval for the revised LDS to be submitted to GO-East for the Secretary of State.

2 THE CURRENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

- 2.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It sets out the range of statutory planning documents which the Council will produce under the new system. As well as informing the community and other stakeholders of what to expect, the LDS is designed to assist with project management.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 17 March 2005 Cabinet approved the first Local Development Scheme (LDS) for Huntingdonshire for submission to the Government. In April Go-East confirmed it had no objections to the scheme. A first amendment to the LDS was agreed by Cabinet at its meeting on 1st September 2005 to allow the preparation and adoption of Supplementary Planning document (SPD) on Wind Power. This amendment was also agreed by GO-East.

3 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEME

- 3.1 It was recognised when the first LDS was produced that regular reviews would be required because of the many factors that can affect the need and timetable for producing planning documents (the principal risks are listed at paragraph 5.4 of the LDS).
- 3.2 The current proposed amendments relate to Planning Contributions, which in the September 2005 version of the LDS, is put forward as a Development Plan Document (DPD). It is proposed to replace this with two Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD). One would deal with Developer Contributions towards Affordable Housing, and the second one with other Planning Contributions for social and physical infrastructure such as open space and community facilities.

- 3.3 SPD is a material planning consideration and, although it does not carry the full weight of DPD, the advantage is that the process is much quicker as only one period of consultation is required and there is no independent examination for soundness. This is particularly important for the Affordable Housing SPD, which is urgently needed to clarify and strengthen the Council's negotiating position with developers on a number of major sites which are currently coming forward. It can come forward in advance of the policies which are being developed in the Core Strategy of the Local Development Framework but which is not programmed to be adopted until March-April 2007. As SPD, it will need to further explain and clarify the Affordable Housing policies which are currently Development Plan policies in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan Alteration 2002. It will therefore be very much an interim policy document and will need to be revised when the Core Strategy policies on Affordable Housing are adopted as the new Development Plan.
- 3.4 The need to set out the Council's policies on Affordable Housing is considered the more urgent of the two SPDs and has therefore been programmed as the first to be the subject of consultation. The Planning Contributions requires more evidence gathering, including work on open space requirements which is being commissioned from consultants as required by PPG17, and therefore is programmed slightly later.
- 3.5 Informal discussions with GO-East suggest that they would have no objections to the proposed changes to the LDS. In view of this a consultation draft of the Affordable Housing SPD will be brought to Cabinet shortly.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is recommended that Cabinet agrees the proposed amendments to the Local Development Scheme attached in annex 1 for submission to the Secretary of State.

Background Papers:

Report and minutes, Cabinet, (17 March 2005)

Huntingdonshire Local Development Scheme, (September 2005)

Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks ODPM

CONTACT OFFICER - enquiries about this report to Richard Probyn, Planning Policy Manager on 01480 388430.

Suggested Changes to Hunts District Council LDS.**Page 6**

Table 1 Production Programme

Planning Contributions DPD – amend as follows:

Document Title:

Delete Planning Contributions DPD and replace with Planning Contributions SPD.

Role & content:

Replace text with, “Details the district-wide specific standards for social and physical infrastructure that may be required in association with new development, including open space but excluding Affordable Housing which is the subject of a separate SPD.”

Chain of conformity:

Consistent with Huntingdonshire Local Plan Alteration 2002 “saved” Policies OB1 –2.

Participation on Preferred Options:

September 2006

Submission to Secretary of State:

Delete “November 2006” replace with “Not required”.

Adoption:

Delete “July 2007”, replace with “April 2007”.

Insert new LDD as follows:

Document Title:

Developer Contributions Towards Affordable Housing SPD

Role and content:

Provides supplementary guidance on an interim basis on the Council’s requirements for developer contributions on affordable and social housing in association with new development within the District.

Chain of conformity:

Consistent with “saved” Policies AH1-4 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan Alteration 2002.

Participation on Preferred Options:

March 2006

Submission to Secretary of State:

Not required.

Adoption:

July 2006.

Replace as follows:

PLANNING CONTRIBUTIONS SPD

Overview	
Is this a Development Plan Document?	No
What is it for?	Details the district-wide specific standards for social and physical infrastructure that may be required in association with new development, including open space but excluding Affordable Housing which is the subject of a separate SPD
What area will it cover?	All of Huntingdonshire
What documents will it conform with?	Consistent with saved Policies OB1 and OB2 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan alteration 2002
Is SEA required?	Yes

Proposed timetable	
Survey work commences	November 2005
Public participation on draft SPD	September 2006
Adoption	April 2007

How will it be produced?	
Organisational lead	Head of Planning Services/Executive Member for Planning Strategy
Who will produce the document?	The Development Plans Section of the District Council (some aspects advised by consultants)
Who will approve it?	The Council's Cabinet
How will the community be involved?	Opportunities to comment on the draft SPD in accordance with the basic requirements set out in the Regulations

Monitoring & review	
Document production and implementation (once adopted) to be reviewed annually, and reported in the Annual Monitoring report.	

DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING SPD

Overview	
Is this a Development Plan Document?	No
What is it for?	Provides supplementary guidance on an interim basis on the Council's requirements for developer contributions on affordable and social housing in association with new development within the District
What area will it cover?	All of Huntingdonshire
What documents will it conform with?	Consistent with "saved" Policies AH1-4 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan Alteration 2002.
Is SEA required?	Yes

Proposed timetable	
Survey work commences	November 2005
Public participation on draft SPD	March 2006
Adoption	July 2006

How will it be produced?	
Organisational lead	Head of Planning Services/Executive Member for Planning Strategy
Who will produce the document?	The Development Plans Section of the District Council (some aspects advised by consultants)
Who will approve it?	The Council's Cabinet
How will the community be involved?	Opportunities to comment on the draft SPD in accordance with the basic requirements set out in the Regulations

Monitoring & review	
Document production and implementation (once adopted) to be reviewed annually, and reported in the Annual Monitoring report.	

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CABINET

2 FEBRUARY 2006

**SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT: WIND POWER
(Report by Planning Policy Manager)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report informs Cabinet of the consultation on the Draft Supplementary Planning Document on Wind Power, and seeks Cabinet's decision on adoption of this document as a Supplementary Planning Document.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 There has been growing interest in wind turbine development in Huntingdonshire. In addition to the existing turbines at Wood Green Animal Shelter and Ramsey a scheme involving twelve turbines has been granted permission at Tick Fen (north-east of Warboys), and enquiries relating to several other locations have been received.
- 2.2 National policy on this issue is set out in PPS22 'Renewable Energy'. This encourages local planning authorities to respond positively to renewable energy projects where the technology is viable and the environmental and other impacts can be addressed satisfactorily. It suggests that authorities should formulate key criteria against which proposals may be assessed, and appropriate considerations are set out in the Council's emerging Core Strategy DPD, as well as the draft Regional Spatial Strategy and the adopted Structure Plan.
- 2.3 Inevitably, landscape and visual effects are a key issue where wind turbines are proposed. PPS22 acknowledges this, and makes the obvious point that "the impact of turbines on the landscape will vary according to the size and number of turbines and the type of landscape involved". In this context Land Use Consultants were commissioned last year to provide the Council with advice on the relative sensitivity of the district's landscapes in relation to this form of development.
- 2.4 Their report – 'Wind Turbine Development in Huntingdonshire' – has been used as the basis for a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on this topic, a copy of which is appended. Provision for the SPD was made in the Council's Local Development Scheme, which was endorsed by the Government in April this year. In September Cabinet approved a draft of this document for public consultation.

3. THE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

- 3.1 SPDs form part of the suite of new documents that local planning authorities may prepare as a result of the planning reforms introduced last year. Their purpose is to expand upon the policies contained in Development Plan Documents (such as this Council's emerging Core Strategy DPD).

- 3.2 The production of SPDs involves more rigorous procedures than those employed for Supplementary Planning Guidance prepared under the previous system. In particular a sustainability appraisal is required as part of the process to help gauge any potentially significant environmental, social and economic effects. A sustainability appraisal of the SPD was also approved by Cabinet for consultation in September.
- 3.3 The SPD contains chapters on each of the landscape character areas identified previously in the Huntingdonshire Landscape & Townscape Assessment, as well as providing guidance on the particular visual considerations that arise at the edge of urban areas. It provides an indication of the capacity of each area to accommodate different scales of turbine development, and also points to particular issues and mitigation opportunities that should be taken into account in each area.
- 3.4 It should be noted that the SPD provides a starting-point for the consideration of proposals, not an absolute indication of what may or may not be acceptable in specific locations. Every site is unique, and turbine proposals will need to be supported by a detailed assessment of their potential impact as part of the application process.
- 3.5 Nonetheless, the SPD does indicate clearly that some parts of the district are more sensitive than others, and importantly it explains both the reasons why and the ways in which this sensitivity varies depending upon the potential scale of development. The sustainability appraisal confirms that producing guidance on this topic is beneficial in addressing overall environmental, social and economic objectives, and in particular in addressing the tension that arises between the need to harness renewable energy and the importance of conserving valued landscapes.
- 3.6 A public consultation on the SPD and its accompanying Sustainability Appraisal took place between the 17 October and 28 November. Sixty three representations were received relating to the SPD. Thirteen of these were in support, nine were objections and forty one were observations. Ten representations were received relating to the Sustainability Appraisal. Nine of these were observations and one was an objection. The representations made and the responses to these are attached as appendix 1.
- 3.7 The main issues raised in relation to the SPD and the suggested responses are as follows:
- Concern that the SPD was identifying areas for wind turbine development. The response given to this was that the SPD does not identify areas for wind turbine development it just sets out the capacity of landscapes to accommodate this type of development and provides guidance on the location of wind turbines and that proposals for wind turbines will be assessed on a site-specific basis.
 - Wind turbine developments are not viable. The response given to this was that the document does not debate the merit of wind turbine development and has been produced from the starting point that applications for this type of development will continue to come forward within the district.
 - Other factors should be included within the SPD, for example distance to bridleways/rights of way or impact on nature conservation sites. These have not been included in the SPD as the

