

A meeting of the **CABINET** will be held in **CIVIC SUITE 0.1A, PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET, HUNTINGDON, PE29 3TN** on **THURSDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2011** at **7:00 PM** and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-

## **APOLOGIES**

  
**Contact  
(01480)**

**1. MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 2)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

**Mrs H J 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 overleaf.

**3. BUDGET 2011/12 AND MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2012 TO 2016**  
(Pages 3 - 54)

With the assistance of a report by the Head of Financial Services to consider the 2011/12 Budget and Medium Term Plan.

**S Couper  
388103**

**4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2011/12** (Pages 55 - 72)

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.

**Mrs E Smith  
388157**

**5. ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN - ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 73 - 82)

To consider a report by the Estates and Property Manager regarding the Council's Asset Management Plan.

**K Phillips  
388260**

**6. NEW LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN (LTP3)** (Pages 83 - 98)

To consider a report by the Head of Planning Services requesting the views of the Cabinet on Cambridgeshire's third Local Transport Plan prior to its submission to Council.

**M Sharp  
388300**

**7. OPEN SPACE STRATEGY** (Pages 99 - 186)

To consider report by the Head of Operations seeking the endorsement of an Open Space Strategy for Huntingdonshire.

**J Craig  
388638**

**8. HUNTINGDON WEST AREA ADOPTION PROCEDURES**  
(Pages 187 - 202)

To consider a report by the Head of Planning Services on the adoption procedures for the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan.

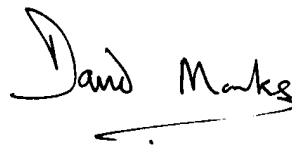
**Ms L Hughes  
387069**

**9. PLANNING CONSERVATION** (Pages 203 - 220)

To consider the report of the Planning Conservation Working Group.

**R Reeves  
388003**

Dated this 9 day of February 2011



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, their family or any person with whom they had a close association;*
  - (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 £25,000; 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](http://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.*

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# Agenda Item 1

## HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the CABINET held in the Civic Suite 0.1A, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3TN on Thursday, 20 January 2011.

PRESENT: Councillor I C Bates – Chairman.

Councillors K J Churchill, J A Gray,  
A Hansard, C R Hyams, Mrs D C Reynolds,  
T V Rogers and L M Simpson.

APOLOGY: An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor D B Dew.

### **70. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15 December 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **71. MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

No declarations were received.

### **72. CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - 2010/11**

Consideration was given to a report by the Head of Financial Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) highlighting variations to the approved Capital Programme 2010/11 and the consequential estimated revenue impact. It was

RESOLVED

that the report be received and the variations detailed in the Annexes appended thereto noted.

### **73. FINANCIAL MONITORING - REVENUE BUDGET 2010/11**

The Cabinet received and noted a report by the Head of Financial Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) detailing expected variations to in revenue expenditure in the current year.

In discussing the total amounts of payments written-off in the year for Council Tax and National Non Domestic Rates, Members were advised that there had been an increase in the number of company liquidations during 2010 as a consequence of the downturn in the economic climate which had led to an increase in the value of debts being written-off.

Members noted that the expected outturn of revenue expenditure was

now £23.1m which was £0.7m less than assumed in the draft 2011/12 budget. The reduction was mainly due to one-off items and service managers implementing saving plans ready for 2011/12. Executive Councillors were advised that it would no longer be necessary to transfer savings, to the savings reserve, as the latest projections suggest that the necessary savings for 2011/12 will be achieved.

Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the spending variations in the Revenue Budget as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010 be noted.

#### **74. SAFER HOMES SCHEME**

With the assistance of a report by the Head of Housing Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet considered a request for the release of funding from the Medium Term Plan for the Safer Homes Scheme in Huntingdonshire.

In considering the background to the request, Executive Councillors were advised that the scheme was established with Luminus and Age Concern in February 2010 to ensure that older and vulnerable households could access a service to carry out small repair jobs free of charge or at low cost in order to maintain safety within their homes. The provision of the scheme had been identified as a jointly agreed LPSA (Reward Grant) priority for Huntingdonshire and had attracted initial LPSA grant funding. Having considered the scheme's achievements to date in supporting vulnerable people, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the relevant funding be released from the Medium Term Plan to continue with the Safer Homes Scheme as a contribution towards the Council's priority to support vulnerable households to live independently.

Chairman

CABINET

17 FEBRUARY 2011

## BUDGET 2011/12 AND MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2012 to 2016

(Report by the Head of Financial Services)

### 1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to allow the Cabinet to determine its recommendations to Council on 23 February in relation to the Council's Budget and Council Tax for 2011/12, Medium Term Plan for 2012/16 and associated matters.

### 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Both the Financial Strategy in September and the Draft Budget in December were considered by Overview & Scrutiny and Cabinet before being approved by Council. Both reports highlighted a continuing high level of uncertainty on a number of issues, especially the impact on RSG of the new Comprehensive Spending Review.

### 3 OVERVIEW

**Government funding reductions have now been confirmed. Our Revenue Support Grant will be reduced to £10.4m for 2011/12 (£0.7m less than predicted in December) and will be further reduced in subsequent years. An estimated £0.9m will be received for the New Homes Bonus**

**Since December, Executive Councillors, Overview & Scrutiny and officers have continued to investigate and refine the savings ideas that were set out in the draft budget. This has led to plans being amended to reduce the impact of the savings on our customers and the identification of some extra savings. Overall, the revised savings ideas incorporated into the budget are now more certain, particularly for next year, and result in a higher level of savings being achieved.**

**The budget is based on a zero increase in Council Tax for 2011/12. Total funding (net of savings) is £22.6m and is funded by £11.5M from various Government Grants, £7.4M from Council Tax and the deficit, of £3.6m, from revenue reserves.**

**Expenditure in future years is defined in total by the funds available to the Council. Whilst some figures are now clearer the overall position is dependent upon further government funding decisions, including a new allocation formula, and this Council's decision on future Council Tax increases.**

Whilst the 2011/12 budget successfully balances the income available to the Council, including the use of reserves, with its spending plans this is not the case for future years. Planned expenditure will exceed forecast income and use of reserves by £0.8m in 2012/13. In addition, a number of the savings identified for future years remain the subject of consultation and debate. Should some of these savings proposals not be acceptable to the Council there will inevitably be a need to identify new and additional savings.

Overall Summary	Forecast	Budget	MTP			
	10/11 £M	11/12 £M	12/13 £M	13/14 £M	14/15 £M	15/16 £M
Net Spending before savings	23.5	25.6	26.4	27.4	28.7	29.5
Proposed Savings (Annex A)	-0.4	-3.0	-4.3	-5.5	-5.7	-6.6
Savings still required		0.0	-0.8	-1.0	-1.5	-2.0
Net Spending after Savings	23.1	22.6	21.3	21.0	21.5	20.9
Funded by:						
New Homes Grant		-0.9	-1.5	-2.1	-2.7	-3.4
Formula Grant (RSG)	-12.9	-10.4	-9.3	-9.2	-8.7	-8.9
Special Council Tax Grant		-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.0
Council Tax	-7.2	-7.4	-7.6	-7.9	-8.1	-8.4
<b>SHORTFALL Met from Reserves</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<i>Council Tax</i>	<i>£124.17</i>	<i>£124.17</i>	<i>£127.27</i>	<i>£130.46</i>	<i>£133.72</i>	<i>£137.06</i>
<i>Increase</i>		<i>£0.00</i>	<i>£3.10</i>	<i>£3.18</i>	<i>£3.26</i>	<i>£3.34</i>
Remaining Reserves EOY	13.0	9.4	6.6	5.0	3.3	3.0

#### 4 STARTING FROM THE DECEMBER DRAFT BUDGET

4.1 The table below summarises the draft budget and MTP approved at the December meeting of the Council. It serves as the base to highlight the further adjustments that are now proposed in funding, savings and other items that have now emerged.

DRAFT REPORT December 2010	Forecast	Budget	MTP			
	10/11 £M	11/12 £M	12/13 £M	13/14 £M	14/15 £M	15/16 £M
Net Spending before savings	24.5	25.2	26.4	27.5	28.4	29.1
Proposed savings	-0.4	-2.3	-3.9	-4.9	-5.9	-6.4
Savings still required		-0.5	-1.6	-2.6	-3.6	-4.3
Net Spending after Savings	24.1	22.4	20.9	20.0	19.0	18.3
Funded by:						
Government support	-12.9	-11.1	-10.5	-10.4	-9.7	-10.0
Special Grant		-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.0
Council Tax	-7.2	-7.4	-7.6	-7.8	-8.1	-8.4
<b>SHORTFALL Met from Reserves</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Council Tax</i>	<i>£124.17</i>	<i>£124.17</i>	<i>£127.27</i>	<i>£130.46</i>	<i>£133.72</i>	<i>£137.06</i>
<i>Increase</i>		<i>£0.00</i>	<i>£3.10</i>	<i>£3.18</i>	<i>£3.26</i>	<i>£3.34</i>
Remaining Reserves EOY	12.0	8.3	5.6	4.0	3.0	3.0



## 5 PROGRESS SINCE DECEMBER – SAVINGS

5.1 December Council highlighted that the proposed savings would be the subject of further discussions between officers and Executive Councillors to reflect the comments of Overview & Scrutiny and individual members.

5.2 As a result of these discussions and the refinement of certain calculations and assumptions a number of variations have been made at this stage. These are shown in the table below, and the Savings Table at Annex A incorporates them to give net figures. There are notes on some of the savings included as notes to the Controllable Budget at Annex D:

SAVINGS	BUDGET	MTP			
	2011/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
	£M	£M	£M	£M	£M
<b>Savings Identified (December)</b>	<b>-2.280</b>	<b>-3.867</b>	<b>-4.906</b>	<b>-5.901</b>	<b>-6.442</b>
Reduced pay award 2010	-0.156	-0.156	-0.156	-0.156	-0.156
Staff turnover savings – increased	-0.114	-0.114	-0.114	-0.114	-0.114
Homelessness Grant - increased	-0.085	-0.085			
Environmental Health Savings	-0.081	-0.008	-0.008	-0.008	-0.008
Community Grants Reductions	0.010		-0.060	0.015	0.015
Members Allowances	-0.030	-0.030	-0.030	-0.030	-0.030
Central Services savings	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030
LGA Sub reduction	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002	-0.002
Provincial Council Sub deletion	-0.012	-0.012	-0.012	-0.012	-0.012
Licensing efficiencies and income	-0.007	0.006	0.009	0.012	0.015
Document Centre savings	-0.033	-0.015		-0.010	
Countryside savings adjustment	0.012	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064
Operations Division Reorganisation	-0.096				
Rephasing parking charges increase		-0.150	-0.300	0.200	
Extra Benefits Admin Grant	-0.011				
Rephase Call Centre Hours saving	0.020				
Rephase St Ives CSC savings	-0.028	0.007			
Rephase Ramsey CSC savings	-0.030	-0.042	0.003	0.008	0.008
Delete closure of St Neots CSC		0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055
Financial Services savings	-0.024	-0.030			
IMD Staff Savings	0.005	0.012	0.019	0.029	0.029
IMD Contract Savings	-0.035	0.005	-0.055	0.095	-0.020
IMD Desk Top Virtualisation	0.002	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012
IMD Shared Services	-0.010	0.050	0.010		
IMD Infrastructure Savings		-0.015	-0.015	-0.015	-0.015
<b>subtotal</b>	<b>-0.675</b>	<b>-0.418</b>	<b>-0.550</b>	<b>0.173</b>	<b>-0.129</b>
<b>Updated Identified Savings</b>	<b>-2.955</b>	<b>-4.285</b>	<b>-5.456</b>	<b>-5.728</b>	<b>-6.571</b>

*Negative figures represent more income or less expenditure*

5.3 A number of the savings items are still being discussed and the following paragraphs comment on the latest position.

**5.4 Senior Manager Reorganisation (£260k rising to £730k)**

The voluntary redundancy has been agreed of the Chief Executive and two Heads of Service so the 2011/12 planned saving will be achieved. Further reductions will be required to achieve the saving proposed in subsequent years.

**5.5 Pay and Allowances Review (£375k)**

Proposals are not yet finalised but negotiations will need to progress promptly if the saving is to be achieved for next year.

**5.6 CCTV (£300k)**

The immediate savings for 2011/12 can be achieved whilst still maintaining a substantial CCTV service. Further investigation and discussion is taking place with the aim that savings can be made whilst still maintaining this service in future years.

**5.7 Increase in Car Park Charges (rising to £500k)**

It is felt that a large increase in 2014/15 would be too concentrated and so the proposal has been rephased to give smaller annual increases. There is no **extra** increase proposed in 2011/12 and 2014/15 because there is already an assumed inflationary increase built into the financial plan every three years. In total car park income is targeted to rise by:

2011/12	10%
2012/13	8%
2013/14	8%
2014/15	9%
2015/16	9%

**5.8 Community Grants Reduction (rising to £294k)**

The saving has been slightly rephased to reflect the contractual obligations on some grants. The bulk of grants are contracted until 2013 and these will be honoured. Whilst this saving provides for a substantial reduction of grants after this time, further discussion will take place before this approach is confirmed.

**5.9 Customer Services and Call Centre (£173k rising to £314k)**

There is some rephasing of the proposals (changes to the call centre will be delayed a year but staff savings in St Ives and Ramsey can be achieved in the budget year). The closure of the St Neots CSC is no longer proposed following further consideration of the volumes of use.

**5.10 Special Reserve**

The Special Reserve will be more than adequate to fund the level of voluntary redundancies that will be approved.

## 6. PROGRESS SINCE DECEMBER – FUNDING AND OTHER ITEMS

6.1 The table below shows the variations in funding and other items, whilst the paragraphs that follow explain the major changes:

FUNDING and OTHER CHANGES	BUDGET	MTP			
	2011/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
	£M	£M	£M	£M	£M
<b>Proposed Variations</b>					
New Homes Reward Grant	-0.940	-1.527	-2.129	-2.745	-3.377
RSG	0.680	1.165	1.154	1.084	1.112
Taxbase	-0.039	-0.038	-0.038	-0.037	-0.036
Homelessness increased bid	0.028				
Deferred Savings adjustment	0.335				
<b>Total Variations</b>	<b>0.064</b>	<b>-0.400</b>	<b>-1.013</b>	<b>-1.698</b>	<b>-2.302</b>

*Negative figures represent more income or less expenditure*

### 6.2 New Homes Reward Grant

The Government commenced a consultation on this new grant before Christmas. It is intended to reward Councils that support growth and does not replace S106 agreements or the Community Infrastructure Levy, which ensure that the costs of growth are generally met by developers.

It is based on giving grant equivalent to the national average Council Tax for 6 years for additional homes completed in the previous year. It will grow as each additional year is completed until year 7, when the 6 years of payment for year 1 will have been completed and it thus falls out of the calculation. It also gives an extra 25% supplement for social housing. In a growth area such as Huntingdonshire the sums will be significant as shown in the table above.

Part of the consultation revolves around how the grant will be allocated to the various local authorities. The Government have proposed that 80% goes to Districts and 20% to Counties. It is expected that Districts will propose that 100% goes to them as they make the relevant planning decisions, but that Counties will propose that they get a larger share.

It is not yet clear when confirmation of the scheme will be received.

### 6.3 Government Formula Grant (RSG)

The table below compares the assumptions in the Draft budget with what was announced on 13 December.

Government Grant * - % change in CASH TERMS	Budget	MTP				
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	
	£M	£M	£M	£M	£M	
Draft Budget/MTP	-11%	-6%	-1%	-6%	+2.5%#	
Proposed Grant Settlement	-14%	-11%	-1%	-6%	+2.5%#	

\*Grant includes Revenue Support Grant and NNDR which are in aggregate distributed in line with the grant formula. Adjusted for transfer of Concessionary Fares.

# assumed that there will be an inflationary increase after this 4 year spending round.

Government Grant - Cash change	Budget	Budget	MTP			
	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
	£M	£M	£M	£M	£M	£M
Current Approved MTP (February)	-12.9	-12.4	-12.6	-12.6	-12.9	-13.3
Forecast (September)	-12.9	-11.7	-11.3	-10.7	-10.2	-9.7
Draft Budget/MTP (December)	-12.9	-11.1	-10.5	-10.4	-9.7	-10.0
This Report	-12.9	-10.4	-9.3	-9.2	-8.7	-8.9

*minus signs represent income*

The Government Grant Proposals have been even more front-ended than implied in the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR). District Councils have fared badly as they have not had the protection that Counties have on some elements of social services and education.

The proposals have only been made for two years as the Government proposes to review the whole grant mechanism. This is not before time for two important reasons:

- the system is extremely opaque e.g. it is impossible to say what the impact of the grant changes relating to the transfer of Concessionary Fares has been.
- the over-reliance on complex protection arrangements for authorities that should gain or lose grant. e.g. the “true” loss of grant for Huntingdonshire after adjustment for the transfer of concessionary fares has been £3.3M (£12.6M down to £9.3M) which represents 27% in cash terms.

Officially the grant figures are only provisional at this stage but in previous years there have been only very minimal changes at the final stage. There are however, significant concerns being voiced by many authorities this year but this still may have little impact on the result.

#### 6.4 Homelessness increased bid

A sum of £28k has been included to preserve the current levels of homelessness prevention given the continuing demand on this service.

#### 6.5 Deferred Savings adjustment

The draft budget contained provision for some of the savings that will be achieved in the current year to be earmarked via a reserve to help meet an outstanding shortfall on the savings target in 2011/12. Assuming that the New Homes Reward Grant is

allocated at least 80% to Districts this will not now be necessary and those savings will simply be added to general revenue reserves.

## 6.6 Employer's Pension Contributions

The information from the independent actuary's revaluation of the pension fund has been received and it estimates that the fund is 70% funded. The current contribution level exceeds the underlying cost for ongoing service but is insufficient to bring the fund up to 100% funding in a reasonable time scale.

Given the Government's plans to review public sector pension schemes with a view to making them more affordable, the actuary is prepared to allow authorities to stabilise their current contribution levels for the next 3 years rather than insist they be increased.

Whilst this is a pragmatic approach, it is not a particularly prudent one and so it is proposed that the level of contribution contained in the draft budget be maintained pending the results and quantification of any changes to the pension scheme. However, the basis of this payment will be amended to 17.8% (which reflects the ongoing cost of the current scheme) on pay plus a lump sum towards covering the outstanding deficit. The table below illustrates the change:

Pension Contributions	Budget	Budget	MTP			
	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
Draft Budget/MTP (December)						
% of pay	20.4%	21.9%	23.4%	24.9%	26.4%	26.4%
cost		£3.9M	£4.2M	£4.6M	£5.0M	£5.2M
This Report						
% of pay		17.8%	17.8%	17.8%	17.8%	17.8%
cost		£3,254k	£3,344k	£3,486k	£3,635k	£3,790k
PLUS lump sum payments of		+£660k	+£896k	+£1,139k	+£1,378k	+£1,418k
Total Cost		= £3.9M	= £4.2M	= £4.6M	= £5.0M	= £5.2M

This is still less than the actuary's estimate of 17.8% plus £1.9M per year for 20 years which is what would be required if there were to be no changes to the scheme as a result of the Hutton review.

## 6.7 Other Changes

The tax base has also been increased to reflect the latest Council Tax data, as reported to Corporate Governance Panel in December.

Interest rates have been adjusted to reflect latest information, though it is clear that uncertainty will remain for some time to come.

The calculation of interest and inflation are both affected by the phasing of expenditure and savings.

## 7. PROPOSED BUDGET AND MTP

- 7.1 The plan is based on a zero Council Tax increase for next year which will result in a reward grant from the Government equivalent to a 2.5% tax increase but this will only continue for four years. It is anticipated that many other Councils will also have zero increases and it is expected to be proposed for the County Council, the Police Authority, the Fire Authority and all of the Cambridgeshire District. It is therefore likely that the only increases will be from Town and Parish Councils.
- 7.2 Whilst the previous paragraphs cover most of the changes from the draft budget position there are inevitably resultant impacts on the inflation calculations and interest as the levels of reserves change in any particular year. These items are also taken account of in the table below which summarises the overall position. Further detail and additional years are shown in Annex B.

Overall Summary	Forecast	Budget	MTP			
	10/11 £M	11/12 £M	12/13 £M	13/14 £M	14/15 £M	15/16 £M
Net Spending before savings	23.5	25.6	26.4	27.4	28.7	29.5
Proposed Savings (Annex A)	-0.4	-3.0	-4.3	-5.5	-5.7	-6.6
Savings still required		0.0	-0.8	-1.0	-1.5	-2.0
Net Spending after Savings	23.1	22.6	21.3	21.0	21.5	20.9
Funded by:						
New Homes Grant		-0.9	-1.5	-2.1	-2.7	-3.4
Formula Grant (RSG)	-12.9	-10.4	-9.3	-9.2	-8.7	-8.9
Special Council Tax Grant		-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.0
Council Tax	-7.2	-7.4	-7.6	-7.9	-8.1	-8.4
<b>SHORTFALL Met from Reserves</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Council Tax</b>	<b>£124.17</b>	<b>£124.17</b>	<b>£127.27</b>	<b>£130.46</b>	<b>£133.72</b>	<b>£137.06</b>
<i>Increase</i>		<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£3.10</b>	<b>£3.18</b>	<b>£3.26</b>	<b>£3.34</b>
Remaining Reserves EOY	13.0	9.4	6.6	5.0	3.3	3.0

- 7.3 Annex C gives fuller details of next years revenue budget, including all recharges, whilst Annex D shows the controllable budgets for Direct Services and Support Services with their MTP bids over the 5 year MTP. It also highlights those schemes where further approval is required before they can commence.

## 8. RISKS AND SENSITIVITY

- 8.1 The Financial Forecast, by its very nature, takes a long-term view and, within that time frame, many of its assumptions will turn out to be imprecise. At key stages of each year the plan will be updated. The current assumptions are shown in Annex E.

### 8.2 Financial Plan – Sensitivity and Risks

Annex F considers the sensitivity of the plan in the longer term to variations in inflation, pay awards and interest rates and highlights other significant risks to the Council's financial position. Some of these issues are clearly outside the Council's control and there is

little alternative to simply keeping them under review and reacting appropriately if and when they occur. Others, particularly the identification of spending adjustments, are clearly within the Council's own control and so can be programmed and dealt with. The most significant risks relate to:

<b>Most significant risks and unknowns</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
Length and depth of recession – impact on interest rates, pay inflation, house building, Council income and expenditure.	Ongoing
Government grant totals for 2013/14 onwards	November 2012
Review of grant formula	November 2012
Pension changes from Hutton review	Possibly March or June 2011
Difficulty in delivering the savings already identified or the further spending targets inherent in this plan.	Ongoing

### **8.3 Reserves and the Robustness of the 2011/12 Budget**

The Local Government Act 2003 requires the Director of Commerce and Technology (as the Council's Chief Financial Officer) to report to the Council on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of reserves when it considers its budget and the consequent Council Tax. His comments are contained in Annex G and confirm that the budget is adequately robust and that the level of revenue reserves is currently above the minimum level required.

## **9. TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS**

9.1 There is an opportunity for Town and Parish Councils to reduce the impact on their area of some of the savings proposals contained in this budget. The Council will work constructively with any who wish to do this. The main opportunities probably relate to:

- Contributions to monitoring of CCTV
- Maintaining Parks services
- Mitigating increases in car park charges
- Mitigating reductions in grounds maintenance standards
- Taking over Community Grants
- Subsidising provision of Customer Service Centres
- Supporting Town Centre partnerships

## **10. DELIVERY OF SAVINGS**

10.1 Officers will continue to work closely with Executive Councillors to ensure that all of the existing savings proposals are effectively reviewed and any proposed changes are formally reported.

10.2 Work will also commence on identifying proposals to meet the savings targets for future years so that there is adequate time for member debate before final decisions need to be made.

## **11. CONSULTATION AND COMMENTS**

11.1 This report will be considered at a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny (Economic Wellbeing) Panel on the 10 February and a consultation meeting with members of the business community on the same day. Comments from both meetings will be reported to Cabinet.

## **12. PRUDENTIAL CODE**

12.1 The Prudential Code sets various limits relating to the budget and this has been included as an annex to the Treasury Management Strategy elsewhere on the Cabinet's agenda.

## **13. CONCLUSIONS**

13.1 The Council approved the draft Budget, MTP and Financial Strategy figures in December but the need for further discussion on various savings proposals was highlighted.

13.2 The December figures have been amended for the items highlighted in sections 5 and 6 of this report. These include some significant revisions to the savings proposals, though other aspects, that affect subsequent years, are still being debated. A much worse grant settlement than expected was received but the estimated benefit from the New Homes Grant proposed by the Government is of significant benefit.

13.3 There is no increase in the Council Tax in 2011/12 which will result in the Council receiving a grant to cover the impact of a 2.5% rise for 4 years.

13.4 The main challenge is to finalise the position on the identified savings proposals, deliver those savings and commence the process for the additional savings required for the future.

13.5 The combination of sound budget practices, the success so far in identifying savings and significant revenue reserves means that the proposed 2011/12 budget is robust and that the Council is well-placed, **in the short term**, to deal with any unforeseen expenditure.



## 14. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to recommend to February Council:

- Approval of the proposed MTP, budget and Financial Plan (Annexs B, C, and D)
- No increase in Council Tax for 2011/12 i.e. Band D charge remains at £124.17.

### ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 1985

Grant Settlement Information – Files in Financial Services

Working Papers - Files in Financial Services

Project Appraisals

2010/11 Revenue Budget and the 2011/15 MTP

Forecast Report

Draft Budget and MTP Report.

**Contact Officer: Steve Couper**

Head of Financial Services ☎ 01480 388103

### ANNEXS

- A** Savings Financial Summary
- B** Overall Financial Summary to 2024/25
- C** Proposed Revenue Budget 2011/12– Full service costs basis
- D** Proposed Budget and MTP – Controllable Budget basis showing Direct Services and Support Services with their MTP bids over the 5 year MTP period. Those schemes, where further approval is required before they can commence, are highlighted.
- E** Financial Plan – Main assumptions
- F** Financial Plan - Sensitivity and Risks
- G** Reserves and the Robustness of the 2011/12 Budget





SAVINGS (cont.)		REVENUE						NET CAPITAL						CAPITAL GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS					
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bid No.	Scheme	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
#	IMD Staff savings		-17	-23	-36	-36	-101												
#	IMD Contract Savings		-35	-35	-110	-35	-75												
#	IMD Shared Service Income		-10	-15	-20	-30	-30												
	IMD Infrastructure Savings			-15	-15	-15	-15												
#	Town Centre Partnerships - reduced funding		-40	-80	-100	-100	-100												
#	District wide - E version only		-50	-50	-50	-50	-50												
951	Hunts. Matters - cease production	-8	-10	-10	-10	-10	-10												
968	Increased licensing income	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35	-35												
#	Licensing - efficiency and higher charges		-7	-14	-21	-28	-35												
#	Document Centre - efficiency and external work		-33	-40	-50	-60	-75												
825	Members Allowances Review	-2				-6	4												
	Members Allowances		-30	-30	-30	-30	-30												
	Subscriptions		-14	-14	-14	-14	-14												
#	Central Services - Reorganisation		-170	-220	-220	-270	-270												
853	Huntingdon Town Hall	-10																	
923	Extra Car Parking, Huntingdon Town Centre		20	-18	21	19	-62		-2,166	2,166							1,300		
976	ICT Replacements and Server Virtualisation	10	10	10	10	10	10	-27	58	-60	-60	-60							
380	Replacement Printing Equip.							-92		70									
895	Multi-functional Devices							-2	2	3	1	2							
948	Provision for Bin Replacements							-114	-101	-118	-157	-204	56						
886	Vehicle fleet replacements.							197	-217	-442	64	-101							
973	Housing Capital Grant (non-earmarked)							-64						64					
625	Huntingdon Bus Station							-890	190	150						-150	-150		
864	Crime and Disorder - Lighting improvements							-20	2				25						
365	Huntingdon Marina Improvements								-62										
854	Play Equipment & Safety Surface Renewal								-5	-48	-37	-33	-48						

SAVINGS (cont.)		REVENUE						NET CAPITAL						CAPITAL GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS					
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bid No.	Scheme	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
863	Community Facilities Grants								-69	-69	-69	-69	-69						
864	Crime and Disorder - Lighting improvements								-25	-24	-25	-25	-25						
867	Repairs Assistance								-90	-90	-90	-90	-90						
869	Social Housing Grant								-500	-500	-500	-500	-500						
865	CCTV - Camera replacements								-81	-81	-75	-82							
870	Local Transport Plan								-83	-83	-83	-89							
871	Safe Cycle Routes								-194	-93	-93	-95	-95						
872	St Neots Transport Strategy Phase 2								-90	-90	-80								
873	Accessibility Improvement /Signs in footpaths and car parks								-35	-30	-30	-30							
874	Huntingdon Transport Strategy								-90	-90	-90								
362	St Ives Transport Strategy								-80	-80	-80								
363	Ramsey Transport Strategy								-80	-41	-45								
899	Bus Shelters - extra provision								-41	-42	-42								
52	St Ives Town Centre 2 - Completion								-20	-425	-509								
876	Small Scale - District Wide Partnership								-79	-79	-80	-60		-10	-10	-10	-10	-10	
877	AJC Small scale improvements								-86	-86	-86	-86	-90						
878	Village Residential Areas								-57	-60	-60	-76			-10	-10	-10		
302	New Public Conveniences								-100						-150				
	<b>total</b>	<b>-397</b>	<b>-2,955</b>	<b>-4,285</b>	<b>-5,456</b>	<b>-5,728</b>	<b>-6,571</b>	<b>-1,107</b>	<b>-3,939</b>	<b>-242</b>	<b>-2,226</b>	<b>-1,598</b>	<b>-836</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>-310</b>	<b>1,130</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>0</b>

## ANNEX B

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	FORECAST	BUDGET	MTP				FORECAST								
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>2009/10 BUDGET/MTP</b>	<b>24,848</b>	<b>23,660</b>	<b>23,127</b>	<b>22,278</b>	<b>21,342</b>	<b>21,811</b>	<b>22,408</b>	<b>23,021</b>	<b>23,651</b>	<b>24,099</b>	<b>24,765</b>	<b>25,449</b>	<b>26,153</b>	<b>26,875</b>	<b>27,818</b>
<b>Variations:</b>															
Interest	-105	-298	-421	-374	-411	-544	-676	-796	-926	-1,058	-1,188	-1,320	-1,454	-1,586	-1,718
Provision for Loan Repayments	-61	158	365	506	656	782	830	866	998	1,098	1,153	1,183	1,186	1,121	1,065
Inflation	0	22	33	165	401	222	240	132	174	361	402	574	640	784	839
Unidentified Savings	0	1,000	1,849	3,239	4,595	4,688	5,166	4,938	4,847	4,867	4,934	4,799	4,870	4,899	4,818
MTP schemes	-1,533	-1,927	-3,605	-4,815	-5,130	-6,010	-6,175	-6,133	-6,097	-6,083	-6,129	-6,075	-6,094	-6,082	-6,082
<b>total</b>	<b>-1,699</b>	<b>-1,045</b>	<b>-1,779</b>	<b>-1,280</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>-862</b>	<b>-615</b>	<b>-993</b>	<b>-1,003</b>	<b>-815</b>	<b>-827</b>	<b>-839</b>	<b>-852</b>	<b>-864</b>	<b>-1,078</b>
<b>NEW FORECAST</b>	<b>23,149</b>	<b>22,615</b>	<b>21,348</b>	<b>20,998</b>	<b>21,453</b>	<b>20,949</b>	<b>21,793</b>	<b>22,028</b>	<b>22,648</b>	<b>23,284</b>	<b>23,938</b>	<b>24,610</b>	<b>25,301</b>	<b>26,011</b>	<b>26,740</b>
<b>FUNDING</b>															
Use of revenue reserves	-2,971	-3,606	-2,714	-1,604	-1,736	-300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Remaining revenue reserves EOY</b>	<b>12,960</b>	<b>9,354</b>	<b>6,640</b>	<b>5,036</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>
New Homes Grant		-940	-1,527	-2,129	-2,745	-3,377	-4,025	-3,749	-3,843	-3,939	-4,037	-4,138	-4,241	-4,348	-4,456
Special Council Tax Grant		-184	-184	-184	-184	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Formula Grant (RSG)	-12,939	-10,449	-9,296	-9,203	-8,651	-8,867	-9,089	-9,316	-9,549	-9,788	-10,032	-10,283	-10,540	-10,804	-11,074
Collection Fund Deficit (- surplus)	35	-53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Council Tax	-7,274	-7,383	-7,627	-7,878	-8,137	-8,404	-8,679	-8,963	-9,256	-9,557	-9,868	-10,189	-10,519	-10,860	-11,210
<b>COUNCIL TAX LEVEL</b>	<b>£124.17</b>	<b>£124.17</b>	<b>£127.27</b>	<b>£130.46</b>	<b>£133.72</b>	<b>£137.06</b>	<b>£140.49</b>	<b>£144.00</b>	<b>£147.60</b>	<b>£151.29</b>	<b>£155.07</b>	<b>£158.95</b>	<b>£162.92</b>	<b>£166.99</b>	<b>£171.17</b>
% increase		<b>0.00%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.50%</b>
£ increase		<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£3.10</b>	<b>£3.18</b>	<b>£3.26</b>	<b>£3.34</b>	<b>£3.43</b>	<b>£3.51</b>	<b>£3.60</b>	<b>£3.69</b>	<b>£3.78</b>	<b>£3.88</b>	<b>£3.97</b>	<b>£4.07</b>	<b>£4.17</b>

Forecast Capital Spending	7,133	11,933	3,321	3,005	2,441	2,777	4,101	4,131	4,272	4,417	4,566	4,718	4,875	5,035	5,200
Accumulated "Borrowing" EOY net of MRP	17,717	28,618	30,512	31,838	32,300	32,825	34,463	35,923	37,206	38,335	39,347	40,254	41,075	41,865	42,604
Net Interest and Borrowing Costs															
- total	-61	589	1,316	1,893	2,454	2,790	3,059	3,344	3,730	4,087	4,407	4,710	4,995	5,226	5,480
- as % of total net spending	0%	3%	6%	9%	11%	13%	14%	15%	16%	18%	18%	19%	20%	20%	20%
<b>Unidentified Spending Adjustments still required</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-751</b>	<b>-961</b>	<b>-1,524</b>	<b>-1,975</b>	<b>-2,028</b>	<b>-2,632</b>	<b>-3,215</b>	<b>-3,759</b>	<b>-4,071</b>	<b>-4,535</b>	<b>-5,121</b>	<b>-5,381</b>	<b>-5,776</b>

**PROPOSED BUDGET – SERVICE BASIS**

<b>BUDGET SUMMARY</b>	<b>2010/11</b>		<b>2011/12</b>
	<b>Original</b>	<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Budget</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
<b>Environmental Services</b>			
Refuse Collection	3,372	3,257	3,253
Recycling	282	183	533
Drainage & Sewers	572	560	600
Public Conveniences	18	67	53
Environmental Health	2,545	2,317	2,214
Closed Churchyards	11	8	9
Street Cleaning & Litter	1,368	1,386	1,474
	<b>8,168</b>	<b>7,778</b>	<b>8,136</b>
<b>Planning</b>			
Development Control	1,197	1,310	1,193
Building Control	164	194	195
Planning Policy & Conservation	1,532	1,264	1,332
Economic Development	-601	-216	-364
Planning Delivery Grant	35	0	9
	<b>2,327</b>	<b>2,552</b>	<b>2,365</b>
<b>Community Services</b>			
Countryside	631	607	575
Tourism	142	113	100
Community Initiatives	799	993	1,019
Parks	1,746	1,716	1,825
Leisure Policy	468	460	391
Leisure Centres	2,887	2,714	2,856
Community Facilities	141	65	25
	<b>6,814</b>	<b>6,668</b>	<b>6,791</b>
<b>Community Safety</b>			
Community Safety	1,031	983	908
	<b>1,031</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>908</b>
<b>Housing Services</b>			
Housing Services	959	869	884
Private Housing Support	2,300	2,396	1,664
Homelessness	538	621	587
Housing Benefits	1,191	1,241	1,381
	<b>4,988</b>	<b>5,127</b>	<b>4,516</b>
<b>Highways &amp; Transportation</b>			
Transportation Strategy	1,234	1,092	368
Public Transport	964	867	229
Highways Services	96	143	129
Car Parks	-526	-519	-608
Environmental Improvements	421	508	344
	<b>2,189</b>	<b>2,091</b>	<b>462</b>
<b>Corporate Services</b>			
Local Taxation & Benefits	1,228	1,150	1,271
Corporate Management	1,739	1,607	1,490
Democratic Services	1,432	1,455	1,434
Central Services	549	608	612
Non Distributed Costs	250	242	252
	<b>5,198</b>	<b>5,062</b>	<b>5,059</b>
<b>Other Expenditure</b>			
Contingency	-484	53	-90
Other Expenditure	-5,415	-6,729	-5,361
Investment Interest and Borrowing Costs	108	-341	-93
Unallocated Grants	-76	-95	-78
	<b>-5,867</b>	<b>-7,112</b>	<b>-5,622</b>
<b>Council Total</b>	<b>24,848</b>	<b>23,149</b>	<b>22,615</b>

The Service Based Budget includes direct expenditure plus the recharge of all support costs (e.g. HR, finance, legal and offices) plus depreciation on assets.