SPD deals purely with landscape character, other factors will be dealt with by other policies in the LDF.

3.8 The main issue raised in relation to the Sustainability Appraisal and the suggested response is as follows:

- Production of the SPD would have a more negative effect on objectives relating to landscape character and habitats and species than not producing the SPD. This option would be more sustainable. This is not the case as guidance contained in the SPD will help steer applications for this type of development towards those areas which have the capacity to accommodate them without a negative impact on landscape character. The detailed guidance on siting will also reduce the risk of damage to habitats and species. Producing the SPD will therefore have a more positive effect on the objectives relating to landscape and habitats and species than not producing the SPD.

3.9 Amendments have been made to the SPD and Sustainability Appraisal and final versions of these documents are appended.

4. RECOMMENDATION

Cabinet is recommended to approve the adoption of the SPD.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Structure Plan 2003 (Cambridgeshire County Council & Peterborough City Council, 2003)

East of England Plan (Draft RSS14) (East of England Regional Assembly, 2004)

Huntingdonshire Core Strategy: Preferred Options Report (HDC, 2005)

Huntingdonshire Landscape & Townscape Assessment (HDC, 2004)

Planning Policy Statement 22: Renewable Energy (ODPM, 2004)

Wind Turbine Development in Huntingdonshire: Final Report (Land Use Consultants, 2005)

CONTACT OFFICER - enquiries about this report to Richard Probyn (Planning Policy Manager) 01480 388430

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Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

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Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses



Responses to Wind Power SPD 1

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses



1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Summary of Responses

Nature	Number
Support	11
Support with conditions	2
Object	9
Observations	40
Other	1



Summary of Comments to the Wind Power SPD and Council Response

1.1 Whole Document

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Whole Doc	156 Mr Andrew Pritchard (East Midlands Regional Assembly)	827 Observations	Would like to draw attention to Policy 41 of the East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy which covers regional priorities for renewable energy.	Noted
Whole Doc	162 P Leary (Hemingford Grey Preservation Association)	849 Observations	Concern production of the SPD is inviting developers of wind farms by smoothing their way and potentially increasing the scale of any application. Believe the democratic process could be short-circuited.	No change required. All applications will still need to go through the Development Control process and decisions will be informed by a detailed site analysis. This SPD provides guidance on one of the considerations, all other factors will still need to be considered.
Whole Doc	162 P Leary (Hemingford Grey Preservation Association)	850 Observations	If the Council can propose areas for development of wind farms will it have conducted exhaustive environmental impact statements on each and everyone?	No change required. The document does not propose areas for wind turbine development it identifies the capacity of landscapes to accommodate wind turbine developments. When proposals for sites come forward for wind turbine developments detailed site specific analysis will be carried out.
Whole Doc	162 P Leary (Hemingford Grey Preservation Association)	851 Observations	It is difficult to understand how the Council can select areas for development of wind farms without detailed up-to-date technical knowledge of the effects and impacts of wind turbines on the surrounding countryside and neighbouring public.	No change required. The SPD does not select areas for development of wind turbines it identifies the capacity of landscapes to accommodate wind turbine development. When proposals for wind