**Note**

Due to the nature of and/or the late stage in the process of some changes there will be a need to make some minor reallocations between service budgets for 2011/12 after the budget is approved. These relate to the allocation of support costs and inflation adjustments. The items particularly subject to such changes are shown with a ##

SERVICE BUDGET		2010/11		2011/12
		Budget	Forecast	Budget
		£000	£000	£000
<b>Environmental Services</b>				
Refuse Collection	Abandoned Vehicles	59	58	59
	Domestic Refuse	3,295	3,205	3,209
	Trade Refuse	18	-6	-15
		<b>3,372</b>	<b>3,257</b>	<b>3,253</b>
Recycling	Recycling	370	278	616
	Recycling Sites	-88	-95	-83
		<b>282</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>533</b>
Drainage & Sewers	Internal Drainage Boards	358	374	367
	Nightsoil Collection	10	10	11
	Watercourses	204	176	222
		<b>572</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>600</b>
Public Conveniences	Public Conveniences ##	18	67	53
		<b>18</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>53</b>
Environmental Health	Air Quality	109	111	141
	Animal Welfare	178	185	153
	Contaminated Land	175	177	142
	Health & Safety	243	239	239
	Energy Efficiency	405	385	374
	Environmental Health General	-4	-13	12
	Food Safety	483	443	471
	Health Promotion	48	25	31
	Licences	156	60	43
	Nuisances	335	301	254
	Pest Control	135	127	144
	Private Sector Housing	267	263	195
	Travellers	15	14	15
			<b>2,545</b>	<b>2,317</b>
Closed Churchyards	Closed Churchyards	11	8	9
		<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
Street Cleaning & Litter	Littering	69	69	88
	Street Cleaning	1,299	1,317	1,386
		<b>1,368</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>1,474</b>
	<b>Environmental Services</b>	<b>8,168</b>	<b>7,778</b>	<b>8,136</b>
<b>Planning</b>				
Development Management	Advice	729	628	652
	Application Processing	222	413	265
	Enforcement	246	269	276
		<b>1,197</b>	<b>1,310</b>	<b>1,193</b>
Building Control	Promotion & Enforcement	235	207	216
	Applications	-71	-13	-21
		<b>164</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>195</b>
Planning Policy & Conservation	A14 Inquiry	153	4	0
	Conservation & Listed Buildings	136	151	156
	Local Plan	740	631	718
	Planning Projects/Implementation	305	268	250
	Trees	198	210	208
		<b>1,532</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>1,332</b>



SERVICE BUDGET		2010/11		2011/12
		Budget	Forecast	Budget
		£000	£000	£000
Economic Development	Business & Enterprise Support	260	305	308
	Markets	-50	-5	-44
	NNDR Discretionary Relief	29	47	29
	Property Development and Management	-1,068	-849	-964
	Town Centre Management	228	286	307
		<b>-601</b>	<b>-216</b>	<b>-364</b>
Planning Delivery Grant	Planning Grant Unallocated	<b>35</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>Planning</b>	<b>2,327</b>	<b>2,552</b>	<b>2,365</b>
<b>Community Services</b>				
Countryside	Barford Road Pocket Park			
	Countryside Management	260	245	189
	Hinchingbrooke Country Park	222	269	244
	Paxton Pits	106	59	112
	Miscellaneous Countryside sites	43	34	30
		<b>631</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>575</b>
Tourism	Tourism	142	113	100
		<b>142</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>100</b>
Community Initiatives	Community Projects	99	155	170
	Community Initiatives Mgt	221	273	266
	Equal Opportunities	38	66	75
	Sustainable Communities	69	71	75
	Miscellaneous Grants	372	428	433
		<b>799</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>1,019</b>
Parks	Parks & Open Spaces	1,690	1,671	1,755
	Pavilions	53	43	68
	Unallocated Land Survey	3	2	2
		<b>1,746</b>	<b>1,716</b>	<b>1,825</b>
Leisure Policy	Arts Development ##	157	120	60
	Leisure Development	311	340	331
		<b>468</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>391</b>
Leisure Centres	One Leisure Huntingdon	562	588	621
	One Leisure Ramsey	445	359	405
	One Leisure Sawtry	497	457	460
	One Leisure St Ives	708	629	726
	One Leisure St Neots	666	631	627
	Leisure Centres Overall	9	50	17
		<b>2,887</b>	<b>2,714</b>	<b>2,856</b>
Community Facilities	Leisure Grants ##	120	44	4
	Priory Centre	21	21	21
		<b>141</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>25</b>
	<b>Community Services</b>	<b>6,814</b>	<b>6,668</b>	<b>6,791</b>

SERVICE BUDGET		2010/11		2011/12
		Budget	Forecast	Budget
		£000	£000	£000
<b>Community Safety</b>				
Community Safety	C C T V ##	701	683	558
	Community Safety	330	300	350
		<b>1,031</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>908</b>
	<b>Community Safety</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>908</b>
<b>Housing Services</b>				
Housing Services	Choice Based Lettings	105	45	23
	Housing Advice	255	310	311
	Housing Strategy	327	186	193
	Waiting List	235	256	274
	Other housing services	37	72	83
		<b>959</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>884</b>
Private Housing Support	Home Improvement Agency	84	95	106
	Housing Associations	783	890	356
	Housing Surveys	26	18	27
	Renovation/Improvement Grants	1,407	1,393	1,150
	Safer homes scheme	0	0	25
		<b>2,300</b>	<b>2,396</b>	<b>1,664</b>
Homelessness	Accommodation For Homeless	70	37	23
	Homelessness Management	311	365	312
	Homeless Prevention	56	118	148
	Hostel Support	101	101	104
		<b>538</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>587</b>
Housing Benefits	Housing Benefits Admin	1,127	1,361	1,512
	Rent Allowance Local Scheme	18	13	14
	Rent Allowance National Scheme	-53	-285	-285
	Temporary Accommodation Support	99	152	140
		<b>1,191</b>	<b>1,241</b>	<b>1,381</b>
	<b>Housing Services</b>	<b>4,988</b>	<b>5,127</b>	<b>4,516</b>
<b>Highways &amp; Transportation</b>				
Transportation Strategy	Cycling	29	24	26
	Transportation Management	160	122	195
	Transport Schemes ##	1,045	946	147
		<b>1,234</b>	<b>1,092</b>	<b>368</b>
Public Transport	Bus Shelters	96	109	123
	Bus Stations	72	115	78
	Concessionary Fares ##	796	643	28
		<b>964</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>229</b>
Highways Services	Street naming	96	143	129
		<b>96</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>129</b>
Car Parks	Car Park Assets	116	93	120
	Car Park Management	-753	-634	-752
	Car Park Policy	111	22	24
		<b>-526</b>	<b>-519</b>	<b>-608</b>
Environmental Improvements	Management Schemes	83	85	96
		338	423	248
		<b>421</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>344</b>
	<b>Highways &amp; Transportation</b>	<b>2,189</b>	<b>2,091</b>	<b>462</b>

SERVICE BUDGET		2010/11		2011/12
		Budget	Forecast	Budget
		£000	£000	£000
<b>Corporate Services</b>				
Local Taxation & Benefits	Council Tax	891	950	995
	Council Tax Benefits	339	215	288
	N N D R Administration	-2	-15	-12
		<b>1,228</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>1,271</b>
Corporate Management	Chief Executive & Management Team	800	707	641
	External Audit	153	146	158
	Public Accountability	669	641	574
	Treasury Management	117	113	117
		<b>1,739</b>	<b>1,607</b>	<b>1,490</b>
Democratic Services	Corporate Committees	538	552	522
	Member Allowances & Support	894	903	912
		<b>1,432</b>	<b>1,455</b>	<b>1,434</b>
Central Services	Elections	514	518	531
	Emergency Planning	70	86	90
	Land Charges	-35	4	-9
		<b>549</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>612</b>
Non Distributed Costs	Pensions	250	239	218
	ICT services to other organisations	0	3	34
		<b>250</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>252</b>
	<b>Corporate Services</b>	<b>5,198</b>	<b>5,062</b>	<b>5,059</b>
<b>Other Expenditure</b>				
Contingency	Efficiency Savings Contingency	-255	0	0
	Other Contingencies	-229	53	-90
		<b>-484</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>-90</b>
Other Expenditure	Capital Charges Reversed	-6,787	-6,960	-5,497
	MRP (Provision for repaying borrowing)	0	247	682
	Pensions Liabilities Reversed	1,229	0	0
	V A T Partial Exemption	143	0	0
	Items still to be allocated or recharged to Services ##	0	-66	-586
	Other Expenditure	0	50	40
		<b>-5,415</b>	<b>-6,729</b>	<b>-5,361</b>
Investment Interest and borrowing costs	Interest Paid	927	399	523
	Interest Received	-819	-740	-616
		<b>108</b>	<b>-341</b>	<b>-93</b>
Unallocated grants		-76	-95	-78
		<b>-76</b>	<b>-95</b>	<b>-78</b>
	<b>Other Expenditure</b>	<b>-5,867</b>	<b>-7,112</b>	<b>-5,622</b>
<b>COUNCIL TOTAL</b>		<b>24,848</b>	<b>23,149</b>	<b>22,615</b>

## **CONTROLLABLE BUDGET**

The Controllable budget disaggregates the Service Budget so that each element is allocated to the Head of Service or, in a few cases, Chief Officer responsible for managing and controlling the spending. For example: Leisure Centres in the Service budget includes support services such as HR and accountancy whilst in the Controllable Budget these support service costs are shown under the Head of Service that controls them.

The Controllable Budget is the fundamental focus of budgetary control within the authority.

It shows the individual variations included in the MTP allocated to each budget area and colour codes those schemes where further approval is required before they can commence.

### **Approval required by:**

**COMT and then Cabinet**

**Service Director following consultation with Director of C&T and Executive Councillors for Service and Finance.**

**COMT**

**Head of Service**

2  
4

PROPOSED BUDGET – Controllable Format		REVENUE						NET CAPITAL							
		Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
		2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
		2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
<b>CEO</b>															
	Corporate Management	276	266	158	158	158	158	158							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>158</b>							
		<b>276</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>158</b>							
<b>CENTRAL SERVICES</b>															
<b>Director of Central Services</b>															
	Management Units	176	177	184	184	184	184	184							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>184</b>							
		<b>176</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>184</b>							
<b>Head of Central &amp; Democratic Services</b>															
	<b>Environmental Health (Licensing) ①</b>	<b>-212</b>	<b>-259</b>	<b>-267</b>	<b>-267</b>	<b>-267</b>	<b>-267</b>	<b>-267</b>							
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
968	Increased licensing income			-35	-35	-35	-35	-35							
#	Licensing - efficiency and higher charges			-7	-14	-21	-28	-35							
				<b>-42</b>	<b>-49</b>	<b>-56</b>	<b>-63</b>	<b>-70</b>							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-212</b>	<b>-259</b>	<b>-267</b>	<b>-274</b>	<b>-281</b>	<b>-288</b>	<b>-295</b>							
		<b>-212</b>	<b>-259</b>	<b>-267</b>	<b>-274</b>	<b>-281</b>	<b>-288</b>	<b>-295</b>							
	<b>Democratic representation ②</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>534</b>							
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
825	Members Allowances Review			-5	-5	-5	-5	-1							
826	Electoral Administration Act				-8	-8	-8	-8							
##	Members Allowances 2011			-30	-30	-30	-30	-30							
##	LGA Sub			-2	-2	-2	-2	-2							
##	Provincial Council Sub			-12	-12	-12	-12	-12							
				<b>-49</b>	<b>-57</b>	<b>-57</b>	<b>-57</b>	<b>-53</b>							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>530</b>							
		<b>601</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>530</b>							
	<b>Central services (elections/land charges) ②</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>							
	<b>MTP Variation</b>														
824	Land Charges - Extra net cost			29	29	29	29	29							
885	District Elections - No elections every 4th year					-80									
				<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>-51</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-70</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>							
		<b>22</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-70</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>							

BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000

<b>Document Centre ③</b>	587	547	604	604	604	604	604							
<b>MTP Variation</b>														
380 Replacement Printing Equip.								230	138		70			208
894 Replacement Equipment Document Centre								29	6	78		30	54	
895 Multi-functional Devices								15	13	45	41	21	45	41
# Document Centre - efficiency and external work			-33	-40	-50	-60	-75							
			-33	-40	-50	-60	-75							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>249</b>
<b>Management Units ④</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>688</b>							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
# Central Services - Reorganisation			-70	-70	-70	-70	-70							
			-70	-70	-70	-70	-70							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>688</b>							
<b>Head of Law, Property and Governance</b>														
<b>Economic Development ①</b>	<b>-1,403</b>	<b>-1,412</b>	<b>-1,529</b>	<b>-1,529</b>	<b>-1,529</b>	<b>-1,529</b>	<b>-1,529</b>							
<b>MTP Variation</b>														
239 New Industrial Units			-37	-65	-65	-65	-65	575	825					
509 Industrial Estate Repairs									10	16				
657 Creative Industries Centre, St Neots					-30	-6	-6							
Industrial Rents - shortfall			-60	-60	-60	-60	-60							
			-97	-125	-155	-131	-131							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-1,403</b>	<b>-1,412</b>	<b>-1,529</b>	<b>-1,557</b>	<b>-1,587</b>	<b>-1,563</b>	<b>-1,563</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>16</b>				
<b>Corporate Management</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>							
<b>Management Units ②</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>449</b>							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
Central Services - Reorganisation			-80	-80	-80	-80	-80							
			-80	-80	-80	-80	-80							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>449</b>							
	<b>-881</b>	<b>-908</b>	<b>-1,078</b>	<b>-1,106</b>	<b>-1,136</b>	<b>-1,112</b>	<b>-1,112</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>16</b>				

BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000

<b>Head of PPP</b>														
<b>Economic Development ①</b>	146	144	108	108	108	108	108							
<b>MTP Variation</b>														
# Town Centre Partnerships - reduced funding			-40	-80	-100	-100	-100							
			-40	-80	-100	-100	-100							
<b>TOTAL</b>	146	144	108	68	48	48	48							
<b>Tourism</b>	43	45	45	45	45	45	45							
<b>TOTAL</b>	43	45	45	45	45	45	45							
<b>Community initiatives</b>	-2	20	36	36	36	36	36							
<b>TOTAL</b>	-2	20	36	36	36	36	36							
<b>Corporate Management ②</b>	120	109	59	59	59	59	59							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
951 Hunts. Matters - cease production			-10	-10	-10	-10	-10							
# District wide - E version only			-50	-50	-50	-50	-50							
			-60	-60	-60	-60	-60							
<b>TOTAL</b>	120	109	59	59	59	59	59							
<b>Non-Distributed Costs (pensions)</b>	250	238	218	218	218	218	218							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
Pensions Increase - Savings			-18	-18	-18	-18	-18							
			-18	-18	-18	-18	-18							
<b>TOTAL</b>	250	238	218	218	218	218	218							
<b>Management Units ③</b>	1,186	1,161	1,212	1,212	1,212	1,212	1,212							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
Central Services - Reorganisation			-20	-70	-70	-120	-120							
			-20	-70	-70	-120	-120							
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,186	1,161	1,212	1,162	1,162	1,112	1,112							
<b>Human Resources</b>	200	200	202	202	202	202	202							
<b>TOTAL</b>	200	200	202	202	202	202	202							
	1,943	1,917	1,880	1,790	1,770	1,720	1,720							

BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000

DIRECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES														
<b>Director of Environmental &amp; Community Services</b>														
<b>Management Units</b>														
	172	172	178	178	178	178	178							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>178</b>							
	172	172	178	178	178	178	178							
<b>Head of Housing Services</b>														
<b>Housing Services</b>														
	30	-4	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
702 Mobile Home Park, Eynesbury			-10	-10	-10	-10	-10	-168						
			-10	-10	-10	-10	-10							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>-168</b>						
<b>Private housing support ① ② ③</b>														
		-11	29	29	29	29	29							
<b>MTP Variation</b>														
70 Housing Needs Survey			-5	-5	-5	-5	-5							
730 Housing Need Study			8	8	8	8	8							
866 Disabled Facilities Grants								1,000	1,000	800	800	800	800	950
867 Repairs Assistance								190	160	100	100	100	100	100
869 Social Housing Grant								500	547					
910 Safer Homes Scheme			25	25	25	25	25							
932 Decent Homes - Thermal Efficiency/H&S														
973 Housing Capital Grant (non-earmarked)									-64					
974 Decent Homes - Thermal Efficiency Imps.											64			
Mortgage Fall-out				1	2	3	3							
			28	29	30	31	21							
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>-11</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1,690</b>	<b>1,643</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1,050</b>
<b>Homelessness ④</b>														
	220	241	173	173	173	173	173							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
## Homelessness Grant			-85	-85										
Priority Needs Scheme-end of temp. savings			28	59	61	61	61							
			-57	-26	61	61	61							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>291</b>							



BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Management Units 5</b>	1,120	1,078	1,095	1,095	1,095	1,095	1,095							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
960 Transfer of some housing calls to call centre			-11	-11	-11	-11	-11							
# Housing staff efficiency savings			-45	-100	-100	-100	-100							
			-56	-111	-111	-111	-111							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>1,078</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>1,040</b>							
	<b>1,370</b>	<b>1,304</b>	<b>1,292</b>	<b>1,269</b>	<b>1,357</b>	<b>1,358</b>	<b>1,348</b>	<b>1,522</b>	<b>1,643</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1,050</b>
<b>Head of Environmental &amp; Community Health Services</b>														
<b>Environmental Health</b>	265	233	176	176	176	176	176							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
911 House Condition Survey			-50	-50	-50	-50	5							
927 Air Quality Monitoring Equipment			20	-10	20	20	20	20	25		30			
			-30	-60	-30	-30	25							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>25</b>		<b>30</b>			
<b>Community initiatives 1 2 3</b>	405	416	409	409	409	409	409							
<b>MTP Variation</b>														
423 Community Information Project								11		11				
863 Community Facilities Grants			-14	-65	-308	-308	-308	37	40					
952 Loves Farm Community Centre										45	-45			
954 Ramsey Community Information Centre Ramsey Library Development			10	10	10	10	10	-10	110					
			-4	-55	-298	-298	-298							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>-45</b>			
<b>Leisure policy</b>	316	292	213	213	213	213	213							
<b>MTP Variation</b>														
845 Physical Activity Initiatives for Adults			-23	-23	-30	-32	-32							
Arts Development Service			-93	-93	-93	-93	-93							
			-116	-116	-123	-125	-125							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>204</b>							

BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000

	<b>Community Safety ④</b>	116	88	114	114	114	114	114							
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
864	Lighting improvements								24	4					
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4</b>					
	<b>Management Units ⑤</b>	<b>1,603</b>	<b>1,537</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>1,517</b>							
	<b>MTP Variation</b>														
#	Environmental Health staff savings			-201	-201	-201	-201	-201							
#	Environmental & Community Health savings					-75	-75	-75							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,603</b>	<b>1,537</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>1,442</b>							
		<b>2,705</b>	<b>2,566</b>	<b>2,429</b>	<b>2,348</b>	<b>2,053</b>	<b>2,051</b>	<b>2,106</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>-15</b>			
	<b>Head of Operations</b>														
	<b>Refuse collection &amp; Recycling ①</b>	<b>1,991</b>	<b>1,832</b>	<b>2,188</b>	<b>2,188</b>	<b>2,188</b>	<b>2,188</b>	<b>2,188</b>							
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
650	Recycling Credits			-17	-17	-17	-17	-17							
948	Provision for Bin Replacements			175	175	175	175	175	144	30	31	33	38	48	340
969	Recycling Gate Fees			15	33	33	33	33							
971	Reduction in glass sales			34	40	40	40	40							
#	Increased charges for bulky waste			-20	-20	-20	-20	-20							
#	Reduce refuse collection by one round Wheeled Bins for New Properties				-100	-100	-100	-100							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,991</b>	<b>1,832</b>	<b>2,188</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>419</b>
	<b>Drainage and sewers</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>							
	<b>Street cleaning and litter ②</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>1,002</b>							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>1,002</b>							

BUDGET - Controllable		REVENUE						NET CAPITAL							
		Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
		2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
		2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Markets ③</b>		-161	-138	-165	-165	-165	-165								
<b>MTP Variations</b>															
965	Consultants			-5	-5	-5	-5								
				-5	-5	-5	-5								
<b>TOTAL</b>		-161	-138	-165	-165	-165	-165								
<b>CCTV ④</b>		502	458	365	365	365	365								
<b>MTP Variations</b>															
865	CCTV - Camera replacements							81	159						
966	CCTV Van - remove satellite system			-8	-8	-8	-8								
967	Reduction in CCTV Cameras			-15	-15	-15	-15								
#	Reduce CCTV to a basic service			-129	-172	-172	-172								
#	Mothball CCTV			-300	-300	-300	-300								
				-152	-495	-495	-495								
<b>TOTAL</b>		502	458	365	22	22	22	81	159						
<b>Countryside ⑤</b>		496	416	384	384	384	384								
<b>MTP Variations</b>															
807	Hinchingbrooke Park - Café extension			-17	-17	-17	-17								
855	St Neots Green Corridor (HGF)							102							
#	Reduce staff and increase income			-101	-149	-199	-199								
#	Transfer Countryside to a trust					-100	-100								
				-118	-166	-216	-316								
<b>TOTAL</b>		496	416	384	336	286	186	102							
<b>Parks ⑥</b>		4	-17	11	11	11	11								
<b>MTP Variations</b>															
365	Huntingdon Marina Improvements							62							
808	Huntingdon Riverside								41						
854	Play Equipment & Safety Surface Renewal							69	155	50	20	20	20	20	
914	Pavilion Repairs and Renewals			8	8	8	8								
				8	8	8	8								
<b>TOTAL</b>		4	-17	11	11	11	11	131	196	50	20	20	20	20	20

BUDGET - Controllable		REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
		Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
		2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
		2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
	<b>Car parks ⑦</b>	-1,206	-1,085	-1,220	-1,220	-1,220	-1,220	-1,220							
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
480	Implementation of car park strategy			-10	-20	-44	-68	-102							
924	Additional Car Park Charges (net)			10	10	10	10	10	31	31					
	Loss of Income due to VAT change			30	30	30	30	30							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-1,206</b>	<b>-1,085</b>	<b>-1,220</b>	<b>-1,230</b>	<b>-1,254</b>	<b>-1,278</b>	<b>-1,312</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>					
	<b>Central services (emergency planning)</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>							
	<b>Management Units ⑧</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>1,469</b>	<b>1,423</b>	<b>1,423</b>	<b>1,423</b>	<b>1,423</b>	<b>1,423</b>							
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
#	Operations Division Reorganisation			-196	-250	-250	-250	-250							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>1,469</b>	<b>1,423</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>1,369</b>							
	<b>Grounds Maintenance ⑨</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>917</b>							
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
#	Reduced grounds maintenance standards				-150	-150	-150	-150							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>767</b>							
	<b>Other internal services ⑩</b>														
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
886	Vehicle fleet replacements.								218	415	551	807	921	908	1,059
	<b>TOTAL</b>								<b>218</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>1,059</b>
		<b>5,112</b>	<b>4,747</b>	<b>4,946</b>	<b>4,265</b>	<b>4,191</b>	<b>4,067</b>	<b>4,033</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>1,058</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>1,115</b>	<b>1,498</b>
	<b>Head of Planning Services</b>														
	<b>Development Management ⑪</b>	<b>-996</b>	<b>-770</b>	<b>-948</b>	<b>-948</b>	<b>-948</b>	<b>-948</b>	<b>-948</b>							
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
904	CIL Preparations			5	-30	-30	-30	-30							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-996</b>	<b>-770</b>	<b>-948</b>	<b>-983</b>	<b>-983</b>	<b>-983</b>	<b>-983</b>							

BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000

<b>Planning Policy and Conservation ②</b>	655	396	418	418	418	418	418							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
358 Ramsey Rural Renewal				-2	-5	-5	-5	43	63					
852 Corporate Commercial Property Advice			-15	-15	-15	-15	-15							
853 Huntingdon Town Hall			-10	-10	-10	-10	-10							
875 A14 Inquiry			-149	-149	-149	-149	-149							
903 LDF examinations					-200	-200	-200							
907 St Neots Extension - Suppl. Plan			-25	-25	-25	-25	-25							
908 H'don Town Centre - Retail Strategy			-30	-30	-30	-30	-30							
909 Great Fen Project - Governance							-20							
Parish Planning			7	7	7	7	7							
			<b>-222</b>	<b>-224</b>	<b>-427</b>	<b>-447</b>	<b>-454</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>63</b>					
<b>Economic Development ③</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
224 Town Centre Developments									5	210	80			
401 Huntingdon Town Centre Development			-86	-86	-86	-86	-86		1	12				
703 Heart of Oxmoor								-1,829	-1,366		-169			
850 Huntingdon West Development (HGF)									9	4,723	-1,279	-430	-750	-1,800
			<b>-86</b>	<b>-86</b>	<b>-86</b>	<b>-86</b>	<b>-86</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-1,829</b>	<b>-1,351</b>	<b>4,945</b>	<b>-1,368</b>	<b>-430</b>	<b>-750</b>	<b>-1,800</b>
<b>Planning delivery grant</b>	<b>35</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>							
<b>Transportation Strategy ④</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>							
<b>MTP Variation</b>														
351 St Neots Pedestrian Bridges								537	530					
362 St Ives Transport Strategy								140	126					
363 Ramsey Transport Strategy								45	6					
870 Local Transport Plan								83	73					
871 Safe Cycle Routes								286	100					
872 St Neots Transport Strategy Phase 2								90	94					

BUDGET - Controllable		REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
		Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
		2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
		2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
873	Accessibility Improvement - Signs								35	20					
874	Huntingdon Transport Strategy								80	52					
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>1,001</b>					
	<b>Public transport incl. concessionary fares 5</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>							
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
818	Railway Stations - Improvements								26	20	26				
912	Concessionary Fares			-737	-737	-737	-737	-737							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>26</b>				
	<b>Car parks (policy)</b>	<b>89</b>													
	<b>MTP Variation</b>														
923	Extra Car Parking, H'don Town Centre			20	150	150	57	-129	380	380	900	2,450			
#	Increase in car park charges				-150	-300	-300	-500							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>89</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-170</b>	<b>-263</b>	<b>-629</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>2,450</b>			
	<b>Management units 6</b>	<b>2,386</b>	<b>2,203</b>	<b>2,251</b>	<b>2,251</b>	<b>2,251</b>	<b>2,251</b>	<b>2,251</b>							
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
655	Electronic Document Imaging			17	21	21	21	21							
656	Planning Enforcement Monitoring Officer			23	27	27	27	27							
739	Proposed use of Planning Delivery Grant			-34	-107	-107	-107	-107							
#	Planning efficiencies			-48	-48	-48	-48	-48							
#	Transport efficiencies				-95	-95	-95	-95							
	Enforcement - staff savings			-77	-77	-77	-77	-77							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,386</b>	<b>2,203</b>	<b>2,251</b>	<b>2,091</b>	<b>2,091</b>	<b>2,091</b>	<b>2,091</b>							
		<b>3,095</b>	<b>2,606</b>	<b>1,837</b>	<b>1,620</b>	<b>1,267</b>	<b>1,154</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>-84</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>5,871</b>	<b>1,082</b>	<b>-430</b>	<b>-750</b>	<b>-1,800</b>
	<b>Head of Environmental Management</b>														
	<b>Drainage and sewers</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>425</b>							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>425</b>							

BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000

<b>Public conveniences ①</b>	25	20	20	20	20	20								
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
302 New Public Conveniences								100						
Transfer to other Councils			20	20	20	20	20							
			20	20	20	20	20							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>						
<b>Environmental Health (energy efficiency)</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
879 Environment Strategy Funding			-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	50	77	55	55	55	55	
880 Sustainable Homes Retrofit			-5	-15	-15	-15	-15	40	226	-485				
881 Climate Change Adaptation Study			-15	-15	-15	-15	-15							
882 Energy and Water Efficiency					-20	-20	-20							
915 St Neots ESCO Study			-50	-50	-50	-50	-50							
918 Building Efficiency Imps. (Salix Grant)			-25	-58	-77	-103	-129		45	55	58	77	78	62
918 Building Effic. Imps (Potential LC proportion)			25	46	38	51	65							
			-90	-112	-159	-172	-184							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-11</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>-375</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Closed Churchyards</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>							
<b>Building Control</b>	<b>-526</b>	<b>-489</b>	<b>-530</b>	<b>-530</b>	<b>-530</b>	<b>-530</b>	<b>-530</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-526</b>	<b>-489</b>	<b>-530</b>	<b>-530</b>	<b>-530</b>	<b>-530</b>	<b>-530</b>							
<b>Community initiatives</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>							
<b>Public transport</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
625 Huntingdon Bus Station								890		40				
899 Bus Shelters - extra provision			3	3	3	3	3	41	43					
			3	3	3	3	3							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>40</b>				

BUDGET - Controllable		REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
		Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
		2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
		2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
	<b>Highways Services (street naming)</b>	34	38	45	45	45	45								
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
844	Street naming and numbering			10	10	10	10								
				10	10	10	10								
	<b>TOTAL</b>	34	38	45	45	45	45								
	<b>Car parks (assets)</b>	44	44	45	45	45	45								
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
166	St Neots - Cambridge Street Car Park							80	9	80					
461	Car Park Repairs									86	60	60	31		
	<b>TOTAL</b>	44	44	45	45	45	45	80	9	166	60	60	31		
	<b>Environmental Improvements ②</b>	41	129	42	42	42	42								
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
52	St Ives Town Centre 2 - Completion							10	12						
876	Small Scale - District Wide Partnership							79	78						
877	AJC Small scale improvements							86	86						
878	Village Residential Areas							57	74						
	<b>TOTAL</b>	41	129	42	42	42	42	232	250						
	<b>Management units ③</b>	1,618	1,670	1,698	1,698	1,698	1,698								
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
831	Technical Services Restructuring			-42	-81	-81	-81								
#	Small scale env. Imps. staff saving				-25	-50	-50								
				-42	-106	-131	-131								
	<b>TOTAL</b>	1,618	1,670	1,698	1,634	1,609	1,609								
	<b>Offices ④</b>	1,120	713	1,012	1,012	1,012	1,012								
	<b>MTP Variations</b>														
890	Headquarters			70	70	70	70	-115	9	2	-1,810				
#	Rental of space in PFH				-75	-150	-150								
				70	-5	-80	-80								
	<b>TOTAL</b>	1,120	713	1,012	937	862	862	-115	9	2	-1,810				



BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000

Pool Cars	19	19	19	19	19	19	19							
TOTAL	19	19	19	19	19	19	19							
	3,012	2,828	2,971	2,810	2,663	2,650	2,638	1,318	659	-167	-1,637	192	164	62
<b>DIRECTORATE OF COMMERCE AND TECHNOLOGY</b>														
<b>Director of Commerce &amp; Technology</b>														
Management units	129	125	131	131	131	131	131							
TOTAL	129	125	131	131	131	131	131							
<b>Head of Customer Services</b>														
Economic Development (NDR relief)	29	47	29	29	29	29	29							
TOTAL	29	47	29	29	29	29	29							
Housing benefits	-632	-727	-592	-592	-592	-592	-592							
MTP Variations														
813 Reduction in Benefits Admin Grant			-21	36	36	36	36							
			-21	36	36	36	36							
TOTAL	-632	-727	-592	-535	-535	-535	-535							
Local Taxation & Benefits	-825	-988	-942	-942	-942	-942	-942							
TOTAL	-825	-988	-942	-942	-942	-942	-942							
Community initiatives ①	114	112	44	44	44	44	44							
MTP Variations														
916 Replacement. Scanning Eqpt. - Customer Services								33						
# Reduce Yaxley Customer Service Centre costs			-35	-35	-55	-55	-55							
# Reduce Ramsey Customer Service Centre costs			-30	-42	-42	-37	-37							
			-65	-77	-97	-92	-92							
TOTAL	114	112	44	32	12	17	17	33						

BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000

<b>Call Centre ②</b>	626	594	641	641	641	641	641							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
# Reduce call centre hours				-20	-20	-20	-20							
# Reduce call centre system costs				-10	-30	-30	-30							
				-30	-50	-50	-50							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>591</b>							
<b>Customer Service Centres ③</b>	626	567	578	578	578	578	578							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
# Reduce St Ives costs			-28	-28	-43	-43	-43							
# Reduce hours at Huntingdon					-7	-14	-14							
			-28	-28	-50	-57	-57							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>549</b>							
<b>Management Units ④</b>	2,234	2,262	2,204	2,204	2,204	2,204	2,204							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
626 Wireless Working (Revs & Bens)										24				
# Customer Services - Staff savings			-80	-90	-115	-115	-115							
			-80	-90	-115	-115	-115							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,234</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>2,204</b>	<b>2,194</b>	<b>2,169</b>	<b>2,169</b>	<b>2,169</b>			<b>24</b>				
	<b>2,172</b>	<b>1,867</b>	<b>1,962</b>	<b>1,967</b>	<b>1,880</b>	<b>1,878</b>	<b>1,878</b>	<b>33</b>		<b>24</b>				
<b>Head of Financial Services</b>														
<b>Environmental Improvements</b>	5	5												
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
920 East of Sapley - Preliminary Costs			-5	-5	-5	-5	-5					-15		
			-5	-5	-5	-5	-5							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>										<b>-15</b>		
<b>Corporate Management</b>	207	195	209	209	209	209	209							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>209</b>							

BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Contingency</b>	-486	53	-90	-90	-90	-90	-90							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
Provision for extra specific grants deleted			250	250	250	250	250							
Temp. non-achievement of T/O allowance					-250	-250	-250							
			250	250										
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-486</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>-90</b>	<b>-90</b>	<b>-340</b>	<b>-340</b>	<b>-340</b>							
<b>Interest and borrowing costs</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>-341</b>	<b>-93</b>	<b>-93</b>	<b>-93</b>	<b>-93</b>	<b>-93</b>							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
Interest			327	847	1,283	1,694	1,904							
			327	847	1,283	1,694	1,904							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>-341</b>	<b>-93</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>1,274</b>	<b>1,484</b>							
<b>Other expenditure</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>251</b>							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
950 Doubtful Debts Provision			40	30	20	10								
VAT Partial Exemption			1	4	7	7	7	377	344	182	34	53	34	96
Variation in MRP			158	365	506	656	782							
			199	399	533	673	789							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>Area based grant</b>	<b>-76</b>	<b>-95</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-78</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-76</b>	<b>-95</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-78</b>							
<b>Management units ①</b>	<b>1,230</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>1,189</b>							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
964 Internal Audit saving			-24	-24	-24	-24	-24							
# Internal Audit saving			-23	-23	-23	-23	-23							
# Further Financial Services savings			-24	-48	-48	-48	-48							
Procurement Support to ECDC			-7	-5	-5	-5	-5							
			-78	-100	-100	-100	-100							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,230</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>1,167</b>	<b>1,167</b>	<b>1,167</b>	<b>1,167</b>							
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>395</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>395</b>							

BUDGET - Controllable		REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
		Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
		2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
		2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Financial services</b>		94	52	90	90	90	90								
<b>TOTAL</b>		94	52	90	90	90	90								
		1,666	1,797	1,873	2,570	2,891	3,442	3,768	377	344	182	19	53	34	96
<b>Head of IMD</b>															
<b>Helpdesk ①</b>		436	395	379	379	379	379	379							
<b>MTP Variations</b>															
495	Corporate EDM			-36	-36	-36	-36	-36	25	25					
600	Network and ICT Services			-38	-59	-59	-59	-59							
958	Help Desk Saving			-75	-75										
#	IMD Staff and Contract savings (part)				-6	-92	-17	-16							
	ICT Replacements (part)								122	122	122	122	122	122	117
				-149	-176	-187	-112	-111							
<b>TOTAL</b>		436	395	379	352	341	416	417	147	147	122	122	122	122	117
<b>Network Services ①</b>		624	591	634	634	634	634	634							
<b>MTP Variations</b>															
891	Business Systems			79	45	45	21	1	270	198	225	230	190	195	200
892	Government Connect			33	44	44	44	44	20	104	12				
970	Telephony and ICT Network Renewal														100
##	IMD Infrastructure savings				-15	-15	-15	-15							
#	IMD Staff and Contract savings (part)			21	21	20	20	-86							
	ICT Replacements (part)			10	10	10	10	10	185	158	188	70	70	70	70
				143	105	104	80	-46							
<b>TOTAL</b>		624	591	634	596	595	571	445	475	460	425	300	260	265	370
<b>Web &amp; Business Systems ①</b>		232	305	254	254	254	254	254							
<b>MTP Variations</b>															
913	Web Advertising income shortfall			3											
#	IMD Shared Service Income			-10	-15	-20	-30	-30							
				-7	-15	-20	-30	-30							
<b>TOTAL</b>		232	305	254	246	241	231	231							

BUDGET - Controllable		REVENUE						NET CAPITAL							
		Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
		2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
		2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Corporate Systems ①</b>		261	257	242	242	242	242								
<b>MTP Variations</b>															
#	IMD Staff and Contract Savings (part)			-23	-23	-24	-24								
				-23	-23	-24	-24								
<b>TOTAL</b>		261	257	242	242	241	241								
<b>Business Analysis &amp; Project Management ①</b>		409	387	402	402	402	402								
<b>MTP Variations</b>															
494	Voice and data infrastructure								2						
634	Customer First			-34	-34	-34	-34	16	22						
842	Resourcelink – Recruitment Module							10	10						
893	VoIP Telephony for Leisure Centres							45	67						
900	Working Smarter			-20	-41	-41	-41	120	80	40					
				-54	-75	-75	-75								
<b>TOTAL</b>		409	387	402	381	381	381	191	181	40					
<b>Management units ①</b>		201	189	192	192	192	192								
<b>TOTAL</b>		201	189	192	192	192	192								
		2,163	2,124	2,103	2,009	1,991	2,032	1,907	813	788	587	422	382	387	487
<b>General Manager, Leisure</b>															
<b>Leisure Centres ①</b>		974	782	820	820	820	820								
<b>MTP Variations</b>															
22	CCTV Improvements							10	5	10					
857	St Neots LC Development			-110	-150	-184	-184	1,233	1,754	60					316
858	Huntingdon LC Development			-15	-26	-26	-26								
861	Future maintenance			-21	-63	-63	-63	52	940	676	382	382	382	522	
896	St Ivo LC – Football Improvements			-16	-16	-16	-16		-86						
897	St Ivo – Outdoor energy generation			12	12	12	12	127							
922	St Ivo LC Redevelopment				-397	-392	-407	2,700		2,500					
956	Replacement Fitness Equipment			-59	-59	-114	-114	190	200	400		275			
957	Reception Automation			-15	-15	-15	-15			60					
#	Leisure Savings			-90		-280	-390								
#	Transfer Leisure Centres to a Trust						-400								

BUDGET - Controllable	REVENUE							NET CAPITAL						
	Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP				Budget	F'Cast	Budget	MTP			
	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2011	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Leisure Savings Target not yet identified			27	1	54	31	17							
			-287	-713	-1,024	-1,172	-1,701							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>-65</b>	<b>-594</b>	<b>4,312</b>	<b>2,813</b>	<b>3,706</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>838</b>
<b>Management units ①</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>210</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>210</b>							
	<b>1,186</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>-384</b>	<b>4,312</b>	<b>2,813</b>	<b>3,706</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>838</b>
<b>Non-Allocated Items</b>														
<b>Recharges to non-revenue accounts</b>	<b>-1,299</b>	<b>-1,057</b>	<b>-848</b>	<b>-848</b>	<b>-848</b>	<b>-848</b>	<b>-848</b>							
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
Revenue staff charged to capital			50	50	50	50	50	100	100	50	50	50	50	50
Rule change re Capital Overheads			50	50	50	50	50	-117	-117	-117	-117	-117	-117	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-1,299</b>	<b>-1,057</b>	<b>-848</b>	<b>-848</b>	<b>-848</b>	<b>-848</b>	<b>-848</b>	<b>-17</b>	<b>-17</b>	<b>-67</b>	<b>-67</b>	<b>-67</b>	<b>-67</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Other items ① ②</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-2</b>											
<b>MTP Variations</b>														
# Reorganisation - Senior managers			-260	-400	-730	-730	-730							
# Pay & allowances Review			-375	-375	-300	-350	-350							
Capital Inflation											57	145	177	247
Revenue Inflation			725	1,495	2,636	3,477	4,165							
Recruitment at lower pay levels			-114	-114	-114	-114	-114							
Spending Adjustments still to be identified				-750	-961	-1,525	-1,976							
Schemes brought forward								700		1,200	1,500	500	500	500
Schemes carried forward								-700	-1,444	-1,256	-500	-500	-500	-500
Temporary Spending Adjustment (Recharges)			3	3	3	3	3							
919 E-Marketplace			-44	-69	-72	-72	-72		5					
Roundings				-3	-2	-2	-2							
			-65	-213	460	688	924							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>-148</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>989</b>		<b>-1,439</b>	<b>-56</b>	<b>1,057</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>247</b>
	<b>-1,300</b>	<b>-1,056</b>	<b>-850</b>	<b>-996</b>	<b>-323</b>	<b>-96</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>-17</b>	<b>-1,456</b>	<b>-123</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>297</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>24,848</b>	<b>23,149</b>	<b>22,615</b>	<b>21,348</b>	<b>20,998</b>	<b>21,453</b>	<b>20,949</b>	<b>9,810</b>	<b>7,133</b>	<b>11,933</b>	<b>3,321</b>	<b>3,005</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>2,777</b>

## NOTES TO ANNEX D

### Head of Central & Democratic Services

① Licences income	Increased charges for certain licenses and efficiency savings are targeted to save £35k.
② Corporate Committees & Subscriptions, Member Allowances & Support, Elections	A member working group will be established to review a number of options in these budget areas.
③ Document Centre	Additional income from undertaking work/collaboration with other organisations and/or reduction in costs of design, printing and despatch are targeted to save £75k.
④ Management Units	Staff reductions and other savings are targeted to amount to £70k over the 4 year plan period

### Head of Law, Property & Governance

① Property income	Review strategy and Portfolio to maintain income levels.
② Management Unit	Staff reductions and other savings are targeted to amount to £80k over the 4 year plan period

### People, Performance & Partnership

① Economic Development	Halving, then stopping grant to Town Centre Partnerships, with subsequent reductions in employee time is targeted to save £100k. The council will be less able to support the vibrancy of town centres.
② Communications and Marketing	Moving District Wide to electronic only is targeted to save £50k and Hunts Matters will cease at a saving of £10k.
③ Management Units	Staff reductions and other savings are targeted to amount to £120k over the 4 year plan period

### Head of Housing Services

① Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs)	These grants are a statutory obligation and thus depend upon the level of demand.
② Housing Repairs assistance	The previous annual budget of £190k pa has been cut to £100k pa. This will reduce the number of unoccupied dwellings that can be brought back into use.
③ Social housing grants	The annual budget of £500k has been deleted from the plan.
④ Homelessness	No service level changes are proposed.

<b>5 Management Units</b>	Staff savings of £100k are targeted. A slower response time will result for some enquiries and specialist advice.
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### Head of Environmental and Community Health Services

<b>1 Arts Development</b>	Proposals included in last year's budget, which have now been implemented, will reduce this budget to nil for the coming year, although two community schemes will be maintained.
<b>2 Leisure Development</b>	This matched funding will be reviewed when external grants come to an end in 2013.
<b>3 Community Grants</b>	Cuts in revenue grant funding will be phased in from 2012/13 which will leave around £75k pa after 2013/14. The previous capital budget of £60k to £70k pa has been deleted from the plan in favour of requesting towns and parishes to fund this work.
<b>4 Community safety</b>	The loss of external grants will see this service reduced by £50k.
<b>5 Management Units</b>	Savings of £276k pa are targeted. This will result in less health and safety advice being given and reduced capacity to investigate nuisance, noise, pollution and drainage incidents.

### Head of Operations

<b>1 Refuse/Recycling</b>	Except for increased charges for the collection of bulky waste, generating £20k p.a., no service level changes are proposed in this area. Efficiency savings are targeted. A reduction of one collection round would save £100k. A procurement exercise is underway for the purchase of round scheduling software (an example of shared working with Cambridge City and East Cambridgeshire DC). It is also planned to absorb growth in housing numbers anticipated at 500 p.a.
<b>2 Street Cleansing</b>	No service level changes are proposed in this area.
<b>3 Markets</b>	A £5k saving on consultant fees is proposed.
<b>4 CCTV</b>	The budget is based on reducing CCTV staffing from April 2011 and providing a basic service during 2011/2. Options will be provided to Members for a decision to be made on whether the service should be "mothballed" from April 2012 which would give a saving of a further £300k per year. The CCTV van will be disposed of. The previous capital budget for lighting of £23k pa has been deleted from the plan. The previous capital budget for CCTV camera replacements of £80k pa has been deleted from the plan. This deletion is based upon the mothballing of all CCTV operations.
<b>5 Countryside</b>	Savings of £199k p.a. are proposed by reducing staff, ending the educational / events programme, reducing our commitment to maintenance and the Rights of Way programme and concentrating of income generating activities. Some of these responsibilities may be taken up by volunteer groups. Further savings of £100k p.a. are targeted from 2014. This is subject to identifying further responsibilities that can be taken up by volunteer groups and trusts.



<b>⑥Parks</b>	The previously planned capital project relating to <b>Huntingdon Marina</b> has been deleted from the plan. The previous capital budget of £60k to 70k p.a. for play equipment has been reduced to £50k for 2011/2 and £20k pa thereafter. This budget will be used on play areas which are deemed to be of significance for the district generally rather than the immediate locality. Towns and Parish Councils will be requested to fund the maintenance and development of smaller parks unless s106 funding is obtained.
<b>⑦Car Parks</b>	Car park fees are currently only budgeted to rise with inflation. A larger rise could be considered if off-street parking opportunities were managed in a manner consistent with any proposed rise. For this reason the plan assumes above inflation increases producing an additional £500k of income per year by 2015/16.
<b>⑧Management Unit</b>	Efficiencies of £250k are targeted in this area.
<b>⑨Grounds Maintenance</b>	A reduction of £150k is proposed. This is linked to restructuring and moving to a more integrated workforce throughout Operations. However, there will also be some reductions in service (i.e. reducing the number of grass cuts).
<b>⑩Vehicle fleet</b>	The timing of the capital purchase of replacement refuse and grounds maintenance vehicles has been reviewed. Rephasing these purchases has led to a reduction of £750k in capital expenditure over four years.

#### Head of Planning Services

<b>①Development Management</b>	The budget assumes the same level of income but this is dependent upon economic activity. Charges for planning advice, currently free, may generate £40k p.a. additional income.
<b>②Planning Policy &amp; Conservation</b>	A one off addition to the budget to fund work on the A14 has now been deleted from the budget.
<b>③Economic Development</b>	A strategic capital project aimed at improving retailing and car parking in Huntingdon has recently been endorsed by the Cabinet.
<b>④Transportation Strategy</b>	Previous capital budgets totalling £300k for the local transport plans, safe cycling routes, St Neots and Ramsey transport strategies, accessibility improvements and signs have all been deleted from the plan.
<b>⑤Public Transport</b>	Concessionary Fares will transfer to the County Council in April 2011. Previous capital budgets for bus shelters and redevelopment of the Huntingdon Bus Station have all been deleted from the plan.
<b>⑥Management Units</b>	Reductions in planning policy and development management posts will immediately save £125k pa, whilst further reductions in support staff and transport schemes will save a further £95k pa from April 2012.

#### Head of Environmental Management Services

<b>①Public conveniences</b>	A small revenue budget is maintained pending discussions with Huntingdon Town Council. No capital expenditure is planned
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<b>②Environmental improvements</b>	The capital project relating to St Ives Town Centre (phase II) has been deleted from the plan. Previous capital budgets totalling £220k for small scale, village residential and AJC related projects have all been deleted from the plan.
<b>③Management Units</b>	Staff reductions will be introduced in line with the reduction in the capital programme. We will continue to pursue opportunities for sharing building control services. Revenue savings of £50k pa are targeted relating to environmental improvements.
<b>④Offices</b>	Staff reductions across the Council, and the introduction of hot desking following the promotion of home working and flexible working should release office space for letting. This may generate an income of £150k p.a.

#### Head of Customer Services

<b>①Community Initiatives</b>	Savings at Yaxley and Ramsey are targeted at £92k p.a.
<b>②Call Centre</b>	Reduce opening hours at the Call Centre by 2 hours each day (Open from 9am – 5pm) will save £20k pa Following the renegotiation of system support contracts, savings of £30k are expected.
<b>③Customer Service Centres</b>	Savings of £57k are targeted which include £43k pa from St Ives and £14k pa. from reducing opening hours at Huntingdon CSC by 30 minutes each day (Open from 9am – 4.30pm).
<b>④Management Units</b>	Efficiency savings of £115k are targeted some of which result from increasing benefits claims work over the internet.

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#### Head of Financial Services

<b>①Management Units</b>	Efficiency savings of £120,000 are identified of which £20k is shown as a “non-allocated” item below at this stage. Some is due to sharing our staff with other authorities.
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#### Head of IMD

<b>①IMD Services</b>	Staff reductions and other efficiency savings are targeted to rise to £180k within the plan period. This includes shared initiatives with other authorities. A further net saving will result from the virtualisation of desktop machines and a detailed business case will be completed by the end of March. Additional staff reductions will result from a reduction in the capital programme.
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## Head of Leisure

<b>① Leisure Services</b>	<p>Staffing efficiencies of around £300k are targeted. This will involve reducing opening hours in some centres at some times.</p> <p>A redevelopment of the St Ives indoor centre along the lines of the improvements in Huntingdon and St Neots is being designed with a view to generating £400k additional income net of costs.</p> <p>Once the above changes have been introduced investigations will commence to transfer responsibility for running, maintaining and developing the leisure business to a trust.</p> <p>Substantial capital investment is required in St Ives if this centre is to improve its profitability. Investment is subject to a business plan demonstrating that the investment is entirely self funding.</p>
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## Non-Allocated Items

<b>① Other items</b>	<p>Savings resulting from reductions in the number of senior staff and consequent reorganisations are expected to save £300k in the first 12 months. Over the course of the 4 year saving plan, further reductions in senior staffing are expected to bring this total to more than £700k per year. These savings are dependent upon further reorganisations and the development of more shared working.</p>
<b>② Other items</b>	<p>Over the period it is planned to negotiate a series of changes to pay, pay systems and allowances which are targeted to save £350k per year.</p>

**MAIN BUDGET/MTP ASSUMPTIONS****Employer's Pension Contributions**

Pension Contributions	Budget	Budget	MTP			
	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
% of pay	20.4%	17.8%	17.8%	17.8%	17.8%	17.8%
PLUS lump sum payments of		+£660k	+£896k	+£1,139k	+£1,378k	+£1,418k

This is less than the actuary's estimate of 17.8% plus £1.9M per year for 20 years which is what would be required if there were to be no changes to the scheme as a result of the Hutton review.

**Concessionary Fares**

Concessionary Fares will be transferred to the County Council from April 2011.

**New Homes Reward Grant**

New Homes Reward Grant	BUDGET	MTP			
	2011/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
New Homes Reward Grant	940	1,527	2,129	2,745	3,377

**Government General Grant**

General Grant *	Budget	Budget	MTP			
	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
Variation		-14%	-11%	-1%	-6%	+2.5%#
Grant	£M	£M	£M	£M	£M	£M
	12.9	10.4	9.3	9.2	8.7	8.9

\*Grant includes Revenue Support Grant and NNDR which are in aggregate distributed in line with the grant formula. Adjusted for transfer of Concessionary Fares to County Council from April 2011.

# assumes that there will be an inflationary increase after this 4 year spending round.

**Tax Base**

Tax Base	Budget	Budget	MTP			
	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
Base	58,580	59,460	59,924	60,388	60,852	61,316
Increase %		1.5%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%

**Inflation**

The biggest item will always be pay inflation and this has been included at 1% for April 2011 and 2012 with 2.5% thereafter. This should not be taken as an assumption that the actual award will be at or even around these levels but simply a current estimation that general pay rises may be at these sorts of level. This has a significant impact on spending levels.

	From	010/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15
	To	011/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
<b>prices</b>						
expenditure		2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
fees & charges		2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
<b>electricity</b>		-0.9%	3.7%	13.2%	6.0%	13.2%
<b>gas</b>		0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	3.4%	6.5%
<b>fuel</b>		2.9%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%

The electricity and gas inflation assumptions reflect the longer term contracts the Council has entered into.

### **Inflation on Capital Schemes**

2.5% per year has been included in total within the plan.

### **Interest Rates**

It has been assumed for the purpose of the forecast that in the short to mid term financing of capital expenditure will be on a temporary basis from internal reserves and short term borrowing given the much lower short term rates.

<b>Interest Rates</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>MTP</b>			
	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
<b>Investments</b>					
Already Fixed	4.45%	4.45%	4.85%		
Temporary	1.00%	2.75%	3.50%	4.25%	4.50%
<b>Borrowing</b>					
Already Fixed	3.91%	3.91%	3.91%	3.91%	3.91%
PWLB 40 year Maturity	5.33%	5.33%	5.33%	5.33%	5.33%
Mix of short and long	1.00%	2.75%	3.75%	4.79%	4.92%

### **Council Tax Level**

No increase in April 2011 and 2.5% increase per year thereafter.  
As a result a reward grant will be received from the Government for 4 years equivalent to a 2.5% increase.

### **Use of Revenue Reserves**

£10M is estimated to be available to allow phasing of savings over the next few years. This will leave £3M reserves to cover ongoing fluctuations in spending.

**FINANCIAL PLAN - SENSITIVITY AND RISKS**

The financial forecast model has been used to demonstrate the impact that variations in investment rates, borrowing rates and increases in pay will have in specific years.

UNIDENTIFIED SAVINGS REQUIRED IN YEAR **	2011/12	2015/16	2024/25
	£000	£000	£000
	£M	£M	
<b>Already required by MTP/Financial Plan</b>		<b>2.0</b>	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Increase in savings required:</b> (- numbers mean reduced savings)			
Extra 1% pay award in 2011/12 and 2% in 2012/13	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>
0.5% extra pay award per year from 2013/14 onwards		<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Extra 1% inflation per year 2011/12 onwards		<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.5</b>
1% higher interest rates 2011/12 onwards		<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>
1% extra employers pension contributions from 2014/15 .		<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>
1% cash decrease in Government Grant each year from 2013/14 onwards		<b>0.3</b>	<b>1.2</b>
5% (2.5% extra) Council Tax increase each year from 2013/14 onwards		<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-3.8</b>

\*\* The examples give the impact in the designated year, but funding the impact of any increased costs before those points would increase the accumulated spending adjustments required.

Inflation, other than pay, is fairly neutral as long as fees and charges are increased in line with it. If pay awards increase by more than forecast then further efficiency improvements would be needed to meet the impact.

The impact of investment rates is significantly diminished until borrowing begins to grow over the Medium Term. In the short term any spare funds will be used to temporarily delay the need to borrow externally.

**Risks**

<b>Risks and Unknowns</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
Impact of St Ives Guided Bus	Spring 2011
Length and depth of recession – impact on interest rates, pay inflation, house building, Council income and expenditure.	Ongoing
Government grant totals for 2013/14 onwards	November 2012
Review of grant formula	November 2012
Pension changes from Hutton review	Possibly March or June 2011

Other risks include:

- assumption that any costs of demographic growth will be met from further efficiencies

- difficulty in delivering the savings already identified or the spending targets inherent in this plan.
- further high priority service developments or unavoidable spending requirements emerging.
- the possibility of further VAT refunds and receiving compound rather than simple interest on these and the refunds already agreed.
- the potential for costs relating to “orphan” contaminated land sites.
- the potential for the statutory Disabled Facilities Grants budget to be exceeded if occupational therapists reduce the backlog.
- recycling gate fees changing as a result of movement in economic indices.
- additional costs if Civil Parking Enforcement introduced
- turnover of staff remaining low and hence the turnover allowance in the staffing budget not being achieved (some provision has been made for 2 years).
- national and local recycling levels are currently at a lower level than previously. If this were to continue the Council would see a reduction in its income from recycling credits.
- potential for significant costs to be awarded against the Council if any planning appeals are lost.
- contingent liability relating to MMI (£488k).
- increased leisure centre competition with the private sector (income is around £5M per year).

## **RESERVES AND THE ROBUSTNESS OF THE 2011/12 BUDGET**

The Local Government Act 2003 requires me, as the Council's Chief Financial Officer, to report on the robustness of the 2011/12 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 simply spending any spare sums on low priority items. This is expected to continue but the scale may fall due to the requirement for budget savings and the uncertain size and duration of the current recession.

The Internal Audit and Risk Manager considers that our internal financial controls are working adequately. There is also a sound system of financial monitoring and identification of any necessary budget variations that feeds into the budget/MTP process.

The 2011/12 budget has been prepared using the budget for 2010/11 as a base, and amending it for known changes, particularly:

- Inflation but only a 1% provision for pay awards – the most significant element. Also a saving of £375k on pay and allowances which reduces the net impact.
- The impact of MTP schemes
- Future interest rates.

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, or, if necessary, the use of revenue reserves.

The most significant potential risks to the budget are:

- Higher inflation or pay awards
- Further reductions in income due to the recession
- non-achievement of planned savings
- failure of a borrower
- an emergency (e.g. flooding)
- increased demands on housing services due to increased homelessness and/or applications for DFGs.

### **Reduced Income**

A 1% loss of income from fees, rents and charges would amount to around £150k. The Council is budgeting to receive income of:

- Car Parks £1.8M
- Leisure Centres £6.1M
- Property £1.9M
- Planning and Building Control Fees £1.5M

### **Planned Savings**

Many of the planned savings for 2011/12 have been confirmed as practical by the relevant manager.

### **Treasury Management**

The maximum permitted with one counterparty is £8M but this is only possible



where £3M of the sum is held in a liquidity account with that body. Liquidity Accounts allow recovery of investments on the same working day which substantially reduces the risk. Thus the practical limit is probably £5M which is limited to bodies with the highest credit rating or Building Societies with more than £2 billion in assets.

### **Emergencies**

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).

### **Inflation**

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 £200k.

### **Interest Rates**

A change in interest rates is not material.

### **Revenue Reserves**

These are estimated to be £13m at April 2011 and reduce to £9.4m by March 2012 in order to support revenue spending. This is still significantly above what would be considered a safe minimum level when considering the 2011/12 budget in isolation but clearly not excessive given their planned use over the next few years.

Therefore, even if a number of unexpected additional costs emerged there would still be sufficient funding to cover the deficit for 2011/12.

### **Conclusion**

Considering all these factors, I believe that the combination of a robust budget process and our current level of reserves should give Members no concerns over the Council's financial position for 2011/12.

However it remains critical that time is invested in planning the spending adjustments for future years to avoid the Council being rushed into sub-optimal decisions as its reserves are run down.

**Terry Parker**  
**Director of Commerce and Technology**

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## 2011/12 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (Report by the Head of Financial Services)

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Treasury Management Strategy ensures 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) Treasury Management **Code** of Practice, which is required by the Council's Code of Financial Management.
- 1.2 The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) issued new **Guidance** on local authority investments, which applied from April 2010. It reiterated the expectation in the existing 2004 guidance that Council approves an investment strategy before the start of each financial year.
- 1.3 The **Guidance** emphasises that priority must be given to the security (protecting the capital sums from loss) and liquidity of investments (keeping enough cash readily available) rather than the interest earned. The **Code** covers the same point by requiring the effective management and control of risk.
- 1.4 When the Government removed its limits on capital expenditure levels some years ago it introduced the concept of a Prudential Code which focussed attention on a set of indicators relating to capital expenditure, external debt and treasury management. Its purpose is to demonstrate that the Council's capital expenditure plans are affordable and it provides a set of limits, to be complied with, and indicators to be monitored during the relevant year. These Prudential Indicators are an annex to the Treasury Management Strategy.
- 1.5 The proposed Strategy (attached as Annex A) complies with the **Code** and the **Guidance**.
- 1.6 The Code requires the Council to nominate where the responsibility for scrutinising Treasury Management will be undertaken. It is proposed that this remains with the Economic Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Panel, as at present.
- 1.7 The member Treasury Management Advisory Group discussed the **Code** and **Guidance** and their comments have been incorporated in this Strategy. Overview and Scrutiny will consider the report on the 10 February and their comments will be available to the Cabinet. Council is then required to formally approve the Strategy and associated

indicators.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1** Cabinet is requested to recommend to Council that it approves
- a) The Treasury Management Strategy for 2011/12
  - b) The Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators for 2011/12

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

Background files in Accountancy Section: Treasury Management Reports  
Reports on the 2011/12 Budget and Medium Term Plan to Cabinet and Council

CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice 2009

ODPM Guidance on Local Government Investments March 2004

CLG Guidance on Local Government Investments November 2009

### **Contact Officer:**

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## TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2010/11

**Treasury Management is:**

- Ensuring the Council has sufficient cash to meet its day-to-day obligations
- Borrowing when necessary to fund capital expenditure, including borrowing in anticipation when rates are considered to be low
- Investing any surplus funds in a manner that balances low risk of default by the borrower with a fair rate of interest.

This Strategy explains how Treasury Management will be carried out in Huntingdonshire. It meets the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA's) Code of Practice (2009), as required by the Council's Code of Financial Management, and the Government's Guidance on Local Government Investments (2004) and draft guidance (2009)

### **BACKGROUND**

The bank base rate fell to 0.5% in March 2009 and has remained at that level ever since; economists generally agree that it will inevitably rise but significantly disagree on by how much and how soon!

Against the background of low interest and reducing revenue and capital balances the Council has sought to maximise the returns from its investments whilst minimising the risks of investing with a borrower that is, or may become, unable to repay. It therefore adopted a strategy for 2010/11 that did not concentrate its investments with the Government's Debt Management Office which are effectively risk-free, as they are backed by the Government, but with a significantly below base interest rate, and instead concentrated on highly rated institutions and the larger Building Societies. At the same time investments in "liquidity accounts" which offer repayment the same day were maximised to further reduce risk.

The 2010/11 Strategy allowed for borrowing in anticipation of need to fund capital expenditure although that option has not so far been used this year.

### **CURRENT POSITION**

The Council's position as at 31 December 2010 was:

INVESTMENTS	Principal Amount £m	Average Interest Rate %
Investments - maturing 2010/11	21	1.3
Investments - maturing later	10	4.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Short term Debt	0	
Long term Debt	10	3.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>Net Investments</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1.6</b>

## THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL STRATEGY

The table below, from the Council's Budget/MTP report, shows:

- how revenue reserves will fall to the basic level needed as a contingency against unexpected events,
- that capital reserves have effectively been used to fund capital expenditure,
- how borrowing will be required to meet planned capital expenditure. When this is carried out will depend on how low interest rates are perceived at any point in time. Hence "must" borrow levels reflect using other funds to delay until the last moment whilst "may" borrow levels show maximum borrowing in anticipation.

FORECAST	2010/11 £M	2011/12 £M	2012/13 £M	2013/14 £M	2014/15 £M	2015/16 £M
Revenue Reserves	13.0	9.4	6.6	5.0	3.3	3.0
Provision for repaying loans	0.2	0.9	2.0	3.3	5.0	6.9
Earmarked Reserves ❶	5.4	4.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
<b>Total Reserves (EOY)</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>13.4</b>
<b>Planned Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Funded from:						
new capital receipts	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
borrowing	6.8	11.6	3.0	2.7	2.1	2.4
<b>Borrowing (accumulated)</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>37.4</b>	<b>39.8</b>
To be funded from borrowing ❷						
Already borrowed	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
"Must" borrow ❸	0.0	14.9	15.5	13.5	15.6	16.4
"May" borrow ❹	35.1	29.8	33.9	38.0	42.3	46.7
<b>Budget ❺</b>						
Net Interest	-0.3	-0.1	0.2	0.6	0.8	0.9
Borrowing repayments	0.2	0.7	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.9

## Notes

- ① includes specific earmarked reserves (e.g. S106 and R&R Funds)
- ② takes account of fact that the £5m of the 10M borrowed in anticipation is invested until December 2012 and £5M to December 2013.
- ③ 2010/11 based on 2010/11 budget and MTP. Remaining figures assume approval of 2011/12 budget and MTP. All exclude the £10M already borrowed.
- ④ Based on no further borrowing in anticipation
- ⑤ Forecast
- ⑥ Includes £11.2M funded from borrowing pre 2010/11.

## BORROWING - CASH FLOW

In addition to the fundamental movements described above there are day-to-day impacts due to the flow of funds into and out of the Council. 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 physically received from Council Tax payers. These cash flows will sometimes leave the Council with several million pounds to borrow or to invest overnight or for a few weeks pending the next payroll or precept date.

Authorities are permitted to borrow short term for this purpose and funds are obtained from whoever is quoting the lowest rate for the period required. If rates are particularly high on a particular day then the sum may be borrowed overnight to see if rates are lower the following day for the remainder of the period required.

## BORROWING - CAPITAL

The amount and period of capital borrowing up until March 2012 will be dependent upon the actual levels of interest rates and how high or low they are perceived to be in a long term sense.

## BORROWING – IN ANTICIPATION

Although further borrowing is not **required** until part way through 2011/12 to fund the Capital Programme, effective treasury management requires a view to be taken on whether long term rates are judged to be low, even if the funds have then to be invested until the money is required, as this could be the lowest overall cost for the Council. For example, if long term rates fell to 4% we would be likely to move towards our “may” borrow limits as soon as possible whilst if long term rates were 5.5% and it were perceived that future rates would be lower, only the “must” borrow limits would be followed and, even then, the sums would be borrowed for a short period rather than locked into a long term arrangement.

Such early borrowing is permitted if it is for planned capital expenditure. The definition of planned expenditure is not precise and has therefore been discussed with our external auditor who is comfortable with the interpretation of it being amounts included in our approved MTP. Hence, the current figure is £35.1M but this will reduce to £29.8M for next year once the new MTP is approved in February.

However since such amounts will need to be invested temporarily until spent, the Council faces the risks of loss of the invested sum if the wrong counterparty is chosen and that borrowing rates may fall in the intervening period. The counterparty risk is considered within the investment section below and a range of interest rate possibilities would be considered before borrowing to minimise the chance of adverse movements removing the anticipated benefit.

Rates for long term PWLB money have been relatively high for many months and the Government also increased them in the Comprehensive Spending Review by 0.65%. It is therefore unlikely that there will be any early borrowing particularly as the revenue budget would have to 'take the hit' of the borrowing rates being higher than the temporary investment rate in the short to medium term. However history has shown that violent fluctuations can happen and so there needs to be the freedom to act if circumstances significantly change.

As far as possible the Council's revenue reserves will be used to temporarily fund capital spending and thus delay long-term capital borrowing unless there is a significant change in the interest rate structure.

## **BORROWING - PROFILE**

It is best practice to pool all funds and model future cash flow before determining the amounts that should be borrowed or invested and for how long. In doing this account will be taken of the provision that the Council is required to build up each to fund the repayment of debt.

The Council will be balancing two different aspects when deciding on the period it will borrow for.

- **Stability.** Avoid the risk of market movements affecting the borrowing cost adversely. To do this the logical option is to borrow the money for as long as needed.
- **Lowest Cost.** Minimise the overall cost of borrowing which, at the present time, might result in very short borrowing because of the very low interest rates available. However, future rates may rise significantly meaning that it was better to have paid more initially and borrowed longer.

The logical result is to spread the risk by borrowing for a range of periods. However, given the Council's current financial position it may be that, until interest rates have returned to normal relativities or there is sufficient certainty that they will do so, the Council should borrow from its own revenue reserves and or borrow short term for rates that are currently under 1%.

Much of our borrowing will tend to be from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) which is a Government Agency providing funds to local authorities at interest rates linked to the cost of central government borrowing. Commercial bodies have become more involved in lending to local authorities though their products are generally for shorter periods and often include embedded options. The most common is a LOBO, where the lender retains an option to



increase the interest rate after a number of years and the borrower has the right to repay if the new rate is not acceptable.