1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Whole Doc	162 P Leary (Hemingford Grey Preservation Association)	852 Observations	Concern over the viability of wind turbines and the level of subsidy provided for this type of development. Electricity generated by wind farms is the most expensive form of electricity and it would be of greater environmental benefit if the Council embarked on a vigorous campaign of education to seek to reduce energy consumption.	turbine development come forward detailed site-specific analysis will be carried out.
Whole Doc	8 Sandra Mitcham (Holywell-cum-Needlingworth Parish Council)	854 Observations	The Council think all the guidance is adequate. Could a different colour for the turbines be considered, e.g. green, which should help them blend in with the landscape.	No change required. The SPD has not been produced to debate the merits of wind turbine development, it has been produced from the starting point that wind turbine applications will continue to come forward in the district and to provide guidance on the landscape impacts of this type of development.
Whole Doc	172 Mr Gareth Ridewood (CPRE Cambridgeshire)	871 Support	Support the SPD, each proposal should be assessed individually for its impact on the landscape.	Noted. Colour of turbines is something that would need to be considered at a site-specific level rather than in this SPD.
Whole Doc	174 Mr Ewan Rayner (Ellington Parish council)	880 Object	We believe that this area of natural beauty would be spoiled by the addition of wind turbines. In particular the area either side of Ellington Brook including the ridge to the north is already cluttered with pylons, telephone masts etc. The visual impact of wind turbines in addition would be horrific.	Noted. As set out in the SPD every proposal will be informed by a detailed site specific analysis.
	173 Mr Ewan Rayner (Ellington Parish council)			No change required. The guidance already comments on the sensitivity of the ridge between the Kym and the Ellington Brooks, and specifically mentions the avoidance of additional vertical elements in this character area.



Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Whole Doc	175 A Akers (Colne Parish Council)	936 Observations	Agree in general principle to the Wind Power SPD	Noted
Whole Doc	180 Mr Brian Smith (Hunts Green Party)	938 Support	Generally support the strategy but realise, given some larger wind turbines have been turned down, that the size and numbers matter in planning applications despite larger turbines being more efficient than smaller ones.	Noted. The SPD does not discuss the merits of different sizes of wind turbine it assumes that commercial turbines of up to 120m in height (to the top blade) will be the most efficient.
Whole Doc	28 Mr Colin Bambury (Highways Agency)	939 Observations	Request the document includes guidance on distance from wind turbines to trunk roads.	No change required. This document is purely concerned with landscape character and the location of renewable energy schemes it does not include other factors that would need to be considered when assessing wind turbine applications.
Whole Doc	74 Hannah Watson for RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds)	941 Observations	There is potential for the document to impart greater weight to the importance of the District's biodiversity and, through the document, afford greater protection to Huntingdonshire's wildlife and environment. Nature conservation areas should be geographically defined within the SPD and their potential for hosting wind turbines evaluated.	No change required. This document is purely concerned with landscape character and the location of renewable energy schemes it does not include other factors that would need to be considered when assessing wind turbine applications. The impact of wind turbines development on areas of nature conservation will be addressed by policies in the emerging Core Strategy.



1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Whole Doc	181 Katie Adderley (The British Wind Energy Association)	942 Observations	Support the Council in the provision of the SPD as a starting point for decision-making.	Noted
Whole Doc	181 Katie Adderley (The British Wind Energy Association)	943 Object	The SPD has too much emphasis on single turbine/ small-scale groups (2-3) turbines. BWEA appreciates that numerous single turbine developments could play a valuable role in meeting regional and national renewable energy targets, though it appears that development on this scale is unlikely to be permitted in some areas. There are only four areas identified as having potential to accommodate a medium scale group and in two of these the detailed guidance suggests this would be unlikely.	No change required. The differing capacities outlined in the report are a consequence of the differing character areas within the district, and are purely a recognition of the principle that some landscapes can accommodate wind power developments more successfully than others, i.e they can accommodate them without losing that character which distinguishes them in the first place. The summary of landscape capacity contained in section 2 of the SPD is not a deliberate emphasis on certain scales of development, but purely a consequence of the different landscape character areas that make up the district of Huntingdonshire.
Whole Doc	181 Katie Adderley (The British Wind Energy Association)	944 Object	There is a lack of clarity and consistency in the approach towards cumulative development. Guidance is given in some areas to avoid locations with a large number of vertical elements and for other areas to avoid introducing vertical elements in areas where there is an absence of built structures.	No change required. The guidance is given for different character areas and addresses the characteristics of those particular landscapes, the guidance is therefore not conflicting.



Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Whole Doc	183 Mr John Broth (Hargrave Conservation Society)	946 Observations	In addition to causing great damage to the visual landscape and creating various nuisances for nearby residents the science of wind turbines is deeply flawed. The energy produced is minimal, intermittent and unreliable for use in our national grid. Impact on carbon emissions is also limited. Wind power is inefficient and expensive.	No change required. The SPD has not been produced to debate the merits of wind turbine development, it has been produced from the starting point that wind turbine applications will continue to come forward in the district and to provide guidance on the landscape impacts of this type of development.
Whole Doc	166 Mr Dennis Jackson (Ramsey Town Centre Partnership)	949 Support	RTCP is happy to approve in principle the content of the document.	Noted
Whole Doc	66 Chantal Hagen for English Nature (English Nature)	952 Support with conditions	Disappointed there is not more emphasis on nature conservation/biodiversity impacts but support comments for individual character areas which relate to nature conservation. Also support indications that "in-combination affects" of turbine developments should be investigated	Noted. Impacts of wind turbine development on nature conservation/biodiversity are addressed by policies in the emerging Core Strategy.
Whole Doc	188 Helen Nettleship (GO-East)	955 Object	Any changes to the draft RSS and emerging Huntingdonshire Core Strategy which might have a bearing on this SPD once they are adopted, will need to be reflected in relevant revisions to the SPD.	Noted
Whole Doc	188 Helen Nettleship (GO-East)	956 Observations	Support purpose of the SPD. However capacity judgements should not be used to discourage development coming forward. Only through site-specific assessments can proper judgement of appropriateness be made. For example, some rather	No change required. The document will not discourage development coming forward but will help to guide its location. With respect to site-specific assessments section 1.4 strongly emphasises that the



1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Whole Doc	189 Mrs Gail Stoehr (Cambridgeshire Local Access Forum)	957 Observations	Concerned that the location of wind turbines has the potential to affect the use of Rights of Way. Although the document is limited to landscape character in places it goes beyond this and addresses nature conservation and recreation interests. It would be practical to extend this to include protection and enhancement of access opportunities either in this document or separate guidance. The guidance also fails to address routes from which the public are able to view the landscape, this omission must be rectified.	SPD should not be interpreted as a definitive statement of area based judgments.
Whole Doc	75 Mr Graham King for Countryside Agency (Countryside Agency)	958 Observations	Welcome the proposed production of the supplementary guidance on Wind Power and the general approach taken in the Draft document. We particularly welcome the use of the Landscape Character Assessment to underpin the SPD.	Noted
Whole Doc	190 Mr Peter Lee (Renewables East)	962 Support	Welcome the SPD. It will be useful for developers and the Local Planning Authority in the production and assessment of wind turbine proposals.	Noted



Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Whole Doc	190 Mr Peter Lee (Renewables East)	963 Observations	There is no reference to anemometer masts, these need to be properly recognised as a necessary preliminary to an application for a wind turbine development. The Local Authority will no doubt be more comfortable in approving such masts if it is able formally, through the SPD, to make clear that approval for an anemometer mast in no way prejudices the outcome of any subsequent wind-farm application. We consider that such a position could helpfully be set out in the SPD.	Accept that the erection of an anemometer mast in no way prejudices an application for a wind turbine. National guidance allows for the erection of anemometer masts for temporary periods, it is therefore not necessary to repeat this in the SPD.
Whole Doc	190 Mr Peter Lee (Renewables East)	964 Observations	In para 1.6 “believed to be” really is unnecessarily tentative given the scientific evidence.	Point accepted, the wording of this paragraph will be changed.
Whole Doc	190 Mr Peter Lee (Renewables East)	965 Observations	Potential capacity. We welcome the approach taken to the capacity of areas such as the Fens and Fen Margin and Central Claylands for a range of wind developments up to 24 turbines, although suspect that the “no more than one” position taken with regard to medium scale 13-24 turbine developments may not be a defensible one in these landscapes. Also, whilst recognising the high settlement density of the Northern Wolds, the sizeable extent of this area suggests that restricting its capacity to “no more than one” in the small scale 2-3 turbine category is also inappropriate.	No change required. The SPD gives guidance only, and emphasises that each case will be informed by a site-specific analysis. It is not meant to be a definitive statement with respect to location, and each application will need to go through the Development Control process and will be assessed on its own merits.