## **INVESTMENTS - CATEGORIES**

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

**Specified investments** are expected to offer relatively high security and/or liquidity. They must be:

- in sterling (avoiding exchange rate fluctuations) **and**,
- due to be repaid within 12 months (minimising capital value fluctuations on gilts and CDs and minimising the period within which a counterparty might get into difficulty) **and**,
- **not** defined as capital expenditure in the capital finance regulations 2003 (e.g. corporate bonds and equities) **and**,
- with a body that is of high credit quality or it is made with the UK Government, or a local authority. (minimising the counterparty risk)

These include time-deposits for up to 1 year with building societies and banks which the Council deems to have a high credit quality (see below), but it should be noted that early repayment, before the due date is rarely possible and may require a release fee.

**Non-specified investments** include longer deposits and other types of investment e.g. corporate bonds and equities.

The Council may use:

- Time Deposits of longer than 12 months with banks and building societies
- Corporate Bonds, if returns are clearly better than time deposits, but such investments will only be made following a risk assessment and consultation on the proposed limits, procedures and credit ratings with the Treasury Management Advisory Group. Use would be limited to Bonds that could be held to maturity thus avoiding fluctuations in capital value.
- Money market funds – these diversify investors' cash over a wide range of highly rated organisations and maturity dates, while allowing the investor to retain instant access to their cash.

## **INVESTMENTS – HIGH CREDIT QUALITY**

The term 'high credit quality' is used in the CLG guidance to encourage local authorities to monitor other measures of an institution's creditworthiness rather than just relying on credit ratings

CIPFA has issued guidance on possible sources of additional information in order to assess the credit worthiness of counterparties which are referred to below.

Whilst the Council will take some account of such additional information the main criteria for judging credit quality will be:

- Short term credit ratings (Definitions in Appendix A)
- Long-term credit ratings for any investment over 1 year.
- The top 25 Building Societies irrespective of any credit rating they may hold. Building societies have a much higher proportion of their funds covered by retail savings so are less at the risk of market volatility and their regulatory framework and insolvency regime means that the Council's deposits would be paid out before retail depositors. Experience in recent years includes a number of examples of the Government negotiating takeovers of weak societies by strong ones. A number do not bother with credit ratings because they all have an eligibility certificate under the UK Government Credit Guarantee Scheme
- Reacting immediately to same day notifications from our treasury management advisors (Sterling Consultancy Services) of changes to credit ratings or "rating" watch" warnings. This will often result in the counterparty being immediately removed from our list unless the content of the rating agency report shows this would be inappropriate.
- Reacting immediately to any informal comments from our advisors in relation to market concerns.
- Credit Default Swap prices obtained from our advisors.
- The credit rating of the country of the institution. For example the Council does not currently include banks in Ireland, Portugal and Greece on its counterparty list.

Financial statements and the financial press will not be systematically reviewed because the resources required are not available and it is expected that our advisors will make informal comments if they become aware of any significant items that affect our counterparty list. They also review our counterparty list every month.

### **INVESTMENTS – SPREADING THE RISK**

Credit quality can never be absolutely guaranteed so to further mitigate risks there is a need to spread investments in a number of ways:

- By counterparty where this includes any institutions that are linked in the same group
- By Country

These limits need to be a practical balance between safety and administrative efficiency and need to cope with the uncertainty of the amount of borrowing in anticipation. A table is therefore included in Appendix B which shows the limits for different levels of forward borrowing.

### **INVESTMENTS – PERIODS**

Once a time deposit is made there is no requirement for the borrower to repay until the end of the agreed period. Thus a borrower who has a high credit rating on the investment day could be in serious financial difficulties in the future. As a result significant use is made of liquidity accounts which currently

give an attractive interest rate but also allow repayment of our investment the same day.

## **INVESTMENTS IN-HOUSE MANAGEMENT**

All funds managed by external fund managers have been returned and so all future investments will be managed in-house.

Taking account of the Credit Quality and Spreading the Risk sections above Appendix B outlines the criteria for making investments.

There may be limited occasions, based on detailed cash flow forecasts, where some investments of more than a year might be made that do not relate to borrowing in anticipation.

Risk of counterparty failure can also be minimised by shortening the period of any time deposit. At the current time, partly reflecting the current interest rate structure, time deposits are generally kept below one month. The criteria also differentiates the duration of investments based on credit rating – the maximum duration of investments with building societies with a rating of BBB+ or lower and with no credit rating, will be 6 months.

Advantage is also being taken of liquidity accounts which are offering competitive rates for money on call i.e. it can be called back the same or next day if there was any concern about the institution.

The Council will need to approve a prudential indicator for the 'authorised limit for external debt'; which combines:

- temporary borrowing for cash flow purposes (£20M)
- long-term borrowing to fund capital expenditure of £40M (up to the £30M "may borrow" limit plus the £10M already borrowed)
- an allowance for other long-term liabilities, such as finance leases (£5M).

A maximum of **£65M** is therefore recommended.

## **ADVISORS**

The Council appointed Sterling Consultancy Services as Treasury Management Advisors in January 2008, however responsibility for final decision making remains with the Council and its officers

The Advisor carries out the following role:

- advice on investment decisions,
- notification of credit ratings and changes,
- general information on credit quality and informal comment on particular institutions,
- advice on borrowing and opportunities to borrow early
- economic data and interest rate forecasts
- advice and guidance on relevant policies, strategies and reports,

- accounting advice,
- reports on treasury performance,
- training courses.

The quality of the service is controlled by regular contact between the Advisors and officers. A retendering exercise will be undertaken to appoint Advisors from July 2011.

## **MANAGEMENT**

The Head of Financial Services and his staff will manage and monitor investments and borrowing.

The Treasury Management Advisory Group (TMAG) consists of three members of the Cabinet. They are kept informed of relevant issues and consulted on any significant issues.

## **REPORTING AND SCRUTINY**

The CIPFA Code requires that the body responsible for approving the budget also receives at least two reports during the year on treasury management. Therefore the Council will receive a six month report on the performance of the funds and an annual report on the performance for the year.

The Code also requires the Council to identify the body that will be responsible for the scrutiny of treasury management to ensure that it receives the appropriate focus. This is the Economic Well-being Overview & Scrutiny Panel.

## **TRAINING**

The needs of the Council's treasury management staff for training are assessed every 6 months as part of the staff appraisal process and additionally when the responsibilities of individual staff change.

The Code requires that Members charged with the governance of Treasury Management and those responsible for scrutiny have the necessary skills relevant to their responsibilities. A Member training event will be arranged during the year.

## **CHANGES TO THE STRATEGY**

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 the return on its net investments. Any 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 Treasury Management Advisory Group, where of any significance. All other changes to the strategy must be approved by the full Council.

## **TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS**

The Council's Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators are attached at Appendix C. They are based on data included in the budget report and this Strategy. They set various limits that allow officers to monitor its achievement. These indicators must be approved by the Council and can only be amended by the Council.

## Definition of Credit Ratings

	Rating	Definition	Examples of counterparties
Short term (Fitch)	F1	Shares rated in this category have the <b>most solid solvency levels</b> and the highest stock liquidity and enterprise value in the market.	Royal Bank of Scotland/NatWest (F1+)  Coventry Building Society
	F2	Shares rated in this category have <b>very good solvency levels</b> and stock liquidity and enterprise value in the market.	Co-operative Bank  Skipton Building Society
	F3	Shares rated in this category have a <b>combination of good or adequate solvency levels</b> and stock liquidity and enterprise value in the market.	Newcastle Building Society
Long-term (Fitch)	AAA	Highest credit quality. 'AAA' ratings denote the <b>lowest expectation of credit risk</b> . They are assigned only in case of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.	United Kingdom
	AA	Very high credit quality. 'AA' ratings denote <b>expectations of very low credit risk</b> . They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.	HSBC Bank
	AA-	The institution is at the lower end of very high credit quality	RBS/NatWest Nationwide
	A	High credit quality. 'A' ratings denote <b>expectations of low credit risk</b> . The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.	Coventry Building Society
	A-	The institution is at the lower end of high credit quality	Skipton Building Society

**IN-HOUSE FUND MANAGEMENT  
(IF NO FURTHER BORROWING IN ANTICIPATION)**

<b>Duration of investments</b>	No investment shall be longer than 5 years. Maximum duration for a Building Society with a rating of BBB+ or lower, or no credit rating, is 6 months																
<b>Types of investments</b>	Fixed term Deposits Deposits at call, two or seven day notice Corporate bonds Money market funds																
<b>Credit Ratings</b>	Excluding Building Societies Short term rating F1 by Fitch or equivalent) Long-term rating of AA- by Fitch or equivalent if the investment is longer than 1 year.																
<b>Maximum limits per counterparty (group), country or non-specified category</b>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">F1+ or have a legal position that guarantees repayment for the period of the investment</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">£5M</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">F1</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">£4M</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Building Society with assets over £2bn in top 25 (Currently 10)</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">£5M</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Building Society with assets over £1bn if in top 25 (Currently 3)</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">£4M</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Building Society with assets under £1bn in top 25</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">£3M</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Liquidity (Call) Account with a credit rating of F1+ or with a legal position that guarantees repayment or a Building Society.</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">£5M</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">BUT total invest with counterparty/group shall not exceed</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">£8M</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Money market fund AAA Credit rating</td> <td style="text-align: right; vertical-align: bottom;">£4m</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Limit for Non-specified investments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- £10M in time deposits more than one year</li> <li>- £5M in corporate bonds</li> <li>- £10M in total</li> </ul> <p><b>Country limits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UK - unlimited</li> <li>- £5M in a country outside the EU</li> <li>- £10M in a country within the EU (excluding UK)</li> <li>- £20M in EU countries combined (excluding UK)</li> </ul> <p>These limits will be applied when considering any new investment from 23 February 2011. Lower limits may be set during the course of the year or for later years to avoid too high a proportion of the Council's funds being with any one counterparty.</p>	F1+ or have a legal position that guarantees repayment for the period of the investment	£5M	F1	£4M	Building Society with assets over £2bn in top 25 (Currently 10)	£5M	Building Society with assets over £1bn if in top 25 (Currently 3)	£4M	Building Society with assets under £1bn in top 25	£3M	Liquidity (Call) Account with a credit rating of F1+ or with a legal position that guarantees repayment or a Building Society.	£5M	BUT total invest with counterparty/group shall not exceed	£8M	Money market fund AAA Credit rating	£4m
F1+ or have a legal position that guarantees repayment for the period of the investment	£5M																
F1	£4M																
Building Society with assets over £2bn in top 25 (Currently 10)	£5M																
Building Society with assets over £1bn if in top 25 (Currently 3)	£4M																
Building Society with assets under £1bn in top 25	£3M																
Liquidity (Call) Account with a credit rating of F1+ or with a legal position that guarantees repayment or a Building Society.	£5M																
BUT total invest with counterparty/group shall not exceed	£8M																
Money market fund AAA Credit rating	£4m																
<b>Benchmark</b>	LGC 7 day rate																

**INVESTMENT LIMITS FOR INCREASES IN BORROWING IN ANTICIPATION**

	Level of Borrowing in Anticipation		Rating Constraints
	from	£5M	£11M
	to	£10M	£20M
<b>SPECIFIED INVESTMENTS</b>			
<b>BUILDING SOCIETIES</b>			
Assets over £2bn	£5M	£5M	
Assets over £1bn	£4M	£4M	
Rest of top 25 by assets	£3M	£3M	
<b>BANKS &amp; OTHER INSTITUTIONS</b>			
F1+ or legal status	£5M	£5M	AA- if more than 1 year
F1	£4M	£4M	AA- if more than 1 year
<b>LIQUIDITY ACCOUNTS</b>			
Limit in liquidity account	£5M	£6M	F1+ or legal status
Limit with any other investments in institution	£8M	£9M	
<b>NON-SPECIFIED INVESTMENTS</b>			
Time Deposits over 1 year in total	£20M	£30M	
Corporate Bonds in total	£5M	£8M	Not yet determined
Total	£20M	£30M	
<b>TERRITORIAL LIMITS</b>			
UK	Unlimited		
EU (excluding UK)	£20M	£20M	
EU Country (other than UK)	£10M	£10M	
Any other Country	£5M	£5M	



**CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities  
Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Indicators for 2011/12**

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

## 1. Actual and Estimated Capital Expenditure

	2009/10 Actual £000	2010/11 Forecast £000	2011/12 Estimate £000	2012/13 Estimate £000	2013/14 Estimate £000
<b>Gross</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.0</b>

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

***The negative figures until 2010/11 reflect that the Authority was a net investor and that the net interest earned exceeded the small provision for the repayment of debt.***

2009/10 Actual	2010/11 Forecast	2011/12 Estimate	2012/13 Estimate	2013/14 Estimate
<b>-10%</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>9.8%</b>

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 changes to capital schemes (including their associated revenue implications) that are included in the budget/MTP.***

***The actual planned change in Council Tax is different because of the impact of significant non-capital variations, spending adjustments and the use of revenue reserves.***

	2011/12 Estimate	2012/13 Estimate	2013/14 Estimate
<b>Increase</b>	<b>£1.72</b>	<b>-£6.88</b>	<b>-£0.62</b>
<b>Cumulative</b>	<b>£1.72</b>	<b>-£5.16</b>	<b>-£5.78</b>

4. The capital financing requirement.

***This represents the need for the Authority to borrow to finance capital expenditure. Whilst the Authority has revenue reserves it will not have to borrow for capital purposes but may do so:***

31/3/10 Actual £M	2010/11 Forecast £M	2011/12 Estimate £M	2012/13 Estimate £M	2013/14 Estimate £M	2014/15 Estimate £M	2015/16 Estimate £M
11.2	18.0	29.6	32.6	35.3	37.4	39.8

**5. Net borrowing and the capital financing requirement**

'In order to ensure that over the medium term, net borrowing will only be for a capital purpose, the Authority should make sure that net external borrowing (borrowing less investments) does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current and next two financial years.'

***As long as the Council's reserves are sufficient to cover any shortfall that might occur on the revenue budget there will be no borrowing for revenue purposes, other than in the short term.***

***Revenue reserves are forecast at the end of the year to be:***

***2011/12 £9.4M***

***2012/13 £6.6M***

***2013/14 £5.0M***

***This should be more than adequate to cover any potential problems as long as unidentified spending adjustments are found by targeted dates.***

**EXTERNAL DEBT**

**6. The actual external borrowing at 31 March 2010  
£10m**

**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 the Authority to borrow up to £35.1m in 2010/11 (based on the 2010/11 Treasury Management Strategy) and up to an aggregate of £40m in 2011/12 to finance capital expenditure shown to be financed from borrowing in the Medium Term Plan period if it appears that long term rates are attractive. There is a provision for financing capital from leases. The remainder of the limit relates to temporary debt for Cash Flow Purposes.***

	2010/11 Limit £M	2011/12 Limit £M	2012/13 Estimate £M	2013/14 Estimate £M
Short term	20.0	20	20	20
Long Term	35.1	40	44	48
Other long-term liabilities (leases)	5.0	5	5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>73</b>

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. The short term and long term elements of the operational boundary will be monitored separately.***

	2011/12 Limit £M	2012/13 Estimate £M	2013/14 Estimate £M
Short term	15	15	15
Long term	40	44	48
Other long-term liabilities (leases)	5	5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>68</b>

9. Adoption of the CIPFA Code

**The Council adopted the 2001 edition of the CIPFA *Treasury Management Code of Practice*. Council will now adopt the 2009 edition of the Code**

## **TREASURY MANAGEMENT INDICATORS**

10. Exposure to investments with fixed interest and variable interest as a percentage of total investments. This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to interest rate risk. Investments of less than 12 months count as variable rate.

	2011/12 Limit	2012/13 Estimate	2013/14 Estimate
Upper limit on fixed rate exposure	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
Upper limit on variable rate exposure	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 11. Borrowing Repayment Profile

The proportion of 2011/12 borrowing that will mature in successive periods. This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to refinancing risk

***The first table refers to temporary borrowing for cash flow purposes; 100% will mature in less than 12 months.***

***Whilst long-term borrowing will often be for more than 10 years there are interest rate scenarios that might require shorter term borrowing on a temporary basis. This is particularly relevant in the coming year if short term rates remain so low.***

Cash flow borrowing	Upper limit	Lower limit
<b>Under 12 months</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Over 12 months</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>

Funding capital schemes	Upper limit	Lower limit
<b>Under 12 months</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>12 months and within 24 months</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>24 months and within 5 years</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>5 years and within 10 years</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>10 years and above</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>

## 12. Investment Repayment Profile

***Limit on the value of investments that cannot be redeemed within 364 days i.e. by the end of each financial year. The purpose of this indicator is to control the Council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments.***

	2011/12 Estimate £M	2012/13 Estimate £M	2013/14 Estimate £M
Limit on investments over 364 days as at 31 March each year.	<b>18.7</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>10.1</b>

## Huntingdonshire

district council

### REPORT CHECKLIST

(For completion with **all** Reports to be submitted to Council, Cabinet, Panels, Committees, etc.)

#### Essentials

- ▲ Subject Matter
- ▲ Lead Officer
- ▲ Contact Details
- ▲ Ward Councillor(s)
- ▲ Executive Portfolio
- ▲ Key Decision
- ▲ Inclusion on Forward Plan
- ▲ Confidential/Exempt paragraph(s)
- ▲ Date for Submission
- ▲ Compliance with Council's Standing Orders and Codes of Financial Management/ Procurement
- ▲ Risk Management – Has the author clearly explained the key management issues that have been considered and the mitigation proposed.

Asset Management Plan		
Keith Phillips, Estates and Property Manager		
01480 388260 Keith.Phillips@huntsdc.gov.uk		
Clr(s)	N/A	Necessary to consult on No
		Yes
		Yes
		No
COMT		25.1.2011
O&SP or other		10.2.2011
Cabinet		17.2.2011
		Yes
		Yes

#### Core Requirements

(The author is responsible for deciding whether it is appropriate/necessary to consult the following Officers)

- ▲ Financial Implications
- ▲ Legal Implications
- ▲ Human Resources and Health Safety Implications
- ▲ SI51 and Monitoring Officer Consent

Yes	H of FS	Sign Off
Yes	H of L&E	Sign Off
No	H of HR&P	Sign Off
No		

#### Policy and Strategic Framework

Cognisance with -

- ▲ "Growing Success" - Corporate Plan
- ▲ Equality Policies - Race  
- Disability  
- Gender
- ▲ Local Development Plan
- ▲ Sustainable Community Strategy

Yes
Yes
No
Yes

#### District Council Strategies, Policies and Plans

- ▲ Environment
- ▲ Crime & Disorder Reduction
- ▲ Local Transport

Yes
No

#### Press Release

No
----

**Authority to proceed**

Head of Service

Date


*\* Please delete as necessary*

## **AGENDA ITEM NO.**

### **CABINET MEETING**

**17<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

### **ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN**

(Report by the Head of Law, Property and Governance)

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the National Performance Indicators in respect of the Council's property portfolio for 2009/10. In addition related asset management issues are also drawn to the attention of Cabinet in section 4.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Information on property performance indicators, now called Performance Management Indicators (PMIs), has been produced on a regular basis since they were first introduced in 2002. For the year 2009/10, these are summarised in Appendix A together with a brief commentary including, where appropriate, comparison with other authorities using information from the IPF Asset Management Network (IPF). Section 3 highlights the main elements of these indicators.
- 2.2 Asset management was considered a key area of the use of resources assessment until the Comprehensive Area Assessments were ended by the current government. It is likely that some performance indicators relating to assets will be required.
- 2.3 For ease of collection of data and comparison purposes, figures for Castle Hill House and Centenary House have been used apart from for PMI 5A (Sufficiency, capacity and utilisation of offices) where these buildings have been excluded and the whole of Pathfinder House included.

#### **3. OUTCOMES**

- 3.1 The main changes between 2009 and 2010 and principal highlights are set out below. More detailed comments on the indicators are contained in appendix A.
  - There has been a further increase to 49% in the number of operational properties in the good category (PMI 1A).
  - The percentage of urgent repairs at 1% compares favourably with the IPF average of 10% (PMI 1B ii).
  - The total cost of required maintenance at £46 per square metre is less than half the IPF average of £116 per square metre (PMI 1B iii).

- Planned repairs increased from 42% to 50% although this is below the IPF average of 56% (PMI 1D iii).
- Energy and water costs are above the IPF averages (PMI 2) mainly because of the types of buildings.
- The suitability of operational property in the top categories (95%) compares favourably with the IPF average of 70% (PMI 3).
- The number of accessibility surveys has risen to 40% of all operational properties but is still below the national average (PMI 4).
- The gross property costs at 3.1% are below the IPF average of 5.2% (PMI 6A)
- Capital schemes are generally managed well in terms of time and costs compared to national averages (PMI 7).

#### **4. ASSET MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENTS**

##### **4.1 Achievements during 2009/10 have included:**

- Completion of the remaining buildings at Pathfinder House
- Extension to the Paxton Pits visitors centre
- Transfer of the new Ramsey Community Centre by the developer
- Disposal of land required for the new library at Ramsey
- Various leisure centre improvements throughout the district
- Commencement on site for the starter units scheme in St Ives

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

5.1 There has been a continued improvement over the previous year which demonstrates the Council's commitment to ensure that assets are provided and maintained in a fit and proper manner for the effective delivery of services.

5.2 The overall level of expenditure on repairs has generally been maintained and there is a further improvement in the percentage of planned maintenance rather than reactive repairs.

#### **6. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the report be received and the information in Appendix A be approved.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Estates Asset Management files. Report to Cabinet 21st January 2010

**Contact Officer:** K Phillips, Estates and Property Manager ☎ (01480) 388260



**APPENDIX A**

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
PROPERTY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2010**

**PMI 1 CONDITION AND REQUIRED MAINTENANCE**

1A. % of gross internal floor space in condition categories A-D

	<b>Operational</b>		<b>Non- operational</b>		<b>Total*</b>
	<b>31.3.09</b>	<b>31.3.10</b>	<b>31.3.09</b>	<b>31.3.10</b>	<b>31.3.10</b>
A. Good	47	49	19	19	39
B. Satisfactory	52	50	81	79	60
C. Poor	1	1	0	2	1
D. Bad	0	0	0	0	0

\* this combines the floor areas for both operational and non-operational property

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Operational Gross Internal Area (sq metres)	27,878	28,898
Non-Operational Gross Internal Area (sq m)	15,400	15,225

1B. Required maintenance by cost

(i) Total cost in priority levels 1-3:

	2008/09	2009/10
1. Urgent	£113,000	£20,000
2. Essential (2 years)	£1,698,000	£1,647,100
3. Desirable (3-5 years)	£2,226,000	£ 362,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,037,000</b>	<b>£2,029,100</b>

(ii) As a % in priority Levels 1-3:

	<b>Operational</b>		<b>Non-Operational</b>		<b>Combined</b>
	<b>31.3.09</b>	<b>31.3.10</b>	<b>31.3.09</b>	<b>31.3.10</b>	<b>31.3.10</b>
1. Urgent	3	0	2	5	1
2. Essential	43	48	37	26	44
3. Desirable	54	52	61	69	55
	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

	2008/09	2009/10
iii) Overall costs per square metre	£93	£46
1C. Annual % change to total required maintenance:	-3%	-50%
1D. (i) Total spend on maintenance:	£392,000	£434,100
(ii) Total spend on maintenance per sq metre:	£9.06	£10.10
(iii) Percentage of total maintenance: planned	42%	50%
responsive	58%	50%

#### Comments on PMI 1 - Condition and Required Maintenance

1. The purpose of this indicator is to measure the condition of assets, changes in condition and the spend on maintenance. It applies to all property where the Council has a repairing obligation.
2. In PMI 1A there has been a continued improvement in operational properties over the previous year with an increase in category A (good) to 49% while category B (satisfactory) is at 50%. These compare favourably with IPF averages of 17% (A) and 58% (B). The changes mainly reflect the expenditure at the leisure centres.
3. Approximately 74 % of the required maintenance by cost ( PMI 1B (i) ) relates to the leisure centre and 18% to non operational properties. With regard to the overall costs per sq metre (PMI B (iii)), the figure of £46 compares favourably with the IPF average of £116.
4. With regard to PMI 1B (ii) the percentage for urgent repairs (1% for both operational and non operational properties) is well below the IPF average of 10%.
5. Information in PMI 1D relates to the total expenditure on maintenance and the split between planned and responsive repairs. The planned percentage has continued to rise and has now reached 50% which is below the IPF average of 56%. Under best practice the aim is to move towards a higher percentage spend on planned repairs.

## PMI 2 ENVIRONMENTAL PROPERTY ISSUES

		<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
2A	Energy costs per square metre	£23.41	£24.51
	Energy consumption kwh per square metre	417	477
2B	Water costs per square metre	£3.17	£3.15
	Water consumption by volume m3 per square m	*	*
2C	CO2 emissions in tonnes per square metre	0.12	0.12

\* information has been collected on individual properties

### Comments on PMI 2 A, B and C – Environmental Property Issues

- 1 These figures apply to all operational buildings which includes 7 leisure buildings with 5 swimming pools. Not surprisingly, therefore, energy costs are above the IPF average of £11.96 and water costs are above the IPF average of £1.69 per square metre. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are above the IPF average of 0.06.
- 2 The purpose of these indicators is to encourage the efficient use of assets and to measure year on year improvements in energy efficiency. In June 2009, the Council adopted a Carbon Management Plan identifying projects and targets with the aspiration of delivering a 30% reduction in carbon emissions across its estate over a 5 year period up to 2012/13. There was small reduction in energy use in buildings during the year.
- 3 The next AMP report will be able to analyse figures for a full year following the PFH development and also take into account improvements at leisure centres. An assessment of the leisure centres has also taken place in 2010 with a view to seeking major savings in energy and water over a 2 year period.

## PMI 3 SUITABILITY SURVEYS – OPERATIONAL PROPERTY

		<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
3A	% of the portfolio by GIA :	100	100
3B	Number of properties :	39	42
3C	% graded satisfactory or above :	95%	95%

### Comments on PMI 3 A and B – Suitability Surveys

- 1 These surveys are required for all operational properties in order to determine whether buildings are fit for purpose. The assessments are based on the following criteria – location, accessibility, environment, health and safety, fixtures and fittings and image. The outcome of the annual desktop review is summarised below:

Score out of 30	2009	2010
1-6 Unsuitable	0	0
7-12 Poor	2	2
13-18 Satisfactory	11	12
19-24 Good	24	22
25-30 Very Good	3	6
Total	40	42

- The suitability assessments have been carried out for all Council operational properties and compare favourably with the IPF average of approximately 77%. The two buildings rated poor are the public conveniences in South Street, St Neots (now closed) and the Octagon storage depot in St Ives. Reviews will be carried out annually in order to reflect improvements undertaken during the year.

#### **PMI 4 BUILDING ACCESSIBILITY SURVEYS –OPERATIONAL PROPERTY**

Access audit undertaken:	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
4A % of the portfolio by GIA :	31%	40%
4B Number of properties :	12	13
Accessibility plan in place		
4C % of portfolio :	31%	40%
4D Number of properties :	12	13

#### Comments on PMI 4 A, B, C and D – Building Accessibility Surveys

- These are required for all operational properties and the surveys have to be carried out by a competent person. An access audit is defined as “an examination of a building, its facilities or services reported on against predetermined criteria to assess its ease of use by disabled people”. After the audit an accessibility plan is drawn up to identify the actions necessary.
- While progress continues to be made, the percentage of properties with an access audit is below the IPF average of 82%. The Facilities Manager will be undertaking further assessments during the current year.

## PM1 5 SUFFICIENCY (CAPACITY AND UTILISATION) –OFFICES

For financial year ending 31 <sup>st</sup> March		2008/09	2009/10
5A.1 (a)	Operational office property as a percentage of the total portfolio	18%	17%
(b)	Office space per head of population (per square metre)	0.045	0.049
5A.2	Net office space as a % of total floor space in operational buildings	80%	80%
5A.3 (a)	Number of offices shared with other public agencies	2	3
(b)	Percentage of office buildings shared	20%	43%
5B.1	Average floor space per office staff	Not assessed	
5B.2	Average floor space per workstation	Not assessed	
5B.3	Annual property cost per workstation	Not assessed	

### Comments on PMI 5 A and B – Sufficiency (capacity and utilisation) Office Portfolio

- 1 The purpose of this indicator introduced in 2007 is to measure the capacity and utilisation of the office portfolio.
- 2 Information has been provided for PMI 5A but not yet for PMI 5B in view of the recent changes in office accommodation. It is intended to refine these in due course so that more accurate information will be available.
- 3 The calculation for PMI 5A.1 (a) has been amended to reflect a percentage of the total portfolio including non operational property.
- 4 The assessment for PMI 5A.2 is an estimate as no detailed calculations have been undertaken.

<b>PM1 6 SPEND ON PROPERTY</b>		<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>
6A	Gross property costs of operational estate as a percentage of the gross revenue budget	3.2%	3.1%
6B	Gross property costs per square metre for operational property	£78	£79

Comments on PMI 6 A and B – Spend and Property

- 1 This indicator aims to measure the overall property costs and changes in costs over time.
- 2 The percentage figure is below the IPF average of 5.23%.

<b>PM1 7 TIME AND COST PREDICTABILITY</b>		<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>
7A	Time predictability, design	75%	78%
7B	Time predictability, post contract	75%	78%
7C	Cost predictability, design	87%	89%
7D	Cost predictability, post contract	87%	89%

Comments on PMI 7 A, B, C and D – Time and Cost Predictability

1. There were 9 applicable schemes in 2009/10 (8 schemes in 2008/09)
2. This indicator relates to all projects over £50k. The Council's performance compares favourably with the IPF averages of 72% (7A), 64% (7B), 64% (7C) and 68% (7D). This confirms that building contracts are generally managed within acceptable time and cost limits.

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY  
CABINET  
COUNCIL**

**8<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY  
17<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY  
23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY**

## **NEW LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN (LTP3) (Report by Head of Planning Services)**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Local Transport Plan (LTP) is an important County-wide document which sets out transport policies and programmes for several years ahead. The current LTP is the second Cambridgeshire LTP and covers the period 2006 - 2011.
- 1.2 The County Council is required to produce a third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) for the period from April 2011. The new plan must be in place by 31st March 2011 and, as part of its formulation, the County Council is required to consult District Councils and other key stakeholders.
- 1.3 LTP3 consists of two parts:
  1. Policies and Strategy
  2. Implementation Plan

### **2. LTP3 POLICIES AND STRATEGY**

- 2.1 As an initial stage of LTP3 development, the County Council carried out consultation between January and July 2010. This resulted in a low response rate (0.5%), but those who responded identified improvements to public transport infrastructure and improving roads as the most important transport improvements for LTP3.
- 2.2 Following public consultation, the County Council have developed the Policies and Strategy of LTP3. Appendix A contains the Executive Summary to the LTP3 Policies and Strategy document. HDC officers have been consulted as part of this process and have contributed to the final documents.

### **3. LTP3 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

- 3.1 The development of the Implementation Plan has been delayed by the late announcement (13 December) of the level of transport capital grants. Although the level of maintenance funding has not been greatly reduced, the funding for new ("integrated transport") schemes is about

half the level of the last 5 years. Appendix B contains the Executive Summary to the LTP3 Implementation Plan document.

- 3.3 Appendix C summarises the County's draft programme for 2011/12. The draft programme keeps maintenance funding at near 2010/11 levels, but the Integrated Transport Block is about half of 2010/11 allocation levels. Programme funding is likely to stay at this greatly reduced level, as set out in the following table:

Programme Area	Av. funding 2006/07 – 10/11	LTP3 funding		Indicative funding		Av. cut from LTP2
		2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	
Integrated Transport	£8.431M	£3.805M	£4.059M	£4.059M	£5.707M	-48%
Maintenance	£11.658M	£10.712M	£10.695M	£10.801M	£10.104M	-9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£20.089M</b>	<b>£14.517M</b>	<b>£14.754M</b>	<b>£14.860M</b>	<b>£15.811M</b>	<b>-25%</b>

#### 4. IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The LTP is the County Council's major source of maintenance and general transport funding. The major reductions in the Integrated Transport funding described above will impact significantly upon the County's ability to deliver improved transport infrastructure, both generally and in Huntingdonshire. These reductions follow on from the withdrawal of over £2m of funding from Cambridgeshire's Integrated Transport allocation, as part of the Government's emergency budget of June 2010.
- 4.2 The loss of Government funding for transport schemes will be compounded by HDC's financial position. Over the past 10 years, the Council has included significant capital funding for transport related projects in its Medium Term Plan. This has delivered well in excess of £2M of District Council funded transport benefits for Huntingdonshire. For LTP3, however, the Council's draft budget does not provide such financial support. The Council will thus be wholly dependent on funding from external sources, principally from the much reduced Government allocations and development related funding.
- 4.3 In responding to the proposed LTP3, it is recommended that the Council's main comment is to express concern at the greatly reduced level of Integrated Block funding. In view of this, we would encourage the County Council to pursue all possible alternative sources of funding, including from the recently announced Local Sustainable Transport Fund.
- 4.4 In addition to commenting upon the proposals, we are required to provide a Huntingdonshire District Council Statement for inclusion in



the LTP3 Appendices. A draft statement is attached, as Appendix D. This statement reflects the current funding difficulties, as well as ongoing concerns about delays in implementing schemes

## **5. RECOMMENDATION**

5.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet recommend to Council that:

- i) The Council supports the Huntingdonshire District Statement for inclusion in LTP3, as set out in Appendix D of this report. and forwards this to the County Council
- ii) Expresses regret to the County Council about the greatly reduced overall funding for LTP3, but encourages the County Council to pursue all possible alternative sources of funding, including from the recently announced Local Sustainable Transport Fund.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

LTP 2 – 2006-2011

LTP3 Executive Summaries (Appendices A and B of this report)

**Contact**                      **Stuart Bell and Barry Louth**

**Officers:**



**01480 388387 and 388441**

## Appendix A

### LTP3 Policies and Strategy Executive Summary

This is Cambridgeshire's Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) and covers the period 2011-2026.

The Plan is split in to two main parts; this first part is the Policies and Strategy, which sets out the Plan's objectives, problems and challenges, the strategy to meet the challenges, and the indicators and targets we will use to monitor our performance.

The second part is the Implementation Plan, which is essentially a business plan detailing how we will deliver the LTP3 Strategy. It details our programmes for the delivery of transport improvements to the networks managed by the County Council, and also for the day-to-day management and maintenance of the network. It sets out the schemes and measures we expect to deliver in the first year of the Plan in detail, and sets out the processes by which future years' programmes will be developed.

The LTP demonstrates how our policies and plans for transport will contribute towards the County Council's vision – Creating communities where people want to live and work: now and in the future. While we must have a vision for the future, we must also be realistic and recognise that we do not have the resources to deliver all of the measures we would wish to over the lifetime of the Plan. Indeed, given the current economic climate, our ability to implement schemes in the short-term may be particularly limited, although we will try and be innovative in the way that we use funds that are available. In this respect, it is important that the LTP sets the policy framework that leaves us well prepared to take advantage of opportunities that may occur to bring in additional or alternative funding and resources.

As a flexible and dynamic document, the LTP Strategy will be updated to reflect changes in the wider local and national policy context as and when needed, and the Implementation Plan will be updated on an annual basis.

As with our previous Plans, this LTP3 has been produced in partnership with Cambridge City Council and the district councils of East Cambridgeshire, Fenland, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire. We have had a strong working relationship for many years and have been very successful in bringing together the planning and transport responsibilities of these authorities, to ensure an integrated approach to the challenges.

LTP3 seeks to address existing transport challenges as well as setting out the policies and strategies to ensure that planned large-scale development can take place in the county in a sustainable way. In addition to working with Cambridge City and the District Councils, our Strategy and Implementation Plan have also been informed by public and stakeholder consultation, so that these documents reflect local people's views and concerns.

This LTP has been produced during a period of significant change, particularly in terms of the regional planning framework and tough financial climate. However, the County Council is committed to its overarching vision – Creating communities where people want to live and work: now and in the future - and this is reflected in this LTP by mirroring the County Council's Strategic Objectives as the core objectives of LTP3.

## Objectives and challenges

The County Council's Strategic Objectives, which form the objectives of this LTP, are:

- (a) Enabling people to thrive, achieve their potential and improve quality of life
- (b) Supporting and protecting vulnerable people
- (c) Managing and delivering the growth and development of sustainable communities
- (d) Promoting improved skills levels and economic prosperity across the county, helping people into jobs and encouraging enterprise
- (e) Meeting the challenges of climate change and enhancing the natural environment

In response to Government's priorities – the economy and climate change – and the views expressed locally in our public and stakeholder consultation, relatively greater importance will be placed on Objectives 3, 4 and 5 in this LTP. We recognise that for transport to contribute to the achievement of the County Council's Strategic Objectives there is a need for input from all Council departments and partnerships. The strategy will need to strike a balance between enabling economic growth and tackling climate change.

Key among the issues affecting Cambridgeshire is the large-scale growth planned across the county, with the associated pressure on the transport network and the environment, and the risks of increased congestion and carbon emissions and worsening air quality. In parallel, many rural areas of the county continue to suffer from poor access to key services and leisure facilities and the risk of social exclusion. We have translated the issues and problems related to each of the objectives, into a set of eight challenges for transport, under which, we have set out our strategy for addressing them. The challenges and summarised strategies are:

### **Challenge 1: Improving the reliability of journey times by managing demand for road space and maximising the capacity and efficiency of the existing network**

We will continue to investigate the potential for demand management measures using the experience we have already gained within the county where these can help to improve conditions for sustainable modes of transport and maximising the capacity of the network. Furthermore, we will support measures which encourage the transfer of more freight onto rail and continue to work with freight operators to promote the use of the most appropriate routes for road freight, particularly where that is passing through the county.

### **Challenge 2: Reducing the length of the commute and the need to travel by private car**

Our transport strategy supports the development strategy for Cambridgeshire by aiming to reduce the need to travel and by providing sustainable travel options for new developments. We will focus on securing school, workplace and residential travel plans and support and encourage employers to adopt smarter choices measures to help reduce the need to travel. We will also support and encourage journey planning tools to improve information available for journeys by sustainable modes.

### **Challenge 3: Making sustainable modes of transport a viable and attractive alternative to the private car**

Countywide, we will continue to push forward in making sustainable modes of transport more attractive by continuing to develop sustainable networks for walking and cycling, making it easier for people to change between modes of transport and working with bus operators to provide high quality bus services. In addition, our aim is to improve the environment and safety for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users, in accordance with our user hierarchy and focus on raising awareness of the transport choices available, including the health and environmental benefits of cycling and walking. This will include work with local planning authorities to ensure provision for sustainable modes that form an integral part of new developments.

### **Challenge 4: Future-proofing our maintenance strategy and new transport infrastructure to cope with the effects of climate change**

To address these issues our strategy will use a risk management approach to help determine priority areas for adapting to climate change. We have developed an adaptation action plan to set out how we will meet our objectives. We will take account of the projected impacts of climate change at the scheme design stage, make use of emerging technologies as they become available and build new infrastructure to the latest standards for withstanding the impacts of climate change.

### **Challenge 5: Ensuring people – especially those at risk of social exclusion – can access the services they need within reasonable time, cost and effort wherever they live in the county**

Our strategy focuses on access to key services for our communities to the nearest main service centre, e.g. large village or market town. We will consider the whole journey, including the interaction between different modes of transport and aiming to provide suitable transport provision for necessary journeys, whilst also recognising the importance of car borne access in many of our rural areas. We will continue to support the development and work of community transport schemes as well as investigating alternative forms of public transport where traditional bus services do not meet community needs. This will include work with service providers to be innovative in the way services are delivered locally recognising that it is not simply about providing a transport service but as much about where and how the service is provided based on need.

### **Challenge 6: Addressing the main causes of road accidents in Cambridgeshire**

To continue to reduce casualties our strategy will focus on education, training and publicity to improve road user behaviour, particularly targeting young drivers and riders, users of rural roads and children. In addition, we will progress our programme of measures aimed at reducing casualties at accident cluster sites that will give the highest casualty reduction and work with the police and other agencies through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership.

### **Challenge 7: Protecting and enhancing the natural environment by minimising the environmental impact of transport**

Our strategy to protect and enhance the environment will focus on working with the district councils to reduce levels of air pollution in order to meet national objectives. This will be achieved through managing and reducing vehicle emissions and encouraging increased usage of sustainable modes of transport. Additional demand management measures will also be investigated where appropriate in order to manage car use and we will investigate the use of new technologies as they become available. Environmental issues such as protecting biodiversity and impacts on the landscape will be considered at the design stage of transport projects and we will

support the provision of green infrastructure. Furthermore, we will reduce carbon emissions through a programme of smarter choices measures, improvements to sustainable travel options and the management of car use.

### **Challenge 8: Influencing national and local decisions on land-use and transport planning that impact on routes through Cambridgeshire**

We will reflect national policies in our local plans, policies and strategies and continue to lobby for rail improvements as well as improvements to the trunk road network, including the A14.

While aiming to address all the challenges we have identified, the main focus of our strategy will be on measures and initiatives that maintain and enhance the economy and also those that tackle climate change. This reflects both the outcomes from public and stakeholder consultation as well as the direction of national transport policy. The strategy recognises the tensions between enabling economic growth and tackling climate change, and will aim to balance the two objectives.

### **Monitoring and performance**

Monitoring the effectiveness of our Strategy and Implementation Plan is a key part of our LTP. We want to ensure that the delivery of our Plan is as effective as possible and is providing value for money, and therefore have a robust monitoring framework of indicators and targets to check our progress towards delivering our strategy and achieving our objectives. The indicators we have chosen reflect the issues which are most important to Cambridgeshire while at the same time enabling us to compare our progress against other local authorities in the country.

### **Conclusion**

Our LTP3 Strategy and Implementation Plan set out how we will help to address existing transport related problems and meet the transport needs of the large-scale development planned for the county. It is important that our strategy provides the right balance between being aspirational, and outlining what we want to achieve against a backdrop, in the shorter term at least, of significantly less funding than during previous LTP periods whilst still being able to respond to the changing environment as and when needed .

As such, our LTP3 is a flexible and dynamic suite of documents which will respond to the changing environment, as and when needed. This LTP aims to provide maximum value for money through close partnership working, by closely integrating our Strategy and Implementation Plan and by monitoring our performance against indicators relevant to local communities.

## Appendix B

### LTP3 Implementation Plan Executive Summary

This Implementation Plan is the second of the two core documents in the suite of documents that make up the Third Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan (LTP3). It shows how the Implementation Plan fits in with and draws from the LTP Policies and Strategy, and from policy guidance, key objectives and more detailed local strategies.

As the mechanism for managing our delivery of the whole LTP, the Implementation Plan is essentially a business plan detailing how we will deliver the LTP Strategy. It details our programmes for the delivery of transport improvements to the networks managed by the County Council, and also for the day-to-day management and maintenance of the network. It sets out the schemes and measures we expect to deliver over the first year of the plan in detail, and sets out the processes by which future years' programmes will be developed.

The Transport Capital Programme for 2011/12 focuses on the delivery of improvements to the transport network in Cambridgeshire, and the undertaking of major maintenance schemes. The types of measures that are funded from this programme include:

- Traffic calming schemes
- Pedestrian crossings
- Major road maintenance and structural maintenance schemes
- Cycleway schemes
- Junction improvements
- Major schemes (e.g. Guided Busway, Papworth Everard Bypass)

The Transport Revenue Programme for 2011/12 focuses on the day-to-day management and maintenance of the local transport network in Cambridgeshire. The types of measures that are funded from this programme include:

- Routine ongoing minor maintenance (e.g. pothole filling, gully emptying, grass cutting)
- Road safety education
- Winter maintenance
- Travel planning with schools and businesses
- Supported bus services / concessionary bus fares
- School crossing patrols

Funding levels for at least the first four years of this plan will be extremely challenging, with cuts to core funding of around 25% from levels seen over the period of the second Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan (LTP2). There are new opportunities such as the Regional Growth Fund and the Sustainable Transport Fund, but these are bidding funds, and cannot be relied upon to supplement our reduced core budgets.

The significant challenges that the current funding environment brings therefore requires the County Council and its partners to review not only the scope of the programmes that can be delivered, but also the organisational structures that deliver them.

We have therefore set out the process which we will undertake through 2011 to develop the detailed programme for 2012/13 onwards. A detailed programme looking a year ahead will be maintained, along with a less detailed programme setting out the expected expenditure in programme areas of the following 3-4 years. Both will be

updated on an annual basis, to ensure that the Implementation Plan remains aligned with our District Councils' Local Development Frameworks (LDFs) and the needs of partner delivery agencies, local stakeholders and the public.

The 2011/12 programme addresses the views of stakeholders and communities by reflecting their views on our LTP objectives and priority areas. For future years, work will be undertaken in 2011 to consider areas or programmes where decision making on priorities and schemes can be devolved to a more local level, but also to identify those areas where it will remain critical to maintain the strategic overview needed to ensure the safe and effective operation of the transport network.

Effective programme management and monitoring of performance is essential if the best possible outcomes are to be achieved from available resources, particularly in times when funding and resources are reducing. Cambridgeshire County Council seeks to ensure that the management of its transport programmes is effective and appropriate, and is accountable to Members of the Council, the Council's partners and the wider community in Cambridgeshire.

## Appendix C

### Draft LTP3 Programme, 2011/12

Integrated Transport Block Programme Area	LTP3 funding (£000's)
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<b>Countywide programmes</b>	
Accessibility Works	31
Air Quality Monitoring	15
Civil Parking Enforcement	200
Cycleway Improvements (countywide)	120
Jointly Funded Minor Improvements	200
Major Roadworks	90
Major Scheme Development	100
New Footpaths / Rural Pedestrian Improvements	50
Safety Schemes (Small and Medium size)	250
Speed Management	76
Strategy Development	100
<b>Cambridge and the Market Towns</b>	
Cambridge Access Strategy	180
Market Town Transport Strategy schemes	500
Major Project - St Neots Cycle Bridge	500
Bus Infrastructure - Huntingdon	50
<b>Smarter Travel Management</b>	
HCV Routing	40
Personalised Travel Plan	55
Travel for Work	40
Safer Routes to School	100
Traveline development	15
<b>Guided Busway Contribution</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Integrated Transport Block Total</b>	<b>3,712</b>



<b>Maintenance Block Programme Area</b>	<b>LTP3 funding (£000's)</b>
<b>Carriageway / Footway Maintenance</b>	
Carriageway maintenance – Non Principal	
Carriageway maintenance – Principal	7,161
Footway Maintenance and Cycle Paths	
Rights of Way	140
<b>Street Lighting</b>	<b>140</b>
<b>Structural Maintenance</b>	
Strengthening of Bridges to carry 40 tonne loading	
Structural Maintenance of existing highway structures	2,448
<b>Traffic Management</b>	
Traffic Signal Replacement	600
Integrated Highways Management Centre	179
Real Time Passenger Information	137
<b>Maintenance Block Total</b>	<b>10,805</b>

### LTP3 – Huntingdonshire District Council Statement

#### Introduction

Transport remains a key issue for this Council. Huntingdonshire, as part of the Cambridge Sub-Region, is an area that continues to experience major housing and economic growth. This places demands on transport infrastructure and several major developments require major transport infrastructure improvements to proceed. This is particularly the case in the A14 and A428 corridors

This Council has been an active partner in the delivery of previous LTPs and in the preparation of the new LTP. We intend to remain as active a partner as possible in delivering the policies and action plans of the new LTP across Huntingdonshire. However, our ability to do this will be severely constrained by ongoing local government funding issues. Despite this, we will continue to support the provision of travel choice and the reduction of social exclusion, together with transport related improvements to the environment and local economy.

We will continue to work with a range of partners, including Cambridgeshire County Council, to deliver benefits throughout Huntingdonshire, subject to available resources. We will also continue to participate in the Huntingdonshire Strategic Partnership and to pursue the Community Plan transport objectives, which are:

- Comprehensive, affordable, safe public transport services
- Improved road safety
- Reduced congestion
- Improved access

#### Key Issues

##### Funding

We have included significant capital funding for transport related projects in this Council's Medium Term Plan over the past 10 years. This has been in addition to funding from County and other partners and, for the period 2006-2011, has delivered in excess of £2M of District Council funded transport related expenditure for the benefit of Huntingdonshire. For this new LTP, however, we will not be able to deliver a similar programme to support the aims and objectives of the Plan. We will thus be wholly dependent on funding from external sources, principally Government and development related funding.

##### Prioritisation

In view of the severe funding constraints, there needs to be clear prioritisation of how LTP3 funding will be allocated. We would advocate the following approach:

- Priority should be given to distributing LTP funding throughout Cambridgeshire, according to need. Spending should be spread across the County, particularly in and around market towns which are experiencing significant growth, rather than just concentrating expenditure in growth areas around Cambridge.

- The application of a modal hierarchy, which gives priority to sustainable modes, in line with *Manual for Streets* and *Cambridgeshire Design Guide* principles. This should include prioritising revenue expenditure, particularly for maintenance, – e.g by giving priority to bus stop, footway and cycleway maintenance, including winter maintenance.
- Balancing the amount allocated for revenue expenditure (e.g. road maintenance, public transport subsidy) with commitments to major capital expenditure. Although capital investment is necessary, this should not starve revenue funding, particularly for highway maintenance.

In setting priorities, there should be full consideration of the area specific transport needs of Huntingdonshire, including:

- Access to strategic centres such as Cambridge, Peterborough and Bedford, particularly along on the A14 and A428 corridors.
- Sustainable transport within, to, and between market towns.
- Rural transport improvements to improve the accessibility of specific areas - a different approach (and priority) may be needed for more and less prosperous areas of the District.

### **Sustainable Development**

A key role for the LTP is to address the transport needs of major development areas in Huntingdonshire and elsewhere. There is currently uncertainty about the future shape of strategic land-use planning, but we will base our strategic land use plans on our Local Development Framework Core Strategy, which was adopted in 2009. A central theme of the Core Strategy is the pursuit of sustainable development (Policy CS1), which includes linking land-use and transport planning and the need to improve access and modal choice for all.

The Core Strategy emphasises the need for contributions to transport (and other) infrastructure requirements (Policy CS10). With reducing Government funding, future transport funding may need to increasingly come from development. We will thus work in conjunction with the County Council and continue to secure as high a level of developer contributions as possible through initiatives such as Market Town Transport Strategies and other approved transport related initiatives where there is development-related impact. In support of this, we intend to pursue the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy as a basis for contributions, as well as considering wider application of area transport plans to outside Cambridge in order to give extra weight to these processes.

At a more detailed level, we welcome the support within LTP3 to *Manual for Streets* principles, including support for a modal hierarchy. With support from the County, we will require developers to design around *Manual for Streets* principles and will judge proposed designs on the basis of those principles. In support of this we will continue to make travel planning (encouraging walking, cycling and public transport use) a requirement of major development.

### **A14 Corridor**

We are extremely disappointed that the proposed A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton highway improvement scheme was deleted from the National Roads Programme in the 2010 Comprehensive Spending Review. This scheme remains crucial to Huntingdonshire as well as the wider region and the rest of the country given its national and European strategic importance.

We are working closely with partners, including the County Council, other District Councils and the emerging Local Enterprise Partnership, to encourage the Department for Transport to initiate a study focussed on finding an affordable solution. As partners to this process the Council will need to look to have a much stronger statement of what will be done to promote improvements, including investigating alternative means of funding and delivery. There also needs to be urgent consideration of the impact on the corridor between Huntingdon and Cambridge and, particularly within Huntingdon and St. Ives (and elsewhere) if the scheme does not go ahead, including the future of the Huntingdon viaduct, the loss of development potential and air quality implications.

### **Huntingdon to Cambridge Guided Bus**

It is to be hoped that the current impasse in the opening of the guided part of the route will be resolved in the near future.

We have worked with the County Council to try and get improvements on the unguided (Huntingdon to St Ives) section but, apart from the successful bus priorities and resultant improved services between Huntingdon rail and bus stations, there have been no effective improvements. The routeing and stopping difficulties within St Ives have not yet been addressed. We are 'slightly encouraged' that priority measures remain in the plan between Huntingdon and St. Ives following representations from this Council, despite the scheme being a casualty of recent budget cuts. We remain concerned that without wider routeing issues being addressed, the effectiveness of the Busway between St. Ives and Cambridge will be prejudiced and fail to attract new passengers who otherwise may have travelled along the A14.

### **Bus Services**

Good bus services are essential to Huntingdonshire to ensure accessibility and social inclusion. We will continue to secure improvements to bus services through development, and as Local Planning Authority, will not approve major developments unless there is a high standard of bus provision. We have been committed to improving bus infrastructure, and have contributed £30K per annum to bus shelters. This increased to £100K in 2010/11. From 2011 onwards we will not be able to do this and so will look to the County and other sources for funding.

We would like to see Quality Bus Partnerships / Contracts in Huntingdonshire and continue to press the County Council on this matter. It is particularly disappointing that, despite all the assurances that much would happen as a result of LTP2, very little has actually been delivered within the District. By using these, the County can secure improvements in vehicle quality and service frequency from operators by agreeing, in return, to implement on-street bus priority and bus stop improvements measures. This seems to be supported in the new LTP, but it is not stated where this will be promoted – only "as appropriate". We wish to see a much more definite approach, which includes firm proposals for Huntingdonshire services. In particular, we wish to see real time passenger information at all our bus stops. Some stops have this facility, but the roll-out has been far too infrequent and stalled and also subject to recent budget cuts. We wish to see a programme reinstated in Huntingdonshire so that all our bus stops are provided with real time information in the near future.

We also support the use of Quality Bus Partnerships to ensure that public transport operators use increasingly 'clean' fleets. We thus welcome the proposed inclusion of Huntingdonshire in the Quality Bus Partnership to ensure minimum emission criteria for all Public Service Vehicles, as well as targets for ongoing improvements in emissions which also assists wider, joint air quality objectives.

### **Walking and Cycling**

We have been a proactive and significant partner in working with the County to design and implement walking and cycling improvements over the past ten plus years. We value the cycling improvements that have been implemented over these years and have been pleased to provide direction and contribute £100K per annum to improvements from our Safe Cycle Route budget to support their introduction. Unfortunately, as a result of HDC budget cuts, this funding will no longer be available from 2011 onwards. Additionally, if any of the £300K currently in the cycle budget for 2010/11 that remains uncommitted this year (2010/11) will also not be carried forward.

LTP funding for walking and cycling schemes not associated with development will thus be essential in the future. We particularly need financial commitment to implementing the "Connect 2" network in St Neots, including a new cycle bridge across the Great Ouse, and to improving key routes to schools, together with key Market town and rural routes. This will support the financial commitment to the bridge, including the capital contribution to that scheme by this Council in excess of £500K in 2010/11.

### **Market Town Transport Strategies**

The District Council has worked closely with the County Council and other partners to develop and implement market town transport strategies (MTTS) for Huntingdon and Godmanchester, St Ives, St Neots and, most recently, Ramsey.

We value highly and are proud of what has been achieved through this joint working as well as funding and would want the strategies to continue to be given a high priority in any future allocation of resources, particularly because of their contribution to improving sustainable modes. We thus welcome the County's commitment to the strategies, and their ongoing review, as an essential part of the LTP Implementation Plan.

A particular priority is the West of Town Centre Link Road in Huntingdon, that was included in the first MTTS approved in 2003, which unlocks vital town centre development and improves accessibility. This scheme is largely being funded from a combination of Housing Growth Fund and from development, although the County Council has agreed to forward fund in advance of developer funds being realised. Subsequent repayment will therefore be a joint priority from relevant developments in the area.

The Council has contributed financially, through its Capital programme, to the implementation of these strategies. We will no longer be able to do this for the foreseeable future, due to funding constraints. Additionally, the Council's Projects team have undertaken the design and contract work on a number of schemes in St. Neots and Huntingdon & Godmanchester. The Council's ability to continue to provide

that staffing commitment will be subject to available resources but we would look to do that as far as practicably possible given the high quality, cost-effective partnership service that has been achieved to date.

## **Rural Strategy**

Huntingdonshire is a largely rural in character and we welcome the LTP commitment to developing and implementing a Rural Transport Strategy. The Council's Medium Term Objectives include reducing economic deprivation and supporting rural communities. This includes supporting the use of public transport, including taxis, to enable people who are disadvantaged by location to gain access to employment, leisure and other essential services.

We would thus be very willing to work with the County Council to develop and implement a Rural Transport Strategy which will cover all rural parts of the county whose transport needs are not covered by the market town transport strategies. If this is to supersede the LTP2 Accessibility Strategy, we are strongly of the view that there should be a clear commitment and timescale for producing the Rural Strategy. This is required in addition to the draft Rural Strategy produced by Cambridgeshire Acre, since we have serious misgivings about the deliverability and realism of this strategy and a number of its objectives that while being 'worthy' are completely unrealistic and undeliverable.

We particularly support priority to community transport, and welcome the LTP commitment to "continue the annual funding support for Community Transport Schemes". We would like this to be a ring fenced commitment, in view of the vulnerability of this budget to future cuts. Without it, a rural transport strategy is likely to be ineffective. Currently, we support four existing schemes in the form of revenue support grants in excess of £75K in total per annum that covers such matters as staff resources, professional advice and the running of core services. At the time of writing this Statement, this funding remains in place in our Draft Budget for 2011 onwards and is a vital element in the maintenance of this service but a variety of other funding sources, including via the LTP, will however remain essential.

CABINET

17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

## **OPEN SPACE STRATEGY (Report by the Head of Operations)**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The purpose of creating an Open Spaces Strategy is to give Huntingdonshire stakeholders an overarching vision of what we want our parks, open spaces and other public spaces to look like over the next 10 to 15 years and to reflect the changing needs of the environment and community

### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Open space within Huntingdonshire plays an important role in relation to the health and well-being of all the district's residents, providing places to meet, relax, exercise, play or learn about nature. Well maintained spaces that are regularly used can help to make a considerable contribution to the quality of life of residents and visitors.
- 2.2 Strategic work on green space has been carried out by Cambridgeshire Horizons to update the Green Infrastructure Strategy (2006). A draft of the 'Green Vision' was published for consultation from late January to March 2010. This is being substantially revised as a result of comments received and consultation on a revised document will take place early in 2011. Huntingdonshire District council's Open Space Strategy will complement work being done at the strategic level by providing local information and detailed action plans
- 2.3 Huntingdonshire District Council has never formally developed an Open Space Strategy, and recognising this gap, has now developed a strategy that looks at the wide variety of open spaces found within the district with a view to meeting the requirements of both the documents mentioned above whilst at the same time supporting the various planning policies currently under development.

### **3.0 SCOPE OF THE STRATEGY**

- 3.1 Based on current guidance and best practice, this strategy includes the assessment of the following types of open spaces
- Informal Open Space to include parks and gardens, natural open space, amenity green spaces
  - Provision for Children & Young People
  - Outdoor Sports Facilities

- Allotments and Community Gardens
- Green Corridors
- Civic Spaces
- Cemeteries and Churchyards

3.2 The draft strategy was published for consultation between 26 October and 10 December 2010. Comments were sought from Parish and Town Councils as well as a range of sporting and environmental interest groups. A number of amendments have been made to the strategy to reflect priorities of other organisations where they can contribute to change. Some new sites have also been added where additional information has been provided.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

4.1 This strategy will assist in enabling the council to:

- Develop an accurate and up-to-date audit of open space provision
- Help provide a shared vision for the future of the districts open spaces
- Help make the case for funding opportunities and planning obligations
- Promote health benefits and quality of life improvements via the provision of high quality, accessible open spaces.
- Seek to protect, identify and improve locally important open spaces

#### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

5.1 Cabinet are asked to approve the Open Space strategy and supporting actions plans

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

CABE Space guidance.

Planning Policy Guidance 17, "Planning for Open Space Sport and Recreation

**Contact Officer: John Craig, Service Development Officer**  
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# Open Space Strategy for Huntingdonshire

2011 - 2016



## Foreword

I am delighted to be able to introduce this Open Space Strategy for Huntingdonshire.

Open Spaces are an essential element of the places in which people live and contribute highly to the quality of life experienced by our residents and visitors

Our open spaces are a significant asset to the district as they allow people to enjoy a diverse range of landscapes, for a wide variety of reasons, whether for a woodland walk, participating in sport and recreation, making use of our play facilities, growing their own food produce on our allotments, or simply for relaxation.

At the very least open space contributes significantly to the visual attractiveness of the places in which we live!

With this in mind, it is of the utmost importance that our open spaces are of high quality and easily accessible to local communities with the correct facilities, enabling people to enjoy them to the full as part of a vibrant, healthy and active lifestyle.

The development of this strategy will help stakeholders, members of the public and all other interested parties to understand the value of our parks and open spaces, and see how they impact on the wider corporate, strategic and community objectives of the council.

This strategy also provides extremely important benefits in the planning process as it provides the basis for the policy framework that deals with the provision, design and management of open space within Huntingdonshire.

This strategy presents an opportunity to promote the environmental benefits of open space and at the same time highlight the opportunity to manage these spaces in an effective and sustainable manner.

The council has completed an audit of current open space in the district and the findings have contributed to the production of a five year local open space strategic action plan to be used to continue the process of raising open space standards across Huntingdonshire.

If local communities are being encouraged to become involved in the management of local services then this document is a useful tool when engaging with local communities, self help groups and other third party organisations.

Finally, the demand on open spaces is dynamic and continually changing. As a consequence I fully expect the Open Space Strategy to be updated and amended throughout its life and indeed this will be a measure of its success.



Colin Hyams  
Executive Councillor for Operational and Countryside Services



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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

Open space within Huntingdonshire plays an important role in relation to the health and well-being of all the district's residents, providing places to meet, relax, exercise, play or learn about nature. Well maintained spaces that are regularly used can help to make a considerable contribution to the quality of life of residents and visitors.

Huntingdonshire District Council has never formally developed an Open Space Strategy, and recognising this gap, there is a need to develop a strategy that looks at the wide variety of open spaces found within the district.

## 1.2 Vision of the Strategy

The purpose of this strategy is to provide an overview of open space provision in Huntingdonshire. Furthermore, establishing a clear framework and direction will not only benefit the council, but it will also help to promote the benefits of open space and raise awareness to the wider public. In view of this, the over-arching vision for this strategy is:

*"To protect and improve our environment: ensuring good quality parks and open spaces"*

*(Huntingdonshire District Council's Corporate Plan, "Growing Success")*



### 1.3 Aims of the Strategy

Development of this strategy is seen as an important step as it will enable the council to:

**Develop an accurate and up-to-date audit of open space provision.**

The strategy will draw on council officer knowledge and existing studies to develop a comprehensive inventory of open space provision.

**Help provide a shared vision for the future of the districts open spaces.**

The strategy will help stakeholders understand the value of parks and open spaces, and understand its impact on wider corporate, strategic and community objectives of the council. Open spaces have links to other council strategies (detailed further in section 2.3.3), and so this strategy is important in establishing a policy framework for provision, design and management of open space within Huntingdonshire.

**Promote health benefits and quality of life improvements.**

Open spaces have an important role in encouraging active lifestyles, helping to improve health and overall quality of life. It is recognised that sedentary lifestyles can contribute to increased health problems, with obesity a major concern within the United Kingdom. The provision of high quality, accessible open spaces can in part help to address these concerns.

**Promote the biodiversity value of open space.**

Open spaces are important as areas for nature conservation and biodiversity. The development of this strategy will help to emphasise this important aspect.

**Help make the case for funding opportunities and planning obligations.**

A comprehensive and current audit of open space provision will help to provide a robust evidence base. As well as proving the need and requirement for developer contributions towards open space provision and associated facility improvements (through section 106 agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy tariff), the development of this Open Space Strategy is also seen as highly beneficial in order to allow Huntingdonshire District Council to maximise resources to support open space improvements through available external funding opportunities.

**Seek to protect, identify and improve locally important open spaces.**

The strategy introduces the concept of a matrix to help prioritise different types of open space provision; important for protecting and enhancing existing open spaces, and useful when seeking external funding.

**Increase public awareness of the district's open spaces and improve community engagement.**

The provision of an integrated Open Space Strategy will help raise awareness of the different types of open spaces located in this district and allow residents to see the council's future plans as detailed within the action plan of the strategy. Through community engagement, the council will be able to promote the importance of open spaces and address key issues that may be affecting current usage.



## 1.4 Scope

Based on current guidance and best practice, this strategy includes the assessment of the following types of open spaces:

Main Category	Sub-Category
Informal Open Space	Parks and Gardens
	Natural Open Space
	Amenity Green Spaces
Provision for Children & Young People	
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Includes golf courses, tennis courts, bowling greens, sports pitches
Allotments and Community Gardens	
Green Corridors <sup>1</sup>	
Civic Spaces <sup>1</sup>	
Cemeteries and Churchyards <sup>1</sup>	

This typology is consistent with the council's Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG 17) Open Space Assessment which was carried out in 2006. Therefore, the council is able to utilise this existing audit of provision as the basis for this strategy. Given that four years have passed since this work was carried out, council officers have updated site records where necessary.

All publicly accessible sites have been considered within this strategy, irrespective of ownership. Any private sites that do not have agreed public access have been recorded on the council's Geographical Information System but have not been included within the audit of provision.

In terms of a size threshold, all open spaces above 0.2 hectares have been included, in line with the methodology carried out in the PPG 17 Assessment. Some sites smaller than 0.2 hectares have also been included in the audit. Examples include equipped play areas and sports facilities. In addition, no size threshold has been applied to civic spaces due to the small nature of these types of spaces, thereby ensuring that this classification has been captured as part of the audit process.

<sup>1</sup> These additional categories were not included in the PPG 17 assessment but have been added given that these types of spaces are an important aspect of overall open space provision within Huntingdonshire.



## 2. Context

### 2.1 District Profile

The District of Huntingdonshire covers an area of approximately 350 square miles (90,650 hectares) and has a population of 165,800 (Office for National Statistics, mid 2009 population data). This is anticipated to expand to 188,400 by 2021 and this has important implications when considering future open space requirements. It is important to ensure that there is suitable access to high quality open spaces that meet the demands of an increased local population.

Approximately half of the district's current population is located within four market towns: Huntingdon, St Neots, St Ives and Ramsey. The remaining residents are distributed within key settlements and rural villages (a map of the district is shown overleaf in figure 1).

Much of the projected population growth is expected to occur around the St Neots area and this needs to be considered when assessing future open space needs. Similarly, the rural nature of the district means that there are large areas of countryside within the district, with larger amounts of managed open space located within the more urban areas, which connect to, and provide access to the wider countryside.

Transport links within the district include the A1, A14 and A428 which in turn link to the M1, M11, and M6 motorways. This network is important when considering the accessibility of open space provision. It should also be noted that 4% more households in the district have access to two or more cars, compared with the national average. This again reflects the rural nature of the district and the need to travel by car.

Huntingdonshire has a large "younger" population, and a high proportion of "30-44" year olds. Furthermore, there is an increasing elderly population and this profile shows that it is important that open spaces provide suitable leisure and recreation activities for these identified age groups.

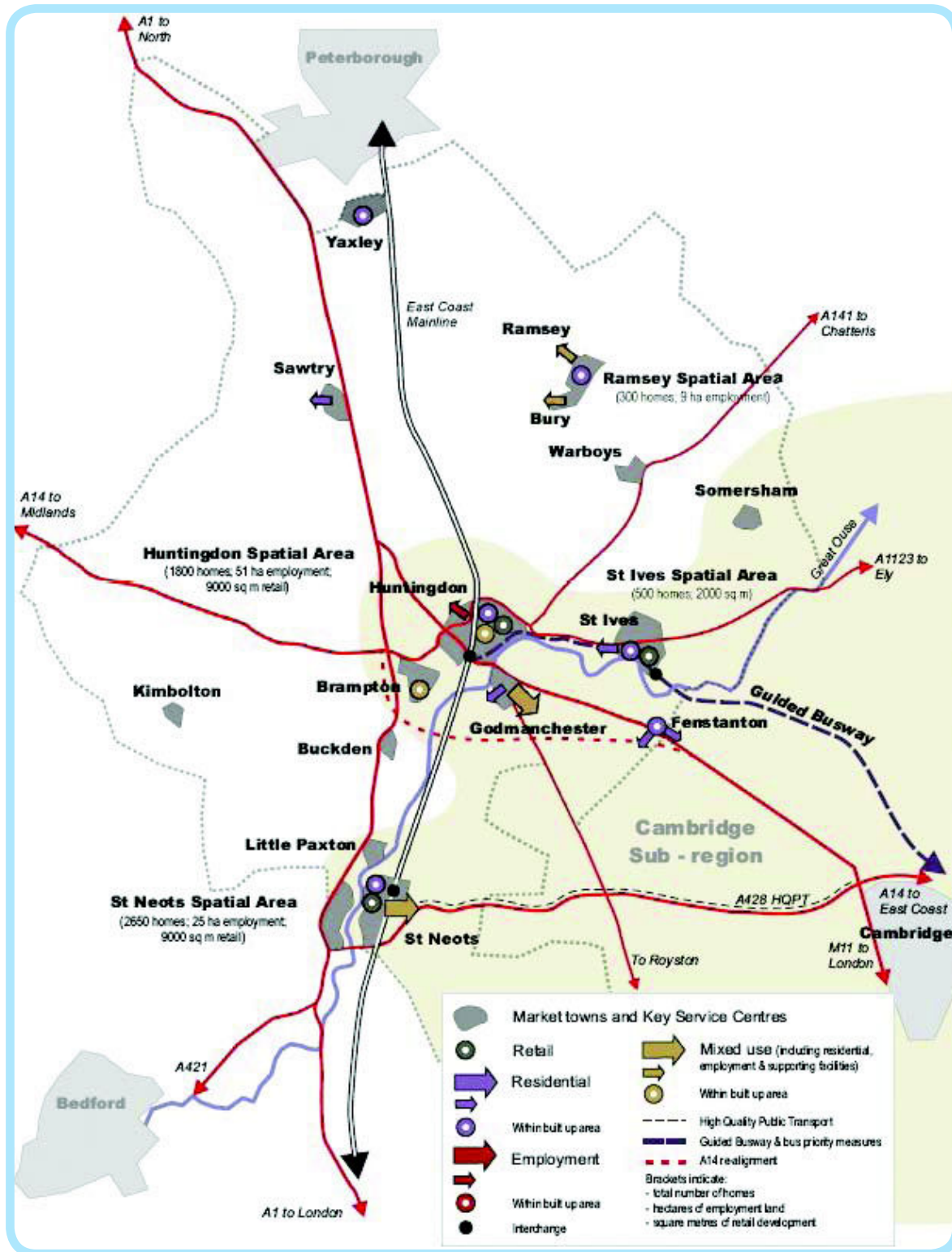
In 2008, the Huntingdonshire District Council Place Survey highlighted that 87% of people were satisfied with their local area and most have a good quality of life. Life expectancy in Huntingdonshire is also high compared to the national average, and general health and well-being is good as demonstrated by the 2001 census, which highlighted that 73% of people described their health as 'good', a percentage that is almost 5 points higher than the national average.