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Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Whole Doc	190 Mr Peter Lee (Renewables East)	966 Observations	Visual impact in relation to vertical elements. The guidance in places urges that areas with a large number of vertical elements should be avoided to prevent clutter, and elsewhere to avoid areas which have an absence of built structures. There is ambiguity here, and the attitude towards vertical elements needs to be clear.	No change required. The guidance is given for different character areas and addresses the characteristics of those particular landscapes, the guidance is therefore not conflicting.
Whole Doc	190 Mr Peter Lee (Renewables East)	967 Observations	As a minor point, picture 5.2 should be altered as the turbines are within topple distance of the road and this would be poor practice.	No change required. This picture is indicative and purely illustrates how wind turbines could relate to the roads.
Whole Doc	190 Mr Peter Lee (Renewables East)	968 Observations	Finally, we would urge that for those who consider the SPD to be too generous in its provision for wind farms, every opportunity be taken to stress that such are the constraints imposed by other factors such as aviation, wind speed, grid connection and residential amenity and wildlife considerations that the actual capacity of Huntingdonshire will be substantially less than the theoretical capacity suggested in the SPD.	Noted
Whole Doc	168 Zoe Gallin (Defence Estates Operations)	969 Observations	The MOD wish to be consulted specifically on any proposed schemes/developments in its safeguarded zones that meet the criteria on the relevant plans.	Noted
Whole Doc	168 Zoe Gallin (Defence Estates Operations)	970 Observations	Would like to draw your attention to s25 of PPS22. This requires that LPAs should satisfy themselves that MOD issues are satisfied before considering applications for wind turbines in the planning authority area. A pre-planning consultation procedure exists	Noted



Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
			for developers to engage with MOD to determine if we are likely to have any concerns with their proposals.	



1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

1.2 Chapter 1

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 1	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	907 Observations	Agree with chapter 1 especially paragraph 1.3 and 1.4 and note the difficulties in 1.9	Noted
Para 1.3	172 Mr Gareth Ridewood (CPRE Cambridgeshire)	872 Other	Add tranquility - support 1.4	Point accepted. The word tranquility will be added.
Para 1.10	75 Mr Graham King for Countryside Agency (Countryside Agency)	959 Support	The Countryside Agency warmly welcomes the use of Landscape Character Assessment to underpin this SPD. We consider that, taken together with the Huntingdonshire Landscape and Townscape Assessment, the document provides a thorough and logical assessment of the landscape character of the District and the capacity of the various identified landscape types to accommodate particular types of wind turbine development.	Noted
Para 1.12	75 Mr Graham King for Countryside Agency (Countryside Agency)	960 Support	Endorse the final two bullet points of this paragraph and the importance of detailed site investigation for each particular proposal.	Noted



Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

1.3 Chapter 2

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 2	19 Miss Susan Jeggo (British Horse Society (Cams))	855 Object	The effect on Public Rights of Way is omitted in the SPD. There needs to be a safety margin between PROW and turbines to reduce; the risk of ice/snow falling during starting up, the startling effect upon horses, the flicker and whir of blades.	No change required. This document is purely concerned with landscape character and the location of renewable energy schemes it does not include other factors that would need to be considered when assessing wind turbine applications.
Chapter 2	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	909 Observations	Catworth Parish Council wants clarification on how the classification of High/ Moderate/ Low was reached as this criteria is not shown in the document.	The SPD is based on a report 'Wind Turbine Development in Huntingdonshire' produced by Land Use Consultants. This report includes detail on how the classifications were reached.
Para 2.11	172 Mr Gareth Ridewood (CPRE Cambridgeshire)	873 Support	Support	Noted
Para 2.13	75 Mr Graham King for Countryside Agency (Countryside Agency)	961 Support	The Countryside Agency endorses the qualification noted here and welcomes the guidance given on the evaluation of cumulative impacts for each of the landscape character areas which is pragmatic and reasonable.	Noted
Table 2.1	13 Mr Martin Baker (The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire & Peterborough)	870 Support	Support the approach taken. Generally support efforts to increase renewable energy supply but wish to see maximum efforts on reducing the need and demand for energy in the first place.	Noted. The issue of energy efficiency is addressed in the emerging Core Strategy.



1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Table 2.1	182 Mr P.J. Ward	945 Observations	Wind Turbines make no contribution to the reduction of greenhouse gases.	No change required. The SPD has not been produced to debate the merits of wind turbine development, it has been produced from the starting point that wind turbine applications will continue to come forward in the district and to provide guidance on the landscape impacts of this type of development.