Despite these positive indicators, it is important to address the fact that some local communities experience higher levels of relative deprivation compared with the district as a whole or the region generally. Huntingdon North Ward has the lowest levels of both household income and educational attainment in the district and is in the 10% most deprived areas in Cambridgeshire. Therefore, it is important to ensure that all communities have suitable access to open space provision.





Figure 1: Map of Huntingdonshire



## 2.2 Community Benefits of Open Spaces

Open spaces can help to provide a diverse range of social, economic and environmental benefits for local communities. Key benefits include:

- i. Open spaces help to provide opportunities for social interaction between people of different communities, encouraging social inclusion and community development. They can become a focus for community activity, thereby helping to enhance local pride.
- ii. Open space provides opportunities for people to get involved in creative and cultural activities by acting as a venue for events and activities.
- iii. Open spaces vary in their nature and size and therefore offer diverse habitats for wildlife and plants. This gives people the chance to experience and learn about nature close to where they live. Furthermore, people of all ages can volunteer and be involved in helping to manage and maintain open spaces.
- iv. In addition to ecological diversity and biodiversity, well designed open spaces also support environmental sustainability and help to counter pollution. Strategic networks of green spaces, (green infrastructure), can provide a wide range of environmental benefits in both rural and urban areas including flood water storage, sustainable drainage, urban cooling and local access to shady outdoor space.
- v. Good quality open space can help to contribute towards urban regeneration and renewal projects by improving the image of the place and attracting investment. Attractive parks and other public spaces create a pleasant and varied landscape.
- vi. Open spaces provide a wealth of opportunities for outdoor play, which can help children and young people to stay healthy.
- vii. Open spaces can offer a range of sporting opportunities and physical activity for people of all ages, helping to contribute positively to mental and physical well-being.
- viii. Aside from physical health benefits, participation in play and recreation on open space has positive mental health benefits for children and young people. The Big Lottery and Children's Play Council Good Practice Guide cites work undertaken by The Mental Health Foundation, which suggests that the opportunities for risk taking in unsupervised play, (and to a lesser extent supervised play), helps children to build self-confidence. Capacity for positive development may be limited if children and young people are denied these opportunities.
- ix. Open spaces can provide diversionary activities for young people by providing safe places to play and interact, thereby helping to reduce anti-social behaviour.



## 2.3 Policy Background

### 2.3.1 National Policy Context

In view of the recognised benefits of open spaces, Central Government's approach has developed significantly over the past decade, beginning with the Urban White Paper in 2000. This emphasised the role that public open spaces can have in improving the attractiveness of urban areas and helping to promote a healthier lifestyle. It is also emphasised the need for improvements in open space management and maintenance, and for thinking more creatively about open spaces.

The relationship between open space and planning was strengthened through the development of Planning Policy Guidance 17, "Planning for Open Space Sport and Recreation". This planning guidance placed considerable emphasis on carrying out audits of provision to identify quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces, and ensure that provision meet the needs of its local communities and visitors. During 2010, consultation has been carried out for a new planning policy statement (PPS) on planning for the natural environment, green infrastructure, open space, sport, recreation and play, "Planning for a Natural and Healthy Environment".

In addition to planning policy, a number of other headline reports have emphasised the importance of open space. The Urban Green Space Taskforce produced a report called "Green Spaces, Better Places." This report contained 52 recommendations for achieving a better future for urban parks and green spaces.

"Living Places: Cleaner, Safer, Greener", was published by ODPM in 2002. This report recognised that safe, well-maintained and attractive public spaces have a critical role in creating pride in the places where people want to live which, in turn, is essential to building community cohesion and successful communities. In view of this, the report suggests ways in which high quality public spaces can be achieved, with an emphasis on committed leadership, strong partnerships, community involvement, innovation, communication and sharing of best practice all cited as important factors.

More recently, CABE Space have produced a range of guidance to help local authorities in the design, management and maintenance of public spaces. This organisation works with national, regional and local bodies to deliver well-designed and managed public spaces across England. Of particular relevance to the development of this strategy is the 2009 publication, "Open Space Strategies: What Local Authority Decision Makers Need to Know".

Another change at the national level has been the emergence of the Green Flag Award. This award scheme was initially launched in 1996 as a way of recognising and rewarding the best green spaces in the country. Over the past fourteen years its status has risen and it is now viewed as the benchmark national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales, and involves an assessment of eight key criteria (see Appendix 1). The Award is now run by the Green Flag Plus Partnership, a consortium comprising Keep Britain Tidy, British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and GreenSpace.



In addition to these specific publications, policy at the national level is also being reviewed by the new coalition Government, which has introduced the notion of the 'Big Society' and the new 'Localism Bill'. With regard to green space this will place a focus on empowering communities, redistributing power to local communities and encouraging people to volunteer.

### **2.3.2 Regional Policy:**

In addition to national policy, regional policies are also important and influence open space management in Huntingdonshire. The Cambridgeshire Horizons Sub Region Green Infrastructure Strategy was launched in 2006, and represented a joint approach between local authorities, government agencies and NGO's within the sub-region. The strategy assessed the current provision of green infrastructure at the sub-regional scale and made recommendations for the provision of new and enhanced green infrastructure, over the next 20 years, taking account of key factors such as projected population growth.

The overall vision for the Green Infrastructure Strategy is to create a comprehensive and sustainable network of green corridors and sites that:

- Enhance the diversity of landscape character.
- Connect and enriches biodiversity habitats.
- Extend access and recreation opportunities for the benefit of the environment as well as current and future communities in the Cambridge Sub-Region.

A review and update of the Green Infrastructure Strategy began in January 2010, recognising that there is a need to undertake periodic reviews to reflect new opportunities and the evolving green infrastructure agenda. This new strategy will seek to plan green infrastructure to 2031 and beyond. This revised Green Infrastructure Strategy, whilst applicable at the district planning scale, will require further refinement and resolution at the site scale to ensure that opportunities are fully realised and that local issues are given full consideration.



### 2.3.3 Local Policy

As well as national and regional policy, it is imperative that this strategy considers how to deliver the vision and aims outlined within section 1, in light of local council policy and priorities. With this in mind, a number of key documents are important.

At the strategic level, the council's corporate plan, "Growing Success", and the Huntingdonshire Local Strategic Partnership Sustainable Community Strategy are both important and impact on the quality of life of the district's residents.

Similarly, the Local Development Framework is another key area of work that will address open space and sport facility requirements of new and expanding communities in Huntingdonshire. As part of this, the Core Strategy (2009), provides policy guidance for areas of strategic green infrastructure enhancement and specifies requirements for contributors to open space and strategic green infrastructure.

In addition, a range of other service-led strategies and reports all have an influence on open space provision, including the council's Environment Strategy, Cultural Strategy for Huntingdonshire, Play Strategy and Sports Facilities Strategy.

A detailed overview of all these documents is provided within Appendix 2.

The link between national, regional and local policies is summarised overleaf.



**Figure 2:** Policy overview



## 3. Consultation

### 3.1 Community Engagement

It is important that future policy decisions and action plans developed as part of this strategy are based on an understanding of the needs and aspirations of key stakeholders, including local communities and open space visitors. A range of consultation has been carried out that either directly or indirectly impacts upon open spaces within Huntingdonshire, demonstrating a clear commitment to be as far reaching as possible. These can be summarised as follows:

#### 3.1.1 'District Wide' Survey (2010)

This consultation was included within the council magazine "District Wide". This consultation gave every household the opportunity to tell the council their views on a range of issues. When asked how satisfied are you with the local environment, 77.1% were either 'fairly satisfied' or 'very satisfied'.

#### 3.1.2 Tellus 4 Survey (2010)

This survey reported the findings of Local Authorities for the five National Indicators supported by the Tellus 4 survey.

Included as one of these indicators is NI 110 - "*More participation in positive activities*". For the East of England region, the county of Cambridgeshire had the highest level of young peoples participation in positive activities (in excess of 80%) based on the Tellus 4 survey. It should be noted that whilst these responses were only from Year 10 pupils, it does give a positive trend that there are suitable play and recreation opportunities available for children and young people across the county.

#### 3.1.3 Sport England's Active People Survey (2009)

Sport England's national annual survey was carried out for a third time covering the period October 2008 to October 2009.

One of the headline questions within this survey relates to a key type of open space included within this strategy; levels of satisfaction with local sports facilities. For Huntingdonshire District Council, 76.9 % of adults were 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied with sports provision in their local area (including indoor facilities).

#### 3.1.4 Place Survey (2008)

This survey is a statutory exercise that Central Government has specified must be undertaken by Local Authorities. It is designed to capture local people's views, experiences and perceptions so that any proposed solutions for an area reflect local views and preferences. The survey is considered to be a key tool to track people's changing perceptions as a way of determining whether interventions made in the district result in a positive outcome for local people.



Included within this survey are several National Indicators linked to open spaces and local environments. When asked to assess overall satisfaction with their local area, 87.8% of respondents were satisfied. Furthermore, 71% of people agreed that their public services are working to make the area 'cleaner and greener'.

When asked to assess specific aspects of district life, 73% of people were either 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' with parks and open spaces, whilst 66% of people were 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' with keeping public land clear of litter and refuse.

With regards frequency of use, 68% of people had visited parks and open spaces at least once a month, highlighting the important role they play for local communities.

When asked to identify the five aspects most in need of improvement in Huntingdonshire, activities for teenagers was identified as the highest priority. The top five aspects identified were:

- Activities for teenagers (52% of respondents highlighted this as one of their five aspects that most need improving)
- Road and pavement repairs (38%)
- Public transport (36%)
- Traffic congestion (36%)
- Shopping facilities (26%)

### **3.1.5 PPG 17 Open Space Strategy Household Survey (2006)**

This household survey was distributed to 5000 randomly selected households within the district. A total 565 postal surveys were returned, representing an 11% return rate. Key issues included:

- Overall, residents indicated that the quantity of open spaces within Huntingdonshire was "about right".
- The most frequently visited open space include green corridors, natural and semi natural areas and parks.
- Natural areas were perceived to be the highest quality open space in the district, with over 50% of respondents indicating that they were of good quality.

### **3.1.6 PPG 17 Open Space Strategy School Information Technology Survey (2006)**

All schools in the district were invited to take part in an on-line questionnaire relating to open spaces. In total, 176 responses were received, ranging from 6 to 18 year olds. The questionnaire explored attitudes to open space and sports provision.





Findings included:

- The main reasons that children visit open spaces were to meet friends, and to have a kick-about / informal play.
- The least liked aspects of open spaces included limited play value of existing play facilities. Location was also cited as an important factor, with some open spaces being located too far away from areas of housing.
- When asked how open spaces could be improved, 36% stated that there should be more interesting play equipment, 18% wanted multi-use games areas/kick about areas, whilst 17% wanted skate or BMX parks.

### **3.1.7 Cambridgeshire Quality of Life Survey (2006)**

This 2006 survey was commissioned to assess how attitudes vary across Cambridgeshire. Headline findings included:

- In line with the regional findings, 80% of the district’s residents were ‘very’ or ‘fairly’ satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live.
- Compared to other factors included in the questionnaire, the quality and amount of natural environment within the district was highly regarded by residents of Huntingdonshire, particularly when compared to other district’s in the county.
- When asked to assess how easy it is to get to a public open space, 78% of Huntingdonshire residents stated that it was ‘very’ or ‘fairly’ easy – compared to county wide response of 79%.

### **3.1.8 Summary**

There is a high level of satisfaction with open spaces across the district, particularly natural and semi-natural areas. It is important to maintain this perception, and where possible, increase satisfaction levels.

Encouragingly, residents of the district appear to visit open spaces on a regular basis, but again, this trend needs to be maintained. With regard to specific improvements, work carried out as part of the PPG 17 Audit highlighted that there is scope for improvements to local play facilities, emphasised by the Place Survey findings which identified the priority of providing suitable activities for teenagers. However, countering this is the recent Tellus 4 Survey, which showed that Cambridgeshire is one of the highest ranked counties with regards participation in positive activities for young people. Therefore, any future improvements will be informed by detailed consultation to ensure the needs and expectations of local communities are met.

It is worth highlighting that the consultation discussed in sections 3.1.1 to 3.1.7 all examine open spaces in their broadest context without gauging views on a site by site basis. It is recognised that there is a need to look at the issues impacting upon individual sites, and this is explored further within section 5, where the concept of a priority matrix is introduced.



## 4. Audit of Provision

### 4.1 Overview of Provision

The audit has identified a total of 612 open spaces located across the district.

Classifying open space is difficult due to the multi-functionality of open spaces. Each open space is therefore classified based on its “primary purpose”, as recommended in PPG 17, thereby ensuring that each site is counted only once in the audit. By using the word ‘primary,’ this infers that open spaces may have secondary purposes.

A full site inventory is displayed in Appendix 3 (broken down by parish), with the table below providing a summary based on open space typology.

Main Category	Sub-Category	Number of sites	Total Area (m <sup>2</sup> ) - based on “primary purpose” classification	% of Total Open Space
Informal	Parks and Gardens	22	1,947,411	4.4%
	Natural Open Space	78	30,013,868	68.2%
	Amenity Green Space	143	1,149,156	2.6%
Provision for Children and Young People		114	754,080	1.7%
Outdoor Sports Facilities		110	8,890,090	20.2%
Allotments & Community Gardens		38	592,023	1.3%
Green Corridors		14	147,958	0.3%
Civic Spaces		7	7,056	0.02%
Cemeteries and Churchyards		86	477,563	1.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>612</b>	<b>43,979,205</b>	<b>100%</b>

This shows that there is in excess of 43 million m<sup>2</sup> of open space in Huntingdonshire which equates to over 4300 hectares or 17 square miles.

Natural open space has the highest quantity of provision, accounting for more than two thirds of the district total. This proportion is heavily influenced by the size of Grafham Water (Grafham), a site that on its own accounts for over 8 million m<sup>2</sup> of open space. Other natural open spaces which are notable for their large size are Woodwalton Fen (Woodwalton), Monks Wood & The Odd Quarter (Sawtry) and Holme Fen (Holme); all of which are in excess of 1.5 million m<sup>2</sup> in area.



Following on from natural open space, the next highest proportion is outdoor sports facilities, which accounts for 20% of the overall provision, based on the primary purpose classification system. The largest outdoor sports facility is Abbotsley Hotel Golf and Country Club (Abbotsley), which is 886,859 m<sup>2</sup> in size. The quantity of outdoor sport provision is heavily influenced by the number of golf courses in the district. The following are a list of golf clubs located within Huntingdonshire:

- Abbotsley Hotel, Golf and Country Club
- Brampton Park Golf Club
- Elton Furze Golf Club
- Hemingford Abbots Golf Club
- Lakeside Lodge Golf Centre
- Old Nene Golf and Country Club
- Ramsey Golf and Bowls Club
- St Ives Golf Club
- St Neots Golf Club
- Stilton Oaks Golf Club

The combined area for these ten open spaces is 4,923,291 m<sup>2</sup>, equating to slightly over 50% of the total outdoor sports provision in Huntingdonshire, and shows that golf is heavily catered for in the district.

Although amenity green space represents less than 3% of the districts open space, it has the highest number of sites; 143. A similar picture emerges when looking at provision for children and young people. Although this type of provision represents only 1.7% of the total open space in Huntingdonshire, it has the second highest number of sites; 114.



## 4.2 Distribution of Open Space

Section 2.1 identified that approximately half of the district's current population is located within Huntingdon, Ramsey, St Ives and St Neots. The table below summarises the quantity of open space provision in each of these parishes.

Main Category	Sub-Category	Parish			
		Huntingdon (Total Area - m <sup>2</sup> )	Ramsey (Total Area - m <sup>2</sup> )	St Ives (Total Area - m <sup>2</sup> )	St Neots (Total Area - m <sup>2</sup> )
Informal	Parks and Gardens	824,043	26,727	94,207	830,500
	Natural Open Space	457,788	54,536	163,514	927,090
	Amenity Green Space	311,461	25,001	85,388	204,987
Provision for Children and Young People		137,459	31,727	72,737	109,668
Outdoor Sports Facilities		497,567	544,710	495,767	846,374
Allotments & Community Gardens		52,079	28,526	54,839	79,709
Green Corridors		60,383	0	34,512	29,620
Civic Spaces		4,818	0	1,085	1,154
Cemeteries and Churchyards		31,051	58,429	27,617	43,700
<b>Total provision (m<sup>2</sup>)</b>		<b>2,376,649</b>	<b>769,656</b>	<b>1,029,666</b>	<b>3,072,804</b>
<b>Amount of open space per parish resident (m<sup>2</sup>)</b>		<b>108</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Proportion of total open space in district (%)</b>		<b>5.4</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>7.0</b>

This shows that St Neots has the highest quantity of open space, followed by Huntingdon. It also emphasises that whilst three of the four settlements have a range of open space provision, in contrast, Ramsey has no green corridors or civic spaces. Open space in Ramsey is dominated by outdoor sports provision, which accounts for 71% of all open space in this parish. Although Ramsey has the lowest absolute amount of open space, it has a higher amount per resident than St Ives.

16.5% of the district's open space is located within these four main parishes. This shows that there is a high quantity of open space in smaller, more rural settlements and parishes. Notable parishes include Grafham, which contains 18% of all of the districts open space (heavily influenced by the location of Grafham Water - an area of open space which consists mainly of a large single body of water), Brampton (9%), Holme (5%), Sawtry (6%), Little Paxton (5%).<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Some open spaces span more than one parish. Where this occurs, the open space has been allocated to the parish in which they are predominantly located.



### 4.3 Limitations of Using the “Primary Purpose” Classification

On a cautionary note, one limitation of using PPG 17’s primary purpose classification system is that the absolute quantity of some open space types may be under-recorded. This is due to the fact that open space areas have been calculated and recorded against the primary purpose classification. Therefore, some sites which are listed as parks and gardens also contain sports pitches, provision for children and young people, amenity green space and natural open space. The area of land taken up by these different aspects of the site will not have been recorded as the site area will have been allocated solely to parks and gardens.

Therefore, it should be recognised that the audit of provision provides a comprehensive overview of provision in Huntingdonshire and identifies all known open space in the district. However, when looking to assess whether there is a surplus or deficit of provision for specific open space types, it is important to recognise the multi-functionality of open spaces and carry out a more detailed, localised assessment.



## 5. Open Space Priorities in Huntingdonshire

### 5.1 Developing a Priority Matrix

The audit of provision provides a comprehensive overview of open space in Huntingdonshire. One of the aims of this strategy detailed in section 1.2 is to “seek to protect and identify locally important open spaces”. Analysis of the audit data alone does not provide this type of information and so it was decided that a means of ranking different open spaces was required.

One possible way of identifying locally important open spaces is to identify those sites that have important statutory designations associated with them, a case-in-point being Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This designation helps to provide legal protection to the best sites for wildlife and geology in England. Natural England now has the responsibility for identifying and protecting the SSSIs in England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, and it should be noted that there are SSSI’s located in this district, such as Paxton Pits Nature Reserve.

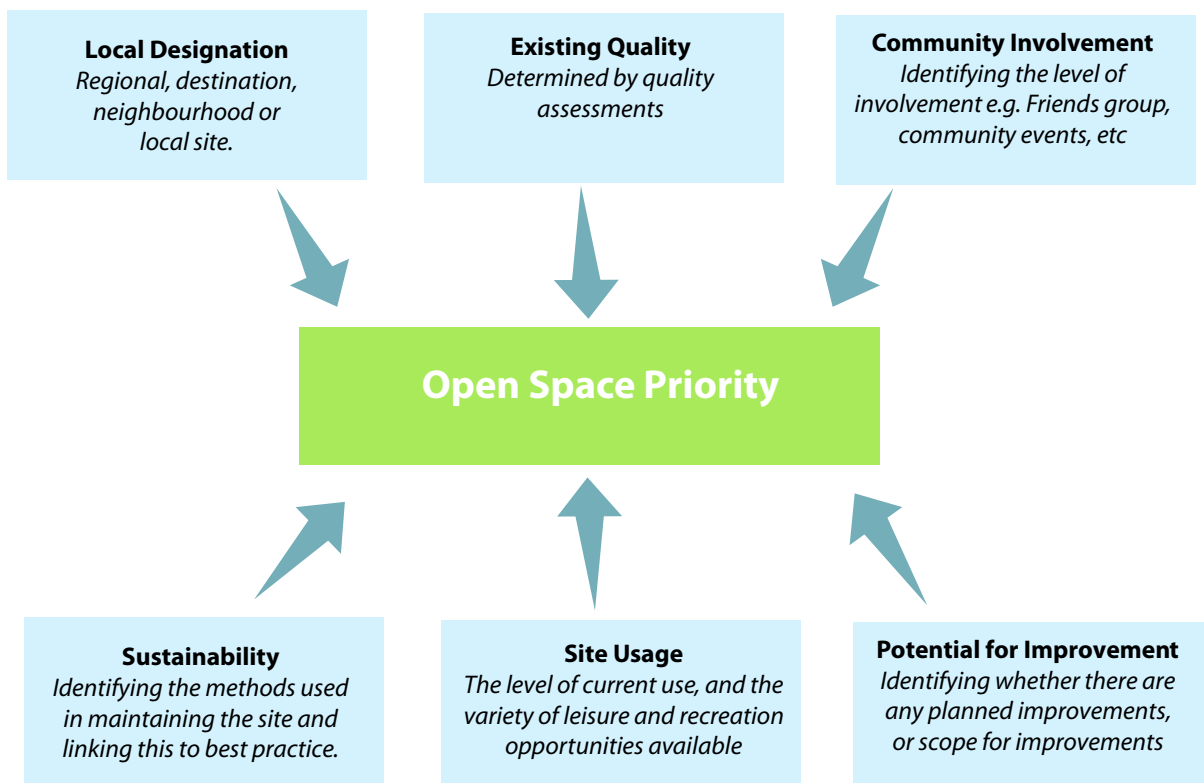
Adopting this method would appear to be too simplistic. For instance, a small area of amenity greenspace located within a residential area would not be identified as a SSSI. However, to that local community, such a space may have real significance and importance which cannot be evaluated by simply looking at statutory designations.

Therefore, an alternative approach has been adopted, following the same principles applied within another Huntingdonshire District Council strategy, “Sports Facilities Strategy for Huntingdonshire”. When looking to identify the local priorities for future sports and leisure projects, a hierarchy was established by assessing schemes against a set of three factors to produce an overall priority score.

Applying a similar concept here, a prioritisation matrix has been developed as a tool for ranking the districts open space provision. The matrix consists of six factors, which are displayed over in figure 3.



**Figure 3: Priority Matrix**



All six factors are sub-divided into four criteria with marks ranging from 1 to 4. (A full breakdown of the six factors and their associated criteria is displayed in Appendix 4).

To illustrate, for the factor "Community Involvement", the four criteria are as follows:

**Matrix Score of 4:** Friends of Group or equivalent community involvement actively involved in the management and development of the site.

**Matrix Score of 3:** Occasional community involvement at site, including community events and / or similar activities.

**Matrix Score of 2:** No current community activity but scope for future community involvement at the site.

**Matrix Score of 1:** No current community involvement in the management and development of the site. Unlikely to be any involvement in the future.



Therefore, for each of the districts open spaces, the most appropriate description was selected, and the corresponding matrix score recorded. This process was repeated for all six of the factors shown in figure 3.

Using this approach, the maximum score possible for any given open space is twenty four.

## **5.2 Rationale behind the Prioritisation Matrix**

The six factors that have been selected are based on best practice, including the national benchmark Green Flag Award.

Six factors were deemed to be sufficient; the idea was to ensure that the matrix could be easily applied and at the same time, easily understood. The inclusion of additional factors may have complicated both of these objectives. Individual reasoning behind the selection of each of the factors is now explored further.

### **5.2.1 Local Designation**

The classifications used as part of the PPG 17 study identify the type of open space but makes no judgement as to their local significance to Huntingdonshire. Therefore, it is important to provide this context by adding a further classification relating to whether an open space is a regional, destination, neighbourhood or a local site.

### **5.2.2 Existing Quality**

The quality of an open space has an impact on site usage. For instance, a poor quality site may become neglected by users. Therefore, quality assessments carried out as part of the 2006 PPG 17 audit have been used as the basis for establishing site quality.

### **5.2.3 Community Involvement**

This is one of the headline assessment criteria of the national Green Flag Award. Community involvement is important as it encourages a sense of pride in local spaces and so it is important that the level of community involvement is factored into the overall site priority score.

### **5.2.4 Sustainability**

Another of the headline Green Flag award criteria is sustainability, and this should be recognised as a distinct factor. Methods used in maintaining the site and its facilities should be environmentally sound, relying on best practices available according to current knowledge.





### 5.2.5 Potential Improvements

It is important to identify whether there are any planned improvements, or scope for further improvements to any of the district's open spaces to ensure that this is reflected in the matrix score.

### 5.2.6 Site Usage

One way of assessing the value of an open space is to assess the number of visitors a site receives. At present, the council does not have a comprehensive record of quantitative data available on this issue, and so with this in mind, officers have had to make value judgements relating to site usage.

## 5.3. Application of the Priority Matrix

The priority matrix has been applied to all of the district's 'destination' sites. All of the 612 sites identified in the audit have been assigned a level of local importance using the following definitions:

- Local
- Neighbourhood
- Destination
- Regional

These designations have been awarded to reflect the value and significance of each individual open space, both to its surrounding community and the wider catchment area. No sites in the district were classed as being regionally significant. However, a total of 22 sites have been identified as "destination" sites.

### 5.3.1 Background to the district's "Destination Sites"

Huntingdonshire's destination open spaces offer a wide range of recreation and leisure opportunities. These sites are listed on page 23, and it is now appropriate to examine some of these sites in more detail to understand why they are important to the area. The district's destination sites include:

- Riverside Park, Hill Rise Park and Priory Park - These council maintained formal park landscapes provide a variety of play and recreation opportunities, as well as more relaxing leisure opportunities. They are also important as they host a variety of public events.
- Grafham Water - An extensive reservoir situated approximately seven kilometres south-west of Huntingdon. The reservoir and marginal land support a significant variety of breeding wetland birds, whilst the woods and grassland provide food and shelter for summer birds as well as providing further habitat for flora and fauna. In addition to biodiversity, Grafham Water Centre provides a range of water sports and activity training, including sailing, windsurfing and powerboating.



- Hinchingsbrooke Country Park - A site consisting of mature woodland, grassy meadows and wetland habitat, supporting a variety of wildlife including all three species of British woodpecker. Many of the footpaths located across the site are hard surfaced, and the site supports a range of events and activities for people of all ages.
- Paxton Pits Nature Reserve - This Site of Special Scientific Interest includes meadows, woodland and scrub habitat, nestling on the banks of the River Great Ouse. It is an important birdwatching site, and also hosts a range of insects, from 26 species of butterfly to 148 species of spider. There are two guided trails, the Meadow Trail and the Heron Trail, as well as many additional footpaths around the reserve.
- Hinchingsbrooke School - A specialist sports college with a vast array of outdoor sports facilities including grass pitches, tennis courts and a full size 3rd generation synthetic turf pitch (one of only two in the district).
- Kimbolton School - A public school with a wide range of high quality outdoor sports facilities including two full size synthetic turf pitches and large amounts of grass pitches and tennis courts.
- Golf courses - As identified in the audit, the district has a significant number of high quality golf facilities. All of the destination sites have at least one 18 hole golf course, whilst a few have two. The reputation of these facilities is such that people do travel significant distances to play at these golf courses.

The prioritisation matrix has been applied to each of the district's destination open spaces in order to rank these sites into priority order. A summary of the matrix scores is shown overleaf, with a full breakdown of scores provided in Appendix 5.



### 5.3.2 Priority Matrix Scores: Destination Sites

Site	Location	Ownership	Classification	Matrix Score
Paxton Pits	Little Paxton	Huntingdonshire District Council	Natural Open Space	<b>22</b>
Hinchingbrooke Country Park	Huntingdon	Cambridgeshire County Council	Parks and Gardens	<b>22</b>
Grafham Water	Grafham	Private	Natural Open Space	<b>22</b>
Priory Park	St Neots	Huntingdonshire District Council	Parks and Gardens	<b>21</b>
Riverside Park	Huntingdon	Huntingdonshire District Council	Parks and Gardens	<b>19</b>
Hill Rise Park	St Ives	Huntingdonshire District Council	Parks and Gardens	<b>19</b>
Riverside Park- Hunters Down	Huntingdon	Huntingdonshire District Council	Parks and Gardens	<b>19</b>
Godmanchester Town Park	Godmanchester	Parish Council	Parks and Gardens	<b>18</b>
One Leisure St Ives (outdoor)	St Ives	Huntingdonshire District Council	Outdoor Sports Facilities	<b>18</b>
Regatta Meadows	St Neots	Huntingdonshire District Council	Parks and Gardens	<b>18</b>
Riverside Park	St Neots	Huntingdonshire District Council	Parks and Gardens	<b>18</b>
Hinchingbrooke School	Huntingdon	Cambridgeshire County Council	Outdoor Sports Facilities	<b>18</b>
Needingworth Quarry	Bluntisham	Unknown	Natural Open Space	<b>16</b>
Church Lane	Hartford	Huntingdonshire District Council	Parks and Gardens	<b>16</b>
Lakeside Lodge Golf Centre	Pidley	Private	Outdoor Sports Facilities	<b>16</b>
Kimbolton School	Kimbolton	Cambridgeshire County Council	Outdoor Sports Facilities	<b>16</b>
One Leisure St Neots	St Neots	Cambridgeshire County Council	Outdoor Sports Facilities	<b>15</b>
St Neots Golf Club	St Neots	Private	Outdoor Sports Facilities	<b>15</b>
Brampton Park Golf Club	Brampton	Private	Outdoor Sports Facilities	<b>15</b>
St Ives Golf Club	St Ives	Private	Outdoor Sports Facilities	<b>15</b>
Abbotsley Hotel, Golf and Country Club	Abbotsley	Private	Outdoor Sports Facilities	<b>15</b>
Elton Furze Golf Club	Haddon	Private	Outdoor Sports Facilities	<b>13</b>



By applying the prioritisation matrix, Hinchingsbrooke Country Park, Paxton Pits and Grafham Water are identified as the highest priority destination sites in the district, closely followed by a number of other parks and natural open spaces. Lowest priority destination sites include the six privately owned golf clubs. The value of this information is that it can now be used to inform decisions concerning the protection of specific open spaces and prioritise future investment.

### **5.3.3 Wider Use of the Priority Matrix**

Use of the prioritisation matrix will be extended to all open space within Huntingdonshire over the life time of this strategy. The audit of provision identified that there are currently a few issues preventing completion of the assessment process for a large proportion of sites. To illustrate, there is a lack of quality assessment scores for a significant number of sites. Some sites were not assessed as part of the initial PPG 17 audit carried out in 2006, whilst other newly adopted open spaces also require quality assessments being carried out.

Other issues include trying to assess sustainability for those sites that are not maintained by Huntingdonshire District Council. This requires contacting other providers, including Parish Councils, and identifying what environmental policies are in place. It is worth considering that the audit of provision has identified a total of 612 sites, with only 19 % currently identified as being owned by Huntingdonshire District Council. Therefore, the council must work with other providers to help address these gaps in knowledge.

The matrix process will be completed for all other open spaces over the coming 2 years, as outlined within the five year action plan in section 6.



## 6. Action Plan

A five year action plan has been developed to help ensure a co-ordinated approach to the long-term management of the district's open space. It is split into two parts covering both operational and strategic actions.

The priorities outlined in the action plan are subject to change during the life span of the strategy. This is in recognition that the current economic climate and changes to policy introduced at the national level may alter the capacity to deliver specific actions.

### 6.1 Operational Actions:

Action	Priority	Lead	Timescale	Measure
Complete quality assessments for all open spaces identified within this strategy	High	Operations, Countryside Services	2011-2013	Date of completion
Complete the priority matrix for all local and neighbourhood open spaces	High	Operations, Countryside Services, Sport & Active Lifestyles	2011-2013	Date of completion
Undertake an annual review of the audit of open space provision and update relevant changes, including maintaining accurate GIS records	High	Operations, Countryside Services	2011-2016	Date of completion and accuracy of records
Develop a horticultural and countryside skills training programme for all abilities based at the Community Nursery, Godmanchester	High	Countryside Services	On-going	Numbers of people undertaking training
Design long-term visitor facilities for the Great Fen Project and implement temporary visitor facilities	High	Great Fen Partners	2012	Useable visitor facilities
Endeavour to maintain and manage all council maintained open space according to the principles of the national Green Flag Award	High	Countryside Services, Operations	On-going	Ratio of compliments to complaints
Develop the income generation potential of the countryside service	High	Countryside Services	On-going	Amount of additional income raised



Action	Priority	Lead	Timescale	Measure
Provide enhanced educational access to all users through the new education centre at Little Paxton	High	Wildlife Trust, HDC	On-going	Number of education groups using centre
Support the existing volunteer network by providing appropriate training e.g. health and safety	High	Countryside Services	On-going	Numbers of volunteers trained
Seek to minimise occurrences of anti-social behavior through updating and improving open space by-laws and rules	High	Operations	On-going	Incidents of anti-social behaviour
Ensure that adapting to climate change is a core element of existing and future site management plans	High	Operations, Countryside Services	On-going	All site management plans include a section on adaptation to climate change
Update the council's Play Strategy	High	Policy, Community, Operations, Planning	2011-2012	Production of revised strategy
Promote the availability of web forms on the HDC website as a way of enabling open space users to provide both positive and negative feedback following visits to local open spaces	High	Operations, IT	On-going	Number of web form responses
Create ward profiles that can be compared against the standards set by planning policy and Section 106 requirements	High	Operations, Planning Policy	2011-2012	Date of completion



Action	Priority	Lead	Timescale	Measure
Promote and encourage visitors to use parks and open spaces for healthy lifestyles by providing greater levels of information on the Huntingdonshire District Council website, and continue to signpost users to nearby open spaces	Medium	Operations, Sport & Active Lifestyles	On-going	Level and quality of information available on the council website / web complaints
Where appropriate, provide technical advice and signpost local community and friends groups to available funding opportunities for open spaces	Medium	Operations, Countryside Services	On-going	Number of community / friends groups assisted by HDC
Ensure positive conservation management at all local wildlife sites	Medium	Planning, Wildlife Trust	2011-2016	Percentage of wildlife sites under active management
Promote availability of outdoor sports facilities through website, events and partners	Medium	Sport & Active Lifestyles, Operations, Countryside Services	On-going	Usage of sites
Maintain and support the existing four Friends groups and develop two more for countryside sites	Medium	Countryside Services	2011-2013	Number of Friends Groups
Conduct visitor user surveys at all countryside sites	Medium	Countryside Services	On-going	Number of surveys completed
Seek to improve the quality, value and range of open space through a review of maintenance practices	Medium	Operations	2011-2012	Date of completion



Action	Priority	Lead	Timescale	Measure
Create a stakeholder group to help promote and drive forward open space management within the district	Medium	Operations to lead	On-going	Number of members of stakeholder group
Undertake a project to develop 5 year management plans for identified council "destination" parks and open spaces, working in partnership with relevant Friends Groups or community groups	Medium	Operations, Countryside Services, Friends Groups / Community Groups	2011-2016	Number of management plans produced
Review and update the tree database of Huntingdonshire District Council owned trees	Medium	Operations	2011-2012	Date of completion
Network with other Local Authorities in the region with regard to open space best practice	Low	Operations, Countryside Services	On-going	Attendance at meetings / seminars with other Local Authorities





## 6.2 Strategic Actions:

Action	Priority	Lead	Timescale	Measure
Review local policy including the vision and aims stated within this strategy in light of changing national policy introduced by the new coalition Government	High	Operations Planning Policy Countryside Services	2011-2012	Date of review
In view of changing best practice, undertake an annual review of the criteria used in the "Prioritisation Matrix" to ensure continued validity	High	Operations, Countryside Services	2011-2016	Date of review
Undertake a mid point review of the Open Space Strategy and Action Plan to ensure strategy is kept up-to-date	High	Operations, Planning Policy, Countryside Services, Sport & Active Lifestyles	2012-2013	Date of review
Develop an understanding of best practise with regards to climate change adaptation in open spaces	High	Operations, Planning, Environmental Management	2011-2012	Production of guidelines for adaptation in open spaces
Encourage the sustainable sourcing of materials in open spaces through the establishment of procurement guidelines	High	Environmental Management, Procurement	2012-2013	Production of procurement guidelines
Review the section 106 open space specification, and review section 106 rates	High	Operations, Planning	2011-2012	Date of completion
Adopt a more co-ordinated strategic approach to consultation in order to identify needs and aspirations of both users and non-users of open space	High	Operations, Countryside Services	On-going	Quantity and timing of consultation carried out



Action	Priority	Lead	Timescale	Measure
Identify mechanisms that provide meaningful engagement with children young people in order to improve youth provision	High	Operations, Countryside Services	On-going	Number and success of consultation carried out with children and young people
Encourage the introduction of adaptive measures in open spaces in response to the effects of climate change	Medium	Operations, Planning, Environmental Management	2011-2016	Number of adaptive measures installed
Establish links between open spaces to sustain, protect and enhance the biodiversity resource of the district	Medium	Operations	2011-2016	To be confirmed
Produce "vision" plans for parks and significant open spaces where improvement schemes are proposed so that all works carried out can seek to achieve overarching vision	Medium	Operations	On-going	Production of "vision" plan for all open spaces where improvements are scheduled
Seek to review the council's current Playing Pitch Strategy	Medium	Planning, Operations	2012-2015	Date of completion
Seek to develop an Allotments and Community Garden Strategy to support development of this Open Space Strategy	Low	Operations	2012-2013	Date of completion
Produce/update Tree, Woodland and Hedge Strategy/policies to support the development of this Open Space Strategy	Low	Operations	2012-2013	Date(s) of completion

### 6.3 Monitoring

This Open Space Strategy provides a comprehensive overview of open space in Huntingdonshire. It is important to ensure that the audit of provision is regularly updated to maintain its validity. The five year action plan makes a commitment to annually review the audit data, and so it is acknowledged that there is a need for this strategy to remain an active document.



## Appendix 1: Green Flag Award Criteria

### 1. A welcoming place

Factors include:

- Good and safe access
- Good signage to and in the park/green space
- Equal access for all members of the community

### 2. Healthy, safe and secure

Factors include:

- Equipment and facilities must be safe to use
- Dog fouling must be adequately addressed
- Health and safety policies should be in place, in practice and regularly reviewed
- Availability of toilets, drinking water, first aid, public telephones and emergency equipment where relevant

### 3. Clean and well maintained

Factors include:

- Litter and other waste management
- The maintenance of grounds, buildings, equipment and other features
- A policy on litter, vandalism and maintenance should be in place, in practice and regularly reviewed

### 4. Sustainability

Factors include:

- A recognised environmental policy and management strategy in place, which is in practice and regularly reviewed
- Minimise and justify pesticide use
- Eliminate horticultural peat use
- Demonstrate high horticultural and arboricultural standards
- Energy conservation, pollution reduction, waste recycling and resource conservation measures



## 5. Conservation and heritage

Factors include:

- Conservation of natural features, wildlife and fauna
- Landscapes
- Maintenance of buildings and structural features

## 6. Community involvement

Factors include:

- Knowledge of user community and levels and patterns of use
- Evidence of community involvement in management and/or developments and results achieved
- Appropriate levels of provision of recreational facilities for all sectors of the community

## 7. Marketing

Factors include:

- A marketing strategy should be in place, which is in practice and regularly reviewed
- There should be good provision of information to users
- The site should be promoted as a community resource

## 8. Management

Factors include:

- A management plan or strategy should be in place (this has to be submitted as part of the Green Flag application process)
- A financially sound management of the site must also be demonstrated



## Appendix 2: Local Policy Context

### i. Huntingdonshire’s Sustainable Community Strategy (2008 - 2028)

The Huntingdonshire Local Strategic Partnership (HLSP) includes a number of organisations and community representatives formed to improve the area. This partnership includes key partners from the public, private and voluntary sector.

One of the major tasks undertaken by the HLSP was the development of the “Huntingdonshire Sustainable Community Strategy;” a key document that outlines how members of the HLSP will work in partnership to improve the quality of life in the area. The strategy is organised under six strategic themes. Open space provision has an impact on each of these six key areas and this is explored below:

#### 1. Growth and Infrastructure

**TARGET: “Improved health / education learning, training, community and leisure infrastructure and local and strategic open space through the appropriate provision of facilities to meet current and future needs”**

With regard to open spaces, this can be achieved through appropriate:

- cultural, leisure and community infrastructure.
- local green, recreational and open space.
- networked strategic green open space.

#### 2. Health and Well-Being

**TARGET: “Appropriate culture and leisure opportunities”**

With regard to open spaces, this can be achieved through:

- Developing culture and leisure opportunities.
- Provide accessible opportunities - things to do, particularly children and young people, and those with disabilities.
- Addressing play and cultural needs.
- Improve access to the countryside and green space.
- Enhance access to heritage.
- Provide good quantity and quality of leisure services.
- Ensure sufficient quantity and quality of indoor and outdoor sporting infrastructure.
- Promote active and healthy lifestyles.



### **3. Inclusive, Safe and Cohesive Communities**

#### **TARGET: "Vibrant and Cohesive Communities"**

With regard to open spaces, this can be achieved through:

- Promoting community based / run activities.
- Promoting community involvement.
- Engaging with new and developing communities.

#### **TARGET: "Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour"**

With regard to open spaces, this can be achieved by:

- Addressing anti-social behaviour.

#### **TARGET: "Good opportunities for life-long learning"**

With regard to open spaces, this can be achieved by:

- Promote opportunities for local people to improve or gain skills through cultural, leisure and volunteer activities.

### **4. Economic Prosperity and Skills**

#### **TARGET: "Increased visitor numbers"**

This can be achieved by:

- Encourage local people to visit local attractions.
- Improve the mix of attractions, facilities and leisure opportunities.

### **5. Environment**

#### **TARGET: "An environment that is protected and improved"**

This can be achieved by:

- Protecting and enhancing biodiversity and open space.
- Adaptation to climate change.
- Maintain a clean and safe Huntingdonshire.



## 6. Children and Young People

**TARGET: "Safe, accessible, positive activities for children and young people"**

This can be achieved by:

- Increasing the range of opportunities for children and young people to meet in informal and safe environments.
- Improve access to existing facilities.

### ii. Growing Success - Corporate Plan

Huntingdonshire District Council is responsible for promoting the economic, social and environmental well-being of its communities, with the desired objective of achieving a good quality of life. This is achieved by delivering actions and principles established within the Sustainable Community Strategy.

'Growing Success' is Huntingdonshire District Council's Corporate Plan and details how the Council will achieve its part of the Community Strategy. It is based on detailed community engagement so that the council can identify local communities' needs. 'Growing Success' identifies aims that the council will work towards, and details how these aims will be delivered.

As with the Sustainable Community Strategy, open space provision has strong links to a number of key community aims, including:

#### **COMMUNITY AIM: A clean, green and attractive place**

##### **Objective - Keep district clean**

This can be helped by ensuring that public spaces are kept free of litter, fly tipping and graffiti.

##### **Objective - To protect and improve our environment**

This can be achieved by reducing contaminated and polluted land and by protecting and enhancing biodiversity in strategic green spaces and in other open space. Furthermore, it can be helped by protecting and enhancing the character of urban and rural areas, minimizing the development of greenfield land and ensuring good quality parks and open spaces

##### **Objective - To help mitigate and adapt to climate change**

This can be achieved by increasing energy efficiency, encouraging renewable energy and adapting to climate change. Open spaces can be designed and managed in such a way to reduce the impact of climate change.



**COMMUNITY AIM: Safe, vibrant and inclusive communities**

**Objective - To work with others to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and ensure that people feel safe**

This can be achieved by promoting schemes which will provide positive and diversionary activity for young people, promoting facilities which bring people together, and providing effective CCTV system in vulnerable areas.

**Objective - To enable residents to take an active part in their communities and work to ensure that communities are inclusive**

This can be achieved by enabling access to facilities and opportunities for leisure, sport, community, voluntary and other activities. Furthermore, engaging with children and young people and promote opportunities for their involvement in positive activities will also help to meet the objective.

**COMMUNITY AIM: Healthy living**

**Objective - Promote healthy lifestyles**

This can be achieved by several means including provision of facilities/events to encourage participation in active leisure pursuits for everyone. It can also be helped by providing a network of Leisure Centres and associated activities, promoting and supporting the Healthy Walks programme, and providing holiday activity programmes for children and young people. Furthermore, there should be a focus on promoting cultural events and activities, and providing play and activities for young people.

**COMMUNITY AIM: Developing Communities Sustainably**

**Objective - To enable the provision of the social and strategic infrastructure to meet current and future needs**

This can be achieved by encouraging the provision of accessible leisure and community facilities and opportunities for all, and providing and supporting the development of play and recreation facilities in identified communities.

**COMMUNITY AIM: A strong and diverse economy**

**Objective - To support town centres and key settlements to become economically viable and vibrant**

This can be achieved by providing environmental improvements, promoting the district, local facilities and attractions to residents and visitors, and improving the quality and availability of attractions and facilities.





### **iii. Local Development Framework (LDF)**

This is one of the principle vehicles for achieving the council's corporate plan. It is a spatial plan that goes beyond traditional land use planning to bring together and integrate policies for the development and use of land with other schemes and programmes which influences the nature of places and how they function.

The LDF consists of a number of documents including a Core Strategy, adopted in 2009, Development Management DPD, and Planning Proposals DPD which together set out a spatial strategy to manage the amount and direction of growth and policies to help guide and judge that development.

### **iv. Sports Facilities Strategy (2009)**

The purpose of this strategy is to provide a clear framework for the prioritisation, provision and enhancement of sports facilities within Huntingdonshire, building on work carried out by Strategic Leisure Limited (SLL). SLL undertook a comprehensive review of existing sports facility provision in Huntingdonshire and identified future needs based on predicted population growth using Sport England's nationally recognised model the 'Sports Facility Calculator'.

Within the Sports Facilities Strategy, the council have identified a series of key policy recommendations, focusing on the need to encourage the retention of all strategically important outdoor sports facilities, encourage participation, whilst at the same time seeking to maximise section 106, Community Infrastructure Levy tariff, and other external funds to help enhance sports facilities across the district. Given that outdoor sports facilities are included within this Open Space Strategy, these are important recommendations as they will help to improve the standard of open spaces in Huntingdonshire.

### **v. Environment Strategy (2008)**

There are three key challenges identified within the council's Environment Strategy

- Tackling climate change
- Using resources efficiently
- Protecting and improving the environment

It is important that this Open Space Strategy recognises the potential impact that climate change may have on the district's open space. Management of parks and open spaces will need to take account of the impacts of drier, hotter summers and warmer, wetter winters on trees and other vegetation. Warmer temperatures are also likely to result in more outdoor lifestyles, putting greater demand on our green and open space. Therefore, it is important that open spaces are designed and managed in a such way to reduce the impact of climate change.



Open Space is an important part of the challenge of protecting and improving the environment. The Environment Strategy recognises that Huntingdonshire contains some very rare and valuable habitats that support a variety of species. Loss of this habitat due to development, inappropriate management or increased tourism damage can mean that these plants, animals and insects are lost forever.

There has been a historic loss of green and open space throughout the UK in previous decades. Therefore, it is important to ensure that open spaces are afforded protection through the planning process to further prevent habitat and open space fragmentation.

The Environment Strategy recognises that attractive, clean and safe neighbourhoods have positive impacts on the social, physical and mental wellbeing of residents, and the provision of pleasant green and open space located nearby plays a crucial part in this.

#### **vi. Play Strategy (2007)**

The district's Play Strategy recognises that the quality, quantity and accessibility of play provision across the district varies. Huntingdonshire District Council is committed to the development of play and recreational opportunities in all localities. Future development will be co-ordinated at district or town/parish level in order to secure the most appropriate, sustainable provision for local communities.

At the core of this strategy is the vision that "all children and young people in Huntingdonshire will be able to access a range of play opportunities suited to their needs and interests", with a focus on changing attitudes to play and delivering sustainable, free play opportunities for children and young people. Open spaces are seen to be crucial to this as they represent key locations for both formal and informal play opportunities.

#### **vii. Cultural Strategy for Huntingdonshire (2007)**

This strategy sets out Huntingdonshire District Council's key targets and aspirations for culture between 2007 and 2010. It provides a distinctive vision for the development of cultural activities, facilities and services and focuses on improving the quality of life through the provision and development of cultural activities, events and facilities and by helping to achieve other targets such as providing lifelong learning opportunities, improving health, stimulating economic development and helping to improve safety within local communities. The strategy recognises that open space and sports facilities are identified as a key part of the district's cultural offer.



### **viii. PPG 17 Open Space Assessment (2006)**

This assessment and audit was undertaken by PMP consultants, focusing on informal open space, outdoor recreation facilities, children's play areas, allotments and outdoor sports pitch provision.

Planning Policy Guidance 17 requires local authorities to carry out a needs assessment of provision to inform the development of local standards for the provision of open space. The study identifies deficiencies and surpluses of provision and their spatial distribution, and was primarily carried out to help inform the planning process.

In addition to this, the council are able to utilise this existing audit of provision as the basis for this Open Space Strategy.



## Appendix 3: Audit of Provision Results

Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Abbots Ripton</b>	Abbots Ripton Playing Field	Abbots Ripton	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	32,870
	Abbots Ripton Primary C of E School	Abbots Ripton	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	8,299
	St Andrews Church	Abbots Ripton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	5,585
	The Green	Abbots Ripton	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,230
	The Green	Abbots Ripton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	10,993
	Wennington & Raveley Woods	Wennington	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	729,177
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Abbotsley</b>	Abbotsley Hotel, Golf and Country Club	Abbotsley	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Destination	886,860
	High Street	Abbotsley	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,174
	High Street Tennis Court	Abbotsley	UNK	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,486
	New wood at Abbotsley Country Homes	Abbotsley	PRV	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	35,170
	St Margarets Church	Abbotsley	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,561
	St Neots Rd Playing Field	Abbotsley	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Neighbourhood	15,962
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Alconbury</b>	Alconbury C of E School	Alconbury	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	7,670
	Alconbury Sports and Social Club	Alconbury	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	39,428
	Bramble End	Alconbury	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	895
	Spinney Lane	Alconbury	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,485

\* A key for "ownership" is shown at the end of the audit tables.



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Alconbury (continued)</b>	St Peter and St Pauls Church	Alconbury	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	7,440
	The Green	Alconbury	PAR	Green Corridors	Local	18,175
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>75,093</b>
<b>Alconbury Weston</b>	Highfield Avenue	Alconbury Weston	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	4,000
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>4,000</b>
<b>Alwalton</b>	Church Street/ Oundle Road	Alwalton	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Neighbourhood	12,373
	St Andrews Church	Alwalton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,447
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>14,820</b>
<b>Bluntisham</b>	Baptist Chapel	Bluntisham	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,780
	Bluntisham Recreation Ground	Bluntisham	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	70,967
	Mill Lane Allotments	Bluntisham	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	10,068
	Needingworth Quarry	Bluntisham	UNK	Natural Open Space	Destination	1,460,513
	St Helens School	Bluntisham	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	14,760
	St Marys Church	Bluntisham	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	8,707
	St Marys Close	Bluntisham	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,586
	Village Hall Rectory Road	Bluntisham	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,415
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>1,575,796</b>	
<b>Brampton</b>	Brampton Institute Bowls Club	Brampton	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	3,980
	Brampton Memorial Playing Field	Brampton	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	30,900
	Brampton Park Golf Club	Brampton	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Destination	670,962
	Brampton Primary School	Brampton	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	19,205



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Brampton (continued)</b>	Brampton Wood	Brampton	OTHER	Natural Open Space	Local	1,334,945
	Centenary Way	Brampton	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,045
	Hinchingbrooke Gravel Pits	Huntingdon	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	965,930
	Kyle Crescent	Brampton	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,518
	Kyle Crescent	Brampton	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	812
	Laws Crescent	Brampton	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	7,721
	Layton Crescent	Brampton	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,977
	Portholme	Huntingdon	PRV	Natural Open Space	Local	1,024,289
	St Marys Church	Brampton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	13,671
	The Green	Brampton	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	6,540
	Thrapston Road Allotments	Brampton	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	9,328
	Williams Close	Brampton	PRV	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,601
	Woolley Close	Brampton	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,077
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Brington &amp; Molesworth</b>	Brington C of E School	Brington	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	5,150
	Church Road Tennis Court	Molesworth	UNK	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,206
	Hill Close	Brington	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	905
	Hill Close	Brington	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	670
	St Peters Church	Molesworth	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,337



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Brington &amp; Molesworth (continued)</b>	Molesworth Bridleway No. 28	Molesworth	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	14,932
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>25,200</b>
<b>Broughton</b>	School Road	Broughton	UNK	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	2,066
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>2,066</b>
<b>Buckden</b>	Buckden Junior School	Buckden	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	11,410
	Buckden Marina Ltd	Buckden	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,103
	Buckden Village Club (Playing Fields)	Buckden	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	28,343
	Great North Road Allotments	Buckden	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	3,100
	Lucks Lane Cemetery	Buckden	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	5,885
	Silver Street Allotments	Buckden	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	7,528
	St Marys Church	Buckden	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,250
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>60,619</b>
<b>Buckworth</b>	All Saints Church	Buckworth	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,590
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>2,590</b>
<b>Bury</b>	Bury C of E Primary School	Bury	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	8,618
	Bury C of E Primary School	Bury	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	2,928
	Holy Cross Church	Bury	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	5,097
	Owls End Playground	Bury	UNK	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	561



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Bury (continued)</b>	Valiant Square	Bury	PRV	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,739
	Valiant Square	Bury	PRV	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,718
	Ramsey Golf and Bowls Club	Ramsey	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	430,213
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>454,875</b>
<b>Bythorn &amp; Keyston</b>	Church of St John the Baptist	Keyston	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,561
	The Park	Keyston	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,479
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>7,040</b>
<b>Catworth</b>	Catworth Playing Field (Victory Ground)	Catworth	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	19,607
	St Leonards Church	Catworth	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,766
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>23,373</b>
<b>Colne</b>	Colne Recreation Ground	Colne	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	4,027
	Colne Road Allotments	Somersham	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	2,942
	St Ives- March Disused Railway (Somersham)	Somersham	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	18,932
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>25,901</b>
<b>Conington</b>	Cotton Close	Conington	HDC/UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	4,706
	Holy Cross Church	Conington	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,320
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>9,026</b>
<b>Covington</b>	St Margarets Church	Covington	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,674
	Village Hall Cross Street	Covington	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	677
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>3,351</b>
<b>Denton &amp; Caldecote</b>	Holme Fen	Holme	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	635,414
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>635,414</b>





Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Diddington</b>	Church of St Lawrence	Diddington	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,938
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>2,938</b>
<b>Earith</b>	Colne Road Allotments	Earith	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	14,679
	Colne Road Playground	Earith	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,171
	Community Association Field	Earith	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	15,585
	Earith Playing Field	Earith	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	19,019
	Earith Primary School	Earith	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	10,486
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>60,939</b>	
<b>Easton</b>	Easton Road Playing Field	Easton	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	4,744
	St Peters Church	Easton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,091
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>6,835</b>	
<b>Ellington</b>	All Saints Church	Ellington	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,656
	Ellington Recreation Ground	Ellington	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	9,474
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>12,130</b>	
<b>Elton</b>	All Saints Church	Elton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	6,980
	Elton Furze Golf Club	Haddon	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Destination	506,245
	Elton Park Cricket Club	Elton	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	9,579
	School Lane Open Space	Elton	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,420
	St Botolph Green Overend	Elton	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,787
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>530,011</b>	



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Farcet	Broadway Allotments	Farcet	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	2,038
	Broadway Cemetery	Farcet	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	9,209
	Church Walk	Farcet	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,074
	Farcet C of E Primary School	Farcet	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	9,451
	Farcet Playing Field	Farcet	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	10,407
	St Marys Church	Farcet	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,631
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
Fenstanton	Cambridge Road Allotments	Fenstanton	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	6,000
	Crystal Lakes Caravan Park	Fenstanton	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	54,985
	Elizabeth Court	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	6,527
	Fenstanton Bowls Club	Fenstanton	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,243
	Fenstanton Cricket Club	Fenstanton	UNK	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	11,633
	Fenstanton Football Club	Fenstanton	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	16,540
	Fenstanton Primary School	Fenstanton	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	16,654
	Pitfield Close	Fenstanton	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,342
	Rookery Place	Fenstanton	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	2,603
	St Peter and St Pauls Church	Fenstanton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	7,673
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Folksworth & Washingley	Apreece Road	Folksworth	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,499
	Elm Road	Folksworth	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,734
	Folksworth C of E Primary School	Folksworth	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	3,570
	St Helens Church	Folksworth	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,669
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>						<b>14,472</b>
Glatton	St Nicholas Church	Glatton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,210
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
Godmanchester	Buttermill Meadow	Godmanchester	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	10,451
	Cambridge Road Allotments	Godmanchester	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	15,260
	Cambridge Road Allotments	Godmanchester	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	13,660
	Chadley Lane	Godmanchester	HDC	Natural Open Space	Local	7,011
	Devana Close	Godmanchester	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	11,152
	Eastside Common	Godmanchester	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	235,812
	Eastside Common	Godmanchester	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	58,122
	Godmanchester Home Ground (Rovers)	Godmanchester	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	35,368
	Godmanchester Primary School	Godmanchester	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	16,565
	Godmanchester Town Cricket Club	Godmanchester	HDC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	23,960
	Godmanchester Town Cricket Club	Godmanchester	HDC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	12,580
	Godmanchester Town Park	Godmanchester	PAR	Parks & Gardens	Destination	35,440
	Judiths Field	Godmanchester	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	25,590
	London Road Cemetery	Godmanchester	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	8,067



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Godmanchester (continued)</b>	Rectory Gardens	Godmanchester	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,098
	Roman Way	Godmanchester	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,153
	Royal Oak Bowls Club	Godmanchester	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,372
	St Annes Primary School	Godmanchester	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	7,835
	St Marys Church	Godmanchester	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	10,146
	Stokes Drive Open Space	Godmanchester	DEV	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	2,008
	Tudor Road	Godmanchester	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,022
	Westside Pollard Willows	Huntingdon	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	551,090
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Grafham</b>	All Saints Church	Grafham	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,141
	Brampton Road	Grafham	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,614
	Grafham Cricket Club	Grafham	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	19,581
	Grafham Water	Grafham	PRV	Natural Open Space	Destination	8,065,417
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Great Gidding</b>	Great Gidding C of E Primary School	Great Gidding	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,951
	Great Gidding Playing Field	Great Gidding	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	17,997
	Main Street Allotments	Great Gidding	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	21,951
	St Michaels Church	Great Gidding	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,584
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Great Gransden</b>	Barnabas Oley Primary School	Great Gransden	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	5,359
	Great Gransden Bowls Club	Great Gransden	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,534
	Great Gransden Playing Field	Great Gransden	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	33,278
	Great Gransden Tennis Court	Great Gransden	UNK	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	553
	St Bartholomews Church	Great Gransden	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,682
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Great Paxton</b>	Great Paxton C of E School	Great Paxton	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,065
	Great Paxton C of E School	Great Paxton	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	6,757
	Great Paxton Recreation Ground	Gt Paxton	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	18,970
	Holy Trinity Church	Great Paxton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	6,266
	Mount Pleasant	Great Paxton	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	4,814
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Great Staughton</b>	Great Staughton Playing Fields	Great Staughton	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	18,909
	Great Staughton Primary School	Great Staughton	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	4,134
	St Andrews Church	Great Staughton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,177
	The Green Allotments	Great Staughton	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	5,397
	The Town Cemetery	Great Staughton	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,307
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Hail Weston	Hail Weston Playing Field	Hail Weston	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	11,334
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>11,334</b>
Hamerton & Steeple Gidding	All Saints Church	Hamerton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,805
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>2,805</b>
Hemingford Abbots	Hemingford Abbots Golf Club	Hemingford Abbots	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	174,103
	Recreation Ground Royal Oak Lane	Hemingford Abbots	PAR	Amenity Green-space	Local	5,068
	St Margarets Church	Hemingford Abbots	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,397
	Hemingford Abbots Meadow	Hemingford Abbots	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	550,021
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>731,589</b>
Hemingford Grey	Hemingford Grey Meadow	Hemingford Grey	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	491,497
	Hemingford Grey Primary School	Hemingford Grey	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	7,856
	Heminigford Sports Pavilion	Hemingford Grey	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	21,511
	Marsh Lane Gravel Pits	Hemingford Grey	LAFARGE	Natural Open Space	Local	532,618
	Pound Road Cemetery	Hemingford Grey	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,063
	Sadlers Way Allotments	Hemingford Grey	HDC	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	6,101
	St James Church	Hemingford Grey	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,065
	Stepping Stones	Hemingford Grey	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	22,640
	Vicarage Fields	Hemingford Grey	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,793
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>1,094,144</b>
Hilton	Church End	Hilton	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,390
	Grove End	Hilton	PAR	Natural Open Space	Local	4,917
	Hilton Green	Hilton	PAR	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	82,281



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Hilton (continued)</b>	St Mary Magdelenes Church	Hilton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,433
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>95,021</b>
<b>Holme</b>	Holme C of E Primary School	Holme	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	6,562
	Holme Fen	Holme	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	1,563,144
	Holme Fen	Holme	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	459,747
	Holmewood	Holme	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,155
	Station Road Cemetery	Holme	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,704
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>2,037,313</b>
<b>Holywell cum Needingworth</b>	Bramley Ave/Russett Close	Needingworth	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	9,761
	Daintree	Needingworth	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,068
	Holywell C of E Primary School	Needingworth	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	8,891
	Holywell-cum-Needingworth Bowls Club	Needingworth	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,743
	Mill Way Allotments	Needingworth	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	4,051
	Mill Way Cemetery	Needingworth	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,033
	Millfields Recreation Ground	Needingworth	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	20,031
	Millfields Recreation Ground	Needingworth	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	63,237
	Needingworth Tennis Club	Needingworth	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	3,373
	Overcote Fen	Holywell	PAR	Natural Open Space	Local	3,966
	Playing Field Overcote Lane	Needingworth	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	20,874
	St Ives Golf Club	St Ives	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Destination	751,631
	St John the Baptist Church	Holywell	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,085
	The Front	Holywell	PAR	Natural Open Space	Local	8,865
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					<b>905,608</b>	



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Houghton &amp; Wyton</b>	Houghton and Wyton Playing Fields	Houghton	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	21,804
	Houghton Grange Grassland	Houghton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	41,957
	Houghton Hill Cemetery	Houghton	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,113
	Houghton Meadow Pollard Willows	Houghton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	60,223
	Houghton Meadows	Houghton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	46,075
	Houghton Primary School	Houghton	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	12,223
	Loxley Green	Wyton	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,721
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>						<b>189,116</b>
<b>Huntingdon</b>	American Lane	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,433
	American/Oxmoor Lane	Huntingdon	HDC/UNK	Green Corridors	Local	6,659
	American/Primrose Lane Allotments	Huntingdon	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	23,904
	Ash/Elm Close	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,504
	Beech Close Play Area	Huntingdon	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	4,686
	Beech/Ash Close	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,325
	Benedicts Court	Huntingdon	CCC	Civic Spaces	Local	510
	Bevan Close	Huntingdon	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	776
	Brampton Road	Huntingdon	CCC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,078
	Brampton Road	Huntingdon	CCC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,503
	Brampton Road	Huntingdon	CCC	Natural Open Space	Local	6,320
	Brampton Road	Huntingdon	CCC	Natural Open Space	Local	5,621
	Castle Moat Park	Huntingdon	PAR	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	18,697





Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Huntingdon (continued)	Chequers Court	Huntingdon	PRV	Civic Spaces	Local	1,766
	Church Lane	Hartford	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Destination	4,128
	Claytons Way Field/ Olympic Gym	Huntingdon	PRV	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	16,089
	Coneygear Court	Huntingdon	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,422
	Coneygear Park	Huntingdon	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	34,981
	Coxons Close	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,196
	Cromwell Park Primary School	Huntingdon	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	9,609
	Dartmoor Drive	Huntingdon	HDC	Natural Open Space	Local	5,210
	Dartmoor/ Snowdonia Way	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	7,981
	Falcon Drive	Hartford	HDC	Natural Open Space	Local	3,365
	Flamsteed Drive/ Hinchingsbrooke buffer	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	17,789
	Garner Court Play Area	Huntingdon	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,632
	Hamlet Close	Hartford	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,024
	Hartford Community Junior School	Huntingdon	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	16,253
	Hartford Road Allotments	Huntingdon	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	12,027
	Hinchingsbrooke Balancing Pond	Huntingdon	DEV	Natural Open Space	Local	7,351
	Hinchingsbrooke School	Huntingdon	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	31,375
	Hinchingsbrooke School	Huntingdon	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Destination	154,175
	Huntingdon & Godmanchester Bowling Club	Huntingdon	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	4,281
	Huntingdon Infants and Junior Schools	Huntingdon	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	21,658



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Huntingdon (continued)</b>	Huntingdon Regional College	Huntingdon	CCC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	51,498
	Huntingdon Regional College	Huntingdon	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	12,078
	Huntingdon Regional College	Huntingdon	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	1,035
	Huntingdon Town Park	Huntingdon	PAR	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	12,023
	Huntingdon Youth Club	Huntingdon	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	4,121
	King George V Playing Field	Hartford	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Neighbourhood	11,162
	King George V Playing Field	Huntingdon	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	36,151
	Long Moore Baulk	Huntingdon	DEV	Green Corridors	Local	28,445
	Long Moore Baulk	Huntingdon	HDC	Green Corridors	Local	2,363
	Longstaff Way	Hartford	CCC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,286
	Macbeth Close	Huntingdon	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,156
	Maple Drive open space	Huntingdon	HHP/UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,821
	Market Square	Huntingdon	CCC	Civic Spaces	Local	1,673
	Maryland Avenue	Hartford	UNK	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	2,117
	Mill Common	Huntingdon	FREEMEN	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	61,623
	Montagu Bowls Club	Huntingdon	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,230
	Norfolk Road	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	7,954
	Norfolk Road	Huntingdon	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,418
	Nuns Bridge	Huntingdon	CCC	Natural Open Space	Local	9,830
	Nursery Road Play Area	Huntingdon	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,232



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Huntingdon (continued)	Oberon Close	Hartford	HDC/UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,271
	Owl Way Tree Belt	Hartford	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	37,472
	Oxmoor Lane	Huntingdon	UNK	Green Corridors	Local	22,915
	Parkway buffer	Huntingdon	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	8,037
	Parkway Play Area	Huntingdon	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	164
	Perigrine/Kite Close	Hartford	HDC	Amenity Green-space	Local	3,487
	Port Holme	Huntingdon	FREEMEN	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	32,932
	Primrose Lane Cemetery	Huntingdon	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	6,553
	Priory Road Cemetery	Huntingdon	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	20,309
	Redwings Way Park	Huntingdon	PAR	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	12,704
	Riverside Park	Huntingdon	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Destination	56,499
	Riverside Park-Hunters Down	Huntingdon	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Destination	78,176
	Rodney Road	Hartford	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,076
	Sallowbush Rd Allotments	Huntingdon	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	16,149
	Sallowbush Road open space	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	26,475
	Sapley Park	Huntingdon	UNK/HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,717
	Sapley Park Playing Fields	Huntingdon	HDC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	78,714
	Scholars Avenue	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,735
	Spring Common	Huntingdon	FREEMEN	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	38,364
	Spring Common	Huntingdon	FREEMEN	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	12,892
Spring Common Primary and Secondary School	Huntingdon	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	17,405	



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Huntingdon (continued)</b>	St Johns C of E Primary School	Huntingdon	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	11,447
	St Marys Church	Huntingdon	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,189
	St Peter's School	Huntingdon	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	47,503
	Stukeley Meadows open space	Huntingdon	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	31,507
	Stukeley Meadows open space	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	49,325
	Stukeley Meadows Primary School	Huntingdon	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	8,424
	Stukeley Meadows Skate Park	Huntingdon	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,399
	Surrey Road	Huntingdon	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,865
	Sycamore Drive	Huntingdon	HHP	Civic Spaces	Local	869
	The Glades	Huntingdon	DEV	Amenity Greenspace	Local	8,057
	The Whaddons	Huntingdon	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	973
	Thongsley Infants and Junior School	Huntingdon	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	24,403
	Views Common	Huntingdon	FREEMEN	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	266,242
	Hinchingbrooke Country Park	Huntingdon	CCC	Parks & Gardens	Destination	606,835
	Jubilee Park	Huntingdon	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	131,024
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>						<b>2,376,649</b>
<b>Kimbolton</b>	Iron Gates Netball & Tennis Courts Roger Peel Spor	Kimbolton	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	1,561
	Kimbolton and Catworth Cricket Club	Kimbolton	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	12,062
	Kimbolton Preparatory School	Kimbolton	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	77,907



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Kimbolton (continued)</b>	Kimbolton School	Kimbolton	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Destination	216,227
	Newtown Allotments	Kimbolton	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	8,784
	Newtown Cemetery	Kimbolton	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	7,410
	Overhills Primary School	Kimbolton	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	10,996
	Pond Lane Park	Kimbolton	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	14,827
	St Andrews Church	Kimbolton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,524
	Thrapston Road	Kimbolton	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	11,903
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>						<b>365,200</b>
<b>Leighton</b>	Leighton Playing Field	Leighton Bromswold	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	3,565
	St Marys Church	Leighton Bromswold	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,911
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>						<b>7,477</b>
<b>Little Gidding</b>	St Johns Church	Little Gidding	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,086
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Little Paxton</b>	Gordon Road / The Crofts/The Willows	Little Paxton	HDC	Green Corridors	Local	5,268
	Island Site	Little Paxton	DEV	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,061
	Little Paxton Playing Field	Little Paxton	PAR	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	24,034
	Little Paxton Primary School	Little Paxton	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	10,929
	Parkside / Booth Way	Little Paxton	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	8,996
	Paxton Pits	Little Paxton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	69,736
	Paxton Pits	Little Paxton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	293,562
	Rivermill Open Space	Little Paxton	DEV	Amenity Greenspace	Local	6,019