1.4 Chapter 3

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 3	13 Mr Martin Baker (The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire & Peterborough)	869 Support	The Wildlife Trust supports the explicit recognition given to the Great Fen Project throughout this chapter and the approach proposed by Huntingdonshire District Council.	Noted
Chapter 3	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	919 Observations	Agree chapter 3	Noted



Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

1.5 Chapter 4

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 4	169 Jackie Stanbridge (Sawtry Parish Council)	860 Observations	Should turbines be placed in or around Sawtry they should be restricted to a maximum of three.	Noted
Chapter 4	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	923 Observations	Agree chapter 4	Noted

1.6 Chapter 5

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 5	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	925 Observations	Agree chapter 5	Noted

1.7 Chapter 6

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 6	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	926 Observations	Agree chapter 6	Noted



1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

1.8 Chapter 7

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 7	167 Kirstin Rayner (Gamlingay Parish Council)	857 Object	Paragraphs 7.1 and 7.3 (a). Concern over consideration of the area surrounding Waresley for accommodation of a wind turbine site. Gamlingay Parish Council object to inclusion of this landscape as it undulates and is enclosed. Further objections relate to visual impact of wind turbines and the proximity to local airports at Little Gransden.	No change required. The guidance identifies the need to consider carefully the southern undulating area and for small-scale and medium groups states that this area should be avoided. The proximity of local areas is not considered as part of this SPD but would be considered when proposals for wind turbine developments come forward and have a detailed site-specific assessment.
Chapter 7	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	927 Observations	Agree chapter 7	Noted



Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

1.9 Chapter 8

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Resposne
Chapter 8	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	918 Object	Catworth Parish Council thinks the definition of 'plateau' should be clarified. The Parish Council is puzzled about 8.1(a) and 8.3(b) with comments about Kimbolton. It was felt that the references to Kimbolton were inappropriate/ prescriptive.	No change required. The plateau can be seen by looking at the Huntingdonshire Landscape and Townscape Assessment topography map. The references to Kimbolton are given as an example of a historic assessment rather than being prescriptive.
Chapter 8	187 Mr Stuart Whiting (E.ON UK)	951 Observations	The guidance in the final document differs from the LUC. Specifically in relation to the size of a small-scale development in the Northern Wolds	No change required. Within the summary table in the LUC document the Northern Wolds are identified as having a high capacity for accomodating a group of 2-3 turbines but a low capacity of accomodating a group of 4-12 turbines. This conflicts with the guidance given within the Northern Wolds section of the report. We are of the opinion that once a development of wind turbines exceeds 3 there is a significant increase in the impact this can have. It is for these reasons that the final document differs from the original study.
Para 8.3	186 Mr Ian Baker (Covington Parish Meeting)	950 Observations	Fully Support maximum of 2/3 turbines and the features listed in the guidance paragraphs a-j. We believe other factors of i) effect on wildlife, and ii) effect of construction traffic (when building turbine groups) on villages and rural roads should be considered.	No change required. This document is purely concerned with landscape character and the location of renewable energy schemes it does not include other factors that would need to be considered when assessing wind turbine applications.



1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

1.10 Chapter 9

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 9	157 Mr P J Howard (Perry Parish Council)	828 Object	Concerned that consideration is being given to development of wind turbines in the vicinity of Grafham Water. A turbine would not form a focal point it would be an eyesore, location near the visitor centre would have noise and amenity impacts and turbine development would have serious impacts on the bird population.	No change required. The SPD only provides guidance on the capacity of landscapes to accommodate wind turbine development it is not a definitive statement. Every application for wind turbine development would need to have a detailed site-specific analysis which would consider the merits of that particular proposal. Many of the concerns including impacts on wildlife and amenity will be addressed by policies in the emerging Core Strategy.
Chapter 9	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	929 Observations	Agree chapter 9	Noted.
Chapter 9	66 Chantal Hagen for English Nature (English Nature)	954 Support with conditions	Support statement relating to need to consider potential impacts upon Grafham Water SSSI. English Nature is of the opinion that applications for wind turbines should be accompanied by detail on the impact on both breeding and wintering birds as well as passage migrants. Support paragraph 9.2 that it is unlikely there would be scope for accommodating more than one turbine.	Noted.



Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

1.11 Chapter 10

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 10	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	930 Observations	Agree chapter 10	Noted
Chapter 10	174 Mr Ewan Rayner (Ellington Parish council)	937 Object	We believe that this area of natural beauty would be spoilt by the addition of wind turbines. In particular the area either side of Ellington Brook including the ridge to the north is already cluttered with a number of pylons, telephone masts etc. The visual impact of such development in this area would be horrific.	No change required. The guidance already comments on the sensitivity of the ridge between the Kym and the Ellington Brooks, and specifically mentions the avoidance of additional vertical elements in this character area.
	173 Mr Ewan Rayner (Ellington Parish council)			

1.12 Chapter 11

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 11	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	931 Observations	Agree chapter 11	Noted