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Little Paxton (continued)</b>	St James Church	Little Paxton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,311
	Wantage Gardens Allotments	Little Paxton	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	12,758
	Paxton Pits	Little Paxton	HDC	Natural Open Space	Destination	530,809
	Little Paxton Pits Non-SSSI	Little Paxton	LAFARGE	Natural Open Space	Local	1,022,032
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Morborne</b>	All Saints Church	Morborne	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,674
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Offord Cluny &amp; Offord D'Arcy</b>	All Saints Church	Offord Cluny	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,553
	Graveley Road Allotments	Offord Darcy	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	2,336
	Millenium Green	Offord Darcy	PAR	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	46,920
	Offord Cricket Ground	Offord Darcy	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	15,456
	Offord Meadow	Offord Cluny	UNK	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	23,700
	Offord Primary School	Offord Darcy	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	6,865
	St Peters Church	Offord Darcy	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,786
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Old Weston</b>	St Swithens Church	Old Weston	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,094
	Village Hall Main Street	Old Weston	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,756
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Out of District (Yaxley)</b>	Pond Rolls Close	Yaxley	DEV	Natural Open Space	Local	6,879
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>						<b>6,879</b>
<b>Perry</b>	Lakeside Close	Perry	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	6,153
	Mander Park	Perry	UNK	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	30,179



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Perry (continued)</b>	Mander Park West Perry	Perry	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	9,799
	Perry Football Pitch	Perry	UNK	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	13,380
	Perry Skate Park	Perry	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,440
	West Perry	Perry	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,162
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Pidley cum Fenton</b>	All Saints Church	Pidley	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,763
	Lakeside Lodge Golf Centre	Pidley	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Destination	302,113
	Playing Field Warboys Road	Pidley	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	4,572
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Ramsey</b>	Abbey College	Ramsey	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	135,211
	Ashbeach Primary School	Ramsey St Marys	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	4,896
	Church Green	Ramsey	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,085
	Clover Close	Ramsey St Marys	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,376
	King George Playing Field	Ramsey	PAR	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	26,727
	Mill Lane Playing Field	Ramsey	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	13,711
	Oak Way	Ramsey St Marys	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,168
	Old Nene Golf and Country Club	Ramsey	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	323,136
	One Leisure Ramsey	Ramsey	HDC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	4,154



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Ramsey (continued)</b>	Ramsey Colts Football Club	Ramsey	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	28,510
	Ramsey Cricket Club	Ramsey	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	21,692
	Ramsey Heights Nature Reserve	Ramsey Heights	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	54,536
	Ramsey Junior School	Ramsey	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Neighbourhood	15,103
	Ramsey Mereside Village Hall	Ramsey Mereside	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	32,008
	Recreation Ground Ramsey Road	Ramsey Forty Foot	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	8,374
	Spinning Infant School	Ramsey	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	2,187
	St Marys Church	Ramsey St Marys	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	5,617
	St Thomas A Becket Church	Ramsey	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	5,697
	Stocking Fen Road Allotments	Ramsey	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	14,609
	Stocking Fen Road Allotments	Ramsey	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	13,917
	The Malting	Ramsey	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,829
	Wood Lane Cemetery	Ramsey	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	47,115
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Sawtry</b>	All Saints Church	Sawtry	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	6,715
	Archer's Wood	Coppingford	OTHER	Natural Open Space	Local	185,923
	Aversley Wood	Sawtry	OTHER	Natural Open Space	Local	632,629
	Green End Road	Sawtry	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	329





Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Sawtry (continued)</b>	Green End Road Play Area	Sawtry	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	917
	Monks Wood & The Odd Quarter	Sawtry	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	139,283
	Recreation Ground St Judiths Lane	Sawtry	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	45,140
	Sawtry and District Bowls Club	Sawtry	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	2,245
	Sawtry Community College	Sawtry	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	35,116
	Sawtry infants and Junior School	Sawtry	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	16,477
	Sawtry Leisure Centre	Sawtry	HDC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	1,762
	Sawtry Sports Club	Sawtry	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	62,817
	St Judiths Lane Allotments	Sawtry	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	7,597
	Monks Wood & The Odd Quarter	Sawtry	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	1,558,872
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Sibson cum Stibbington</b>	Chapel Court Allotments	Wansford	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	6,857
	Stibbington Pits	Stibbington	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	304,042
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Somersham</b>	Chapel Field Lane Allotments	Somersham	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	170,011
	Norwood Playing Field	Somersham	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	23,858
	Somersham Millenium Field	Somersham	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	47,244
	Somersham Primary School	Somersham	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Neighbourhood	8,761
	Somersham Town Bowls	Somersham	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	2,422
	Somersham Town Football Club	Somersham	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	17,432



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Somersham (continued)</b>	St Ives - March Disused Railway (Somersham)	Somersham	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	28,782
	St Ives - March Disused Railway (Somersham)	Somersham	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	22,020
	St John the Baptist	Somersham	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	7,955
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Southoe &amp; Midloe</b>	Paxton Lakes Sailing Club	Little Paxton	LAFARGE	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	882,979
	Paxton Pits	Little Paxton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	913,629
	Southoe Football Pitch	Southoe	PAR	Amenity Green-space	Neighbourhood	19,568
	St Leonards Church	Southoe	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,719
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Spaldwick</b>	Fuller Close	Spaldwick	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,430
	Spaldwick Primary School	Spaldwick	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	14,699
	St James Church	Spaldwick	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,875
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>St Ives</b>	Alwyn Close	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,173
	Ansley Way	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,308
	Broad Leas Cemetery	St Ives	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	7,124
	Burstellars	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	10,223
	Burstellars	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,564
	Canberra Drive	St Ives	HDC	Green Corridors	Local	14,447
	Chestnut Road	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	4,293
	Eastfield School	St Ives	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	7,530



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>St Ives (continued)</b>	Edinburgh Drive	St Ives	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	7,314
	Heddon Way	St Ives	HDC	Green Corridors	Local	10,830
	Hill Rise Allotments	St Ives	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	54,839
	Hill Rise Park	St Ives	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Destination	70,549
	Holt Island	St Ives	HDC	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	19,214
	Hunts Sailing Club	St Ives	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	245,098
	Land North of Hill Rise	St Ives	HDC	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	80,112
	Lavender Way	St Ives	HDC/UNK	Green Corridors	Local	6,683
	London Road	St Ives	HDC	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	47,027
	Market Square	St Ives	CCC	Civic Spaces	Local	1,085
	Nursery Gardens	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,477
	Old Ramsey Road Cemetery	St Ives	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	12,514
	One Leisure St Ives (outdoor)	St Ives	HDC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Destination	156,967
	Playing Field Little How	St Ives	UNK	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	6,090
	Ramsey Road	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,273
	Rookery Close	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	6,025
	Skelton Place	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,854
	Slepe Playing Field	St Ives	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	13,356
	St Audrey Lane	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,850
	St Ives Bowls Club	St Ives	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	2,349
St Ives Parish Church	St Ives	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,875	



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>St Ives (continued)</b>	St Ives Rugby Club	St Ives	UNK	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	43,938
	St Ives Town FC	St Ives	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	13,843
	St Ivo School	St Ives	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	28,761
	St Ivo School	St Ives	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	3,500
	Stirling Road	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	19,236
	Swan Close	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,382
	Tamar Close	St Ives	HDC	Green Corridors	Local	2,552
	Tenterleas Tennis Club	St Ives	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,311
	The Crescent	St Ives	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	2,991
	Thorndown County Infant School	St Ives	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	12,134
	Warners Park	St Ives	PAR	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	23,659
	Wellington Avenue	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,316
	Westfield School	St Ives	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	20,723
	Westwood Road	St Ives	HDC	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	17,162
	Westwood Road Cemetery	St Ives	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,104
	Wheatfields School	St Ives	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	15,955
	Woodside Way	St Ives	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,058
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>St Neots</b>	Axis Way	St Neots	HDC/UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,153
	Barford Road LAP	St Neots	DEV	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	133



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
St Neots (continued)	Barford Road Pocket Park	St Neots	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	187,879
	Baron Court	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	4,002
	Beatty Road	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	8,816
	Brickhills open space	St Neots	PAR	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	19,558
	Brown Square	St Neots	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	6,037
	Bushmead Primary School	St Neots	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	14,121
	Cambridge Street	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,633
	Cawdor Place	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,367
	Cemetery Road Allotments	St Neots	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	7,499
	Cemetery Road Cemetery	St Neots	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	24,468
	Coneygeare Park	St Neots	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	14,381
	Crosshall Infants and Juniors	St Neots	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	16,110
	Duck Lane	St Neots	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,316
	Duloe Brook	St Neots	HDC	Green Corridors	Local	4,878
	Eaton Ford open space	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	24,744
	Eaton Socon Bowling Club	St Neots	HDC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	2,078
	Eaton Socon Cricket Club	St Neots	UNK	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	14,563
	Eaton Socon Football Club	St Neots	HDC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	7,597
	Eaton Socon open space	St Neots	HDC	Green Corridors	Local	16,797
	Eaton Socon open space	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	24,294
Eynesbury Bowls Club	St Neots	HDC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,598	



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>St Neots (continued)</b>	Eynesbury C of E School	St Neots	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Neighbourhood	4,568
	Eynesbury Rovers Football Club	St Neots	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	16,738
	Gainsborough Avenue	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,079
	Hardwick Road	St Neots	PRV	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	30,156
	Hardwick Road	St Neots	DEV	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	261,466
	Hardwick Road	St Neots	HDC	Natural Open Space	Local	2,919
	Hardwick Road Allotments	St Neots	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	11,734
	Hawkesdon Road	St Neots	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,314
	Hawkesford Way	St Neots	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	225
	Hawkesford Way POS	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	7,844
	Henbrook Linear Park	St Neots	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Neighbourhood	39,702
	Inkerman Rise	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,738
	Kings Road open space	St Neots	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,501
	Kipling/Hogarth	St Neots	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,601
	Lammas Meadows	St Neots	HDC	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	162,414
	Lammas Meadows	St Neots	HDC	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	123,180
	Linton Close play area	St Neots	DEV	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	451
	Little End Road Cemetery	St Neots	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	8,160
	Longfellow/Constable	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,987
	Longsands College	St Neots	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	118,052



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>St Neots (continued)</b>	Market Square	St Neots	CCC	Civic Spaces	Local	857
	Maule Close LAP	St Neots	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	188
	Middlefield Primary School	St Neots	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	11,989
	Milk Field	St Neots	UNK	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	12,926
	Mill Hill Road open space	St Neots	HDC/UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	9,009
	Mill Lane Allotments	St Neots	PRV	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	42,874
	Monarch Road open space	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	24,798
	Moore's Walk	St Neots	CCC	Civic Spaces	Local	297
	Musgrave Way	St Neots	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	10,730
	Navigation Wharf	St Neots	HDC	Green Corridors	Local	3,997
	One Leisure St Neots	St Neots	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Destination	29,333
	Parklands open space	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	12,045
	Prince Close	St Neots	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	8,994
	Priory Junior School	St Neots	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	17,629
	Priory Park	St Neots	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Destination	327,263
	Recreation Ground Ackerman Street	St Neots	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	11,586
	Regatta Meadows	St Neots	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Destination	75,169
	River Road Allotments	St Neots	PRV	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	4,452
	Riverside Park	St Neots	HDC	Parks & Gardens	Destination	166,548
	Riversmead	St Neots	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	9,112
Romney/Lawrence	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,597	



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>St Neots (continued)</b>	Samuel Pepys School	St Neots	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	3,222
	School Lane Eynesbury	St Neots	HDC	Green Corridors	Local	3,949
	Shady Walk East Street Open Space	St Neots	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	4,529
	Sidney Banks Memorial Field	St Neots	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	23,464
	St Anselm Place	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,168
	St Marys C of E Primary School	St Neots	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	7,304
	St Marys Church	St Neots	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,443
	St Marys Church	St Neots	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	8,629
	St Neots Common	St Neots	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	334,029
	St Neots Community College	St Neots	CCC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	67,156
	St Neots Rugby Club	St Neots	FREEMEN	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	102,771
	St Neots Tennis & Bowling Club	St Neots	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	5,252
	St Neots Town Football Club	St Neots	HDC	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	17,426
	Sudbury Meadows	St Neots	HDC	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	7,466
	Swift Close	St Neots	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	2,989
	The Bargroves	St Neots	CCC	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	5,684
	The Broad Walk	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,666
	Viceroy/Viscount	St Neots	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,630
	Weston Court	St Neots	UNK	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	796





Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>St Neots (continued)</b>	Whitehall Walk	St Neots	UNK	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,125
	Winhills Primary School	St Neots	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	19,515
	St Neots Golf Club	St Neots	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Destination	440,347
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Stilton</b>	Church Street Cemetery	Stilton	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,208
	St Marys Church	Stilton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,778
	Stilton C of E Primary School	Stilton	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	1,513
	Stilton Skate Park and Football Pitch	Stilton	UNK	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	17,604
	Walnut Way	Stilton	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	7,452
	Stilton Oaks Golf Club	Stilton	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	437,682
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Stow Longa</b>	Church Walk	Stow Longa	HDC	Amenity Green-space	Local	2,819
	St Botolphs Church	Stow Longa	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,110
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>The Stukeleys</b>	Brampton Racecourse	Brampton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	210,730
	Chestnut Grove	Great Stukeley	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,731
	Great Stukeley Playing Field	Great Stukeley	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	14,944
	RAF Alconbury	Alconbury	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	33,026
	RAF Athletics Track	Alconbury RAF	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	16,667
	Spruce Drive Play-ground	Alconbury	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	3,017
	St Bartholomews	Great Stukeley	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,437



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>The Stukeleys (continued)</b>	St Martins Church	Little Stukeley	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,320
	Village Hall Low Road	Little Stukeley	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	3,216
	West View	Great Stukeley	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,329
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Tilbrook</b>	All Saints Church	Tilbrook	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	4,333
	Mill Hall Playing Fields	Tilbrook	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	4,580
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Upton &amp; Coppingford</b>	Church of St Margarets	Upton	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,276
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
<b>Upwood &amp; The Raveleys</b>	Ailwine Road	Upwood	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	5,651
	Bentley Close	Upwood	PAR	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	646
	Farm Close	Upwood	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	4,273
	Farm Close/ Barley Way	Upwood	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	7,254
	Lady's Wood	Upwood	OTHER	Natural Open Space	Local	71,540
	Meadow Lane Allotments	Upwood	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	4,964
	Meadow Road Allotments	Upwood	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	7,710
	Raveley Wood	Raveley	OTHER	Natural Open Space	Local	58,532
	St Peters Church	Upwood	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,168
	Upwood Cricket Ground	Upwood	UNK	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	12,888
	Upwood Meadows	Upwood	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	60,180
	Upwood Primary School	Upwood	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	8,878
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Warboys</b>	Adam Lyons Recreation Field	Warboys	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	9,365
	Church Road Cemetery	Warboys	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	5,082
	Farriers Way Open Space	Warboys	DEV	Amenity Greenspace	Local	4,690
	Fenton Road Allotments	Warboys	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	6,794
	Grace Baptist Church	Warboys	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	5,227
	Pingle Wood and Cutting	Warboys	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	71,831
	St Mary Magdelene Church	Warboys	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	3,712
	Warboys and Wistow Wood	Warboys	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	354,776
	Warboys Community Primary School	Warboys	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	21,279
	Warboys Parish Centre	Warboys	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,297
	Warboys Sports and Social Club	Warboys	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	35,148
	Warboys White Hart Bowls Club	Warboys	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	1,477
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>						<b>520,678</b>
<b>Waresley cum Tetworth</b>	Church of St James the Great	Waresley	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,806
	Waresley Cricket Club	Waresley	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	14,581
	Waresley and Gransden Nature Reserve	Waresley	OTHER	Natural Open Space	Neighbourhood	544,942
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>						<b>562,329</b>
<b>Winwick</b>	All Saints Church	Winwick	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,542
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Wistow	Oaklands Avenue	Wistow	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	5,689
	Warboys and Wistow Wood	Warboys	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	88,113
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					
Wood Walton	Beville	Woodwalton	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,934
	Five Arches Pits (East)	Woodwalton	OTHER	Natural Open Space	Local	39,277
	Gamsey Wood	Woodwalton	OTHER	Natural Open Space	Local	41,584
	Riddy Wood and Lane	Woodwalton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	91,879
	The Green	Woodwalton	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,142
	Woodwalton Fen	Woodwalton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	2,081,258
	Woodwalton Marsh	Woodwalton	UNK	Natural Open Space	Local	6,702
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>						<b>2,265,777</b>
Yaxley	Allard Close	Yaxley	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	14,548
	Allard Close	Yaxley	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	2,164
	Broadway Bowls Club	Yaxley	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	3,666
	Church Street Cemetery	Yaxley	PAR	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	16,874
	Daffodil Court	Yaxley	DEV	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	843
	Ferndale - Queens Park Sports Pavilion	Yaxley	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	45,279
	Ferndale Northern Buffer	Yaxley	DEV	Amenity Greenspace	Local	8,901
	Fourfields Primary School	Yaxley	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	11,818



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Yaxley (continued)</b>	Foxglove Close	Yaxley	DEV	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	3,747
	Great Drove Allotments	Yaxley	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	8,189
	Highfield Walk	Yaxley	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,506
	Leading Drove Allotments	Yaxley	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Local	8,722
	Mere Drove Allotments	Yaxley	PAR	Allotments & Community Gardens	Neighbourhood	10,047
	Mountbatten Avenue	Yaxley	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	4,828
	Queen Street	Yaxley	HDC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	2,653
	Rose Court	Yaxley	DEV	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	124
	Shackleton Way	Yaxley	DEV	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	3,907
	Speechley Road	Yaxley	HDC	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,958
	St Peters Church	Yaxley	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,802
	Village Green	Yaxley	DEV	Amenity Greenspace	Local	7,746
	William De Yaxley C of E Junior School	Yaxley	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	11,747
	Yaxley Football Club	Yaxley	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	11,757
	Yaxley Infants School	Yaxley	CCC	Provision for Children & Young People	Local	4,631
Yaxley Recreation Ground	Yaxley	PAR	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood	48,583	
<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>						<b>239,040</b>



Parish	Site Name	Town	Ownership	Type	Local Designation	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
Yelling	Church of the Holy Cross	Yelling	CHURCH	Cemeteries and churchyards	Local	2,921
	High Street	Yelling	PAR	Amenity Greenspace	Local	2,397
	High Street (cricket outfield)	Yelling	PRV	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood	21,349
	Yelling Cricket Ground	Yelling	PRV	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Local	8,474
	<b>TOTAL PROVISION</b>					

### Ownership Key:

<b>CCC</b>	Cambridgeshire County Council
<b>CHURCH</b>	Church
<b>DEV</b>	Developer
<b>FREEMEN</b>	Freemen
<b>HDC</b>	Huntingdonshire District Council
<b>HDC (part)</b>	Part owned by HDC
<b>LAFARGE</b>	LAFARGE
<b>PAR</b>	Local Parish Council
<b>PRV</b>	Private
<b>UNK</b>	Unknown
<b>UNK/HDC</b>	Part owned by HDC



## Appendix 4: Prioritisation Matrix

### FACTOR A: Local Designation

Criteria for this factor are:

**Matrix Score of 4: Regional Sites** - These particular sites are typically larger than 60 hectares in size and are in many cases major visitor attractions, containing facilities and experiences enabling families to enjoy whole days out. Their high matrix score reflects their importance to the area. It may be that there are none within the borough, but their significance should not be discounted given the need for people in the borough to have access to such areas, or the long-term desirability of achieving access to such a site within the borough itself. Travel to them is typically accepted as being by car/ public transport and as such the catchments are very large

**Matrix Score of 3: Destination** - These particular sites would typically cover an area of between 10 and 60 hectares and contain a range of facilities and experiences for all members of the public. These can be classed as the borough's main parks / countryside parks and would allow the visitor to spend several hours enjoying the open space environment.

**Matrix Score of 2: Neighbourhood** - These sites are typically between 1 and 10 hectares and include established areas of public open space, including recreation grounds. Whilst the main mode of travel to the site will be on foot, users may travel from beyond the immediate catchment, necessitating the use of cars or public transport.

**Matrix Score of 1: Local** - These sites are typically incidental areas of open space, and in many cases are the only useable piece of public open space in their locality. They are important in providing linkages to the wider green infrastructure, and have a very small catchment area. Their low matrix score reflects the fact their significance relates to a very small proportion of the Borough's population.

### FACTOR B: Existing Quality

Criteria for this factor are:

**Matrix Score of 4:** Quality score of 3 based on PPG 17 assessment scores.

**Matrix Score of 3:** Quality score of 2 based on PPG 17 assessment scores.

**Matrix Score of 2:** Quality score of 1 based on PPG 17 assessment scores.

**Matrix Score of 1:** Sites that do not currently have a quality audit score



### **FACTOR C: Community Involvement**

Criteria for this factor are:

**Matrix Score of 4:** Friends of Group or equivalent community involvement actively involved in the management and development of the site.

**Matrix Score of 3:** Occasional community involvement at site, including community events and / or similar activities.

**Matrix Score of 2:** No current community activity but scope for future community involvement at the site.

**Matrix Score of 1:** No current community involvement in the management and development of the site. Unlikely to be any involvement in the future.

### **FACTOR D: Sustainability**

Criteria for this factor are:

**Matrix Score of 4:** Site has an environmental policy or charter in place, and site management is based on best practice and current knowledge, addressing issues such as recycling of waste plant material, energy use, horticultural peat use, adaptation to climate change etc.

**Matrix Score of 3:** Site adopts some but not all of the sustainability recommendations highlighted in Green Flag manual. Environmental policy or charter in place but scope for additional improvements.

**Matrix Score of 2:** Some sustainability issues addressed but no environmental policy or charter in place.

**Matrix Score of 1:** No clear maintenance plan in place, nor is there likely to be in the near future.





### **FACTOR E: Site Usage**

Criteria for this factor are:

**Matrix Score of 4:** Site is well used with a variety of leisure and recreation opportunities available.

**Matrix Score of 3:** Site is well used but has limited opportunities for leisure and recreation.

**Matrix Score of 2:** Site is poorly used despite the fact that it offers a range of leisure and recreation opportunities.

**Matrix Score of 1:** Site is poorly used with limited leisure and recreation opportunities available.

### **FACTOR F : Potential Improvements**

In addition to the current state of play at each site, it is also important to identify whether there are any planned improvements, or scope for improvements to any of the borough's open spaces.

**Matrix Score of 4:** Site has major improvements planned and this is detailed within capital programme or equivalent documents.

**Matrix Score of 3:** Site has minor improvements planned and this is stated within current documentation.

**Matrix Score of 2:** No improvements detailed within documentation, but significant aspects of the site require improving.

**Matrix Score of 1:** No improvements detailed within documentation, and only minor aspects of the site need improving.

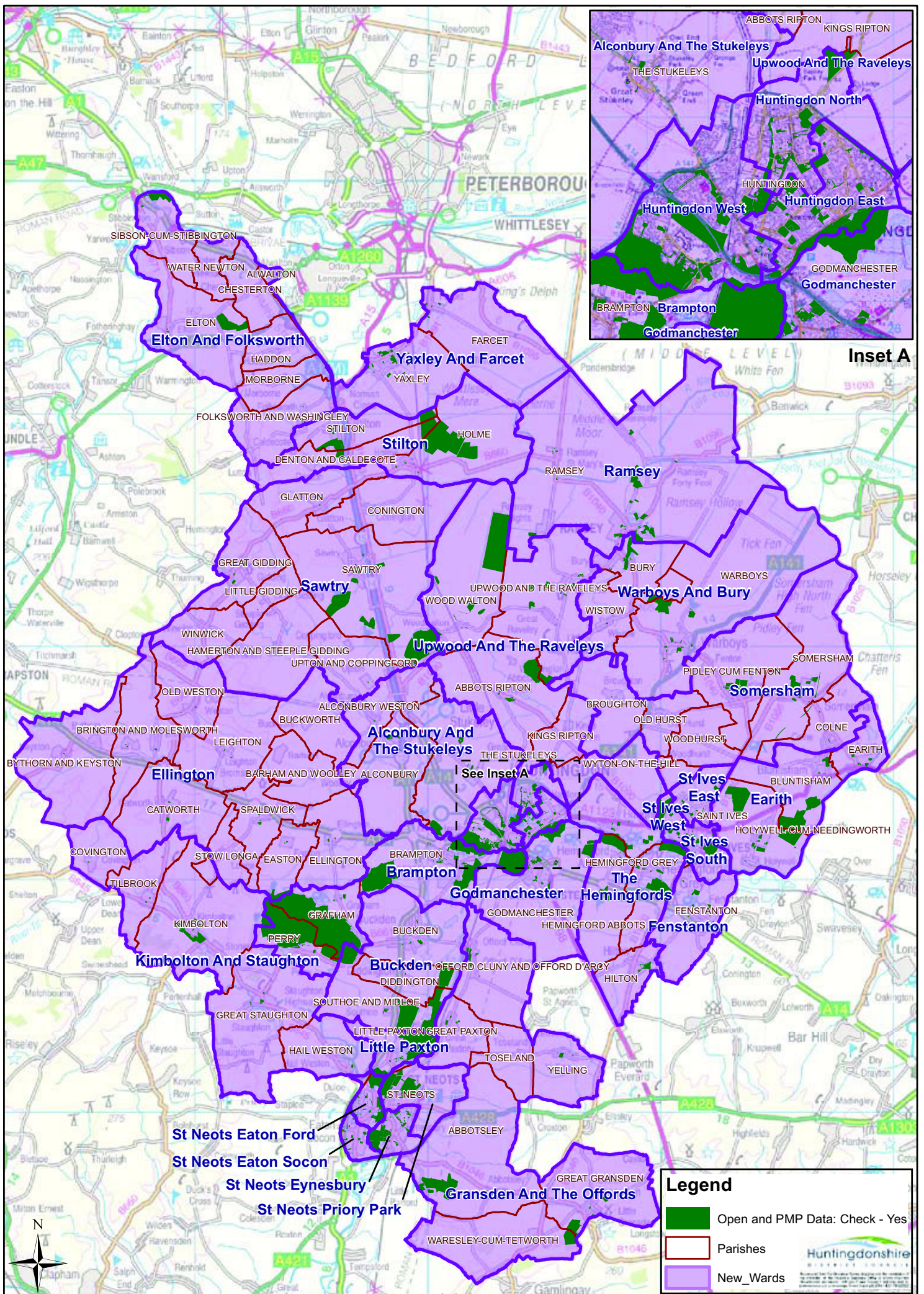


## Appendix 5: Detailed Priority Matrix Scores for the Destination Sites

Site Name	FACTOR						Matrix Score
	A. Local Designation	B. Existing Quality	C. Community Involvement	D. Sustainability	E. Site Usage	F. Potential Improvements	
Hinchingbrooke Country Park	3	3	4	4	4	4	<b>22</b>
Paxton Pits	3	3	4	4	4	4	<b>22</b>
Grafham Water	3	4	3	4	4	4	<b>22</b>
Priory Park	3	4	3	4	4	3	<b>21</b>
Riverside Park (Huntingdon)	3	4	2	3	4	3	<b>19</b>
Hill Rise Park	3	4	2	3	4	3	<b>19</b>
Riverside Park - Hunters Down	3	4	2	3	4	3	<b>19</b>
Godmanchester Town Park	3	4	2	3	4	2*	<b>18</b>
One Leisure St Ives (outdoor)	3	4	1	2*	4	4	<b>18</b>
Regatta Meadows	3	3	2	3	4	3	<b>18</b>
Riverside Park (St Neots)	3	3	2	3	4	3	<b>18</b>
Hinchingbrooke School	3	4	3	2*	4	2*	<b>18</b>
Needingworth Quarry	3	1	3	3	3	3	<b>16</b>
Kimbolton School	3	4	1	2*	4	2*	<b>16</b>
Lakeside Lodge Golf Centre	3	4	1	2*	4	2*	<b>16</b>
Church Lane	3	4	2	3	3	1	<b>16</b>
One Leisure St Neots	3	4	1	1	4	2*	<b>15</b>
St Neots Golf Club	3	4	1	2*	3	2*	<b>15</b>
Brampton Park Golf Club	3	4	1	2*	3	2*	<b>15</b>
St Ives Golf Club	3	4	1	2*	3	2*	<b>15</b>
Abbotsley Hotel, Golf and Country Club	3	4	1	2*	3	2*	<b>15</b>
Elton Furze Golf Club	3	2	1	2*	3	2*	<b>13</b>

\* Assumed mark of 2 given lack of available information relating to this factor





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**OPEN SPACE STRATEGY**  
**(Report by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being))**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 At its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2011, the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) considered a report by the Head of Operations on the content of the draft Open Space Strategy. This report sets out the Panel's discussions.

**2. COMMENTS**

- 2.1 The Panel has been advised that the Strategy aims to provide an overarching vision of what the District's parks, open spaces and other public spaces could look like over the next 10-15 years. It will primarily be used to aid the planning process. In particular the Strategy will be used as a tool to lever Section 106 funding into the District.
- 2.2 The Executive Councillor for Operational and Countryside Services has informed Members that minor amendments have been made to the Strategy since its publication with the Panel's Agenda. These have been included in the final version of the Strategy, which has been submitted to the Cabinet. Members of the Panel have been requested to forward suggestions for any further amendments directly to the Service Development Manager.
- 2.3 Comment has been made that adoption of the Strategy could encourage the perception that the Council will take responsibility for or assist with the maintenance or development of all the sites identified within the document.
- 2.4 Further comment has been made on the need for the Strategy to incorporate a detailed analysis of the implications of localism for the achievement of its aims. Work on the Strategy commenced in 2009, at a time when the Council was operating under different political and budgetary conditions. The Panel has received assurances that the ongoing process to update the Strategy will include the development of an appreciation of localism.
- 2.5 Following discussion on the terminology used to classify the different types of open spaces that exist and which ones have been included in the Strategy, Members have endorsed the decision to adopt an approach which is consistent with Planning Policy Guidance 17. The Panel has also commented that the Strategy should differentiate between sites that the public can visit free of charge and those that require payment for their use.
- 2.6 Finally, the Panel has been informed that the Strategy will be a "live" document that will be routinely updated by Officers and revised editions will be published.

### 3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The Cabinet is invited to consider the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) as part of its deliberations on the report by the Head of Operations.

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

Minutes and Reports of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2011.

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**COMT  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY  
CABINET  
COUNCIL**

**25<sup>th</sup> January 2011  
8<sup>th</sup> February 2011  
17<sup>th</sup> February 2011  
23<sup>rd</sup> February 2011**

**HUNTINGDON WEST AREA ACTION PLAN  
THE INSPECTOR'S BINDING REPORT / ADOPTION PROCEDURES  
(Report by Head of Planning Services)**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Council that, following his examination of the submitted Huntingdon West Area Action Plan (AAP), the Inspector has now issued his binding report which has found the AAP to be sound, and therefore the Council can now adopt this AAP as part of the Development Plan.

1.2 A copy of the Inspector's report is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

2.1 The Proposed Submission Huntingdon West AAP was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in April 2010.

2.2 An independent Planning Inspector, David Vickery, conducted an examination into the soundness of the AAP by way of written exchanges and public hearing sessions in July and August. The Inspector considered representations received on the Proposed Submission document, together with further statements for the hearings, and all relevant evidence including a Sustainability Appraisal.

## **3. THE INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

3.1 The Inspector has now issued his binding report and he has found the AAP to be sound subject to a number of agreed changes being made to the Proposed Submission version. All of these changes have been proposed by Council, either at the time of Submission in April 2010 (having viewed representations received on the Proposed Submission document) or later following questions raised by the Inspector. A final set of changes was sent to the Inspectorate following the October Spending Review to update the Plan further to the withdrawal of the A14 scheme in favour of a new study.

3.2 Due to changes in government guidance, the process of considering this plan differed slightly from that for the Core Strategy. The Proposed Submission was a new separate stage and the Inspector sought to make his decision based on changes put forward by the Council rather than proposing any changes himself. This may also be the process for future development plan documents as it is the one outlined in the Localism Bill.

3.3 The Inspector's report is primarily concerned with addressing the tests of 'soundness' which include whether the plan is 'justified' by evidence and 'effective' in that it is able to be implemented.

- 3.4 The Inspector found that with the agreed amendments:
- The AAP can effectively respond to changes to the related transport schemes
  - The AAP appropriately details requirements for mixed use development to the west of the town centre
  - A limited amount of development is likely to the west of the railway line and in the Hinchingbrooke area
  - The proposed extension to Hinchingbrooke Country Park can occur
  - The infrastructure requirements are founded on a robust evidence base
  - The AAP can be monitored in an effective manner
- 3.5 Therefore he concluded that the AAP met the overall criteria for soundness and complied with all the legal requirements. The sustainability appraisal is also adopted through this process.

#### **4. ADOPTION OF THE AREA ACTION PLAN**

- 4.1 Adoption of the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan will ensure that the most up to date policies are applied in respect of the planning proposals for this area, and its status will help to facilitate positive change and redevelopment.
- 4.2 The west of town centre area offers an opportunity for appropriately increasing the retail offer within Huntingdon whilst supporting the town centre and appropriate redevelopment of Chequers Court. The precise details of this requirement were discussed at length during the hearings. New housing and offices, as well as an additional public car park and other town centre uses are also envisaged to come forward on this previously developed land.
- 4.3 The AAP allocates land currently temporarily used for car parking opposite the railway station for the development of employment activities, together with Cambridgeshire Constabulary land in Hinchingbrooke. It was clarified during the hearings that the two parcels which currently have permission for the Regional College and the Water Tower can be allocated for alternative uses should those permissions not be implemented. However, the intention in the Proposed Submission document to allow for some redevelopment on the hospital site, possibly with additional road access, was not pursued on the basis that the hospital management did not have an agreed plan to release any land.
- 4.4 In respect of open space, within a year of adopting the AAP it is intended that progress will be made to extend Hinchingbrooke Country Park using Higher Level Stewardship funding. The Plan also sets out how land can be added to Views Common should the further A14 Study decide that the viaduct across the railway will be removed.

#### **5. RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 It is therefore recommended that Council:
- a. Adopts the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan as part of the Development Plan for the district.

**Appendix 1:** The Inspector's letter to the Chief Executive and his report on the Examination into the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan

**CONTACT OFFICER** - enquiries about this report to Steve Ingram, Head of Planning Services, on 01480 388400





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Mr. Monks  
Huntingdonshire District Council  
Pathfinder House  
St. Mary's Street  
Huntingdon  
PE29 3TN

Our Ref: PINS/H0520/429/6

Date: 23 December 2010

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Dear Mr Monks

### **Huntingdonshire District Council Huntingdon West Area Action Plan DPD**

1. As you know I was appointed by the Secretary of State to carry out an independent examination of the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan Development Plan Document, which was submitted on 9 April 2010 under section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. My overall conclusion is that, with the changes recommended in my Report, this DPD satisfies the requirements of Section 20 (5) (a) and (b) of the 2004 Act and the associated 2004 Regulations (as amended), and also meets the soundness criteria set out in Planning Policy Statement 12. Thus, I find that the Huntingdon