1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

1.13 Chapter 12

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 12	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	932 Observations	Comments noted	Noted
Para 12.6	66 Chantal Hagen for English Nature (English Nature)	953 Support	English Nature supports statements set out in paragraph j of section 12.6 relating to the need for applicants to "ensure development does not have an adverse effect upon the function of the area in relation to the town, for example in terms of its recreational function, nature conservation function, or open space function".	Noted

1.14 Chapter 13

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 13	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	933 Observations	Comments noted	Noted



Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

1.15 Chapter 14

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 14	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	934 Observations	Comments noted	Noted

1.16 Chapter 15

Policy Area	Applicant/Organisation	Nature	Summary	Council Response
Chapter 15	92 Mrs Joan Meiklejohn for Catworth PC (Catworth Parish Council)	935 Observations	Comments noted	Noted



1 Responses to Wind Power SPD

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses



Responses to Sustainability Appraisal 2

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses



2 Responses to Sustainability Appraisal

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

2 Responses to Sustainability Appraisal

Summary of Comments to the Sustainability Appraisal and Council Response

Applicant /Organisation	Page Number	Table Number	Nature	Comment	Council Response
P.R. Leary - Hemmingford Grey Preservation Association	10		Observations	In looking at Option 1 (to produce a wind power SPD) we fail to understand how identifying areas for wind turbine development could positively effect objectives 2.2 and 3.2. Such statements appear to argue for wind turbine developments to provide their 'beneficial influences'	No change required. The SPD does not identify areas for wind turbine development it provides guidance on the capacity of landscapes to accommodate wind turbine development. It therefore will help guide wind turbine development to locations where they can be accommodated in the landscape. Therefore by producing the SPD there will be a positive effect on landscape character and reduced risk to damage of wildlife and species in comparison to not producing the SPD.
P.R. Leary - Hemmingford Grey Preservation Association	11		Observations	In seeking to 'maintain and enhance the viability of habitats and species' the Council suggests that without guidance on siting there is more risk of damage to habitats and species. Surely not if a comprehensive environmental impact statement is required with the application and before approval. A similar comment applies to the objective of avoiding 'damage to protected sites and historic buildings'.	No change required. This document does not deal with specific sites, it provides guidance on the general capacity of landscapes to accommodate wind turbine development. It will help to guide proposals to the most appropriate locations before the detailed site-specific assessment stage takes place and will therefore have a more positive impact on objective 2.1 than not producing the SPD would have.



Responses to Sustainability Appraisal 2

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

Applicant /Organisation	Page Number	Table Number	Nature	Comment	Council Response
P.R. Leary - Hemingford Grey Preservation Association			Observations	This association argues that not producing a SPD is the preferred route with the onus being placed on developers to justify an application together with all the necessary environmental impact considerations.	No change required. Producing guidance on the capacity of landscapes to accommodate wind turbines will clearly have a more positive impact on landscape character than not producing the SPD as it will help guide development to the most appropriate locations before the detailed site specific analysis is carried out.
Mrs Joan Meiklejohn - Catworth Parish Council			Observations	Agree with Part A, especially paragraphs 1.2, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 5.3, 5.4, 6.3, 6.4	Noted.
Mrs Joan Meiklejohn - Catworth Parish Council			Observations	Agree with Part B	Noted.
Mrs Joan Meiklejohn - Catworth Parish Council			Observations	Agree with Part C - in paragraph 9.1 and 9.2. The Parish Council note the main difficulties in grouping the potential impact of the SPD as specific locations for development are not defined in the document.	Noted.
Mrs Joan Meiklejohn - Catworth Parish Council			Observations	Agree with Part D - especially paragraphs 11.3, 11.4, 11.5 and Table 1.	Noted.
Mrs Joan Meiklejohn - Catworth Parish Council			Observations	Agree with Table 2A (not the option table 2B)	Noted.
Mrs Joan Meiklejohn - Catworth Parish Council			Observations	Agree with Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.	Noted.



2 Responses to Sustainability Appraisal

Appendix 1 | Wind Power Consultation Responses

Applicant /Organisation	Page Number	Table Number	Nature	Comment	Council Response
Ewan Rayner - Ellington Parish Council	10	2A	Object	We fail to see how item 3.2 - 'Maintain and enhance landscapes and townscapes' can possibly have a potentially significant beneficial effect. Talking parochially to have wind turbines in the valley of Ellington Brook or indeed on the ridge to the north of the brook would have a definite adverse affect on the landscape.	No change required. The guidance comments on the sensitivity of the ridge between the Kym and Ellington Brooke and therefore highlights the need for these to be considered. The provision of detailed guidance clearly has a positive effect on objective 3.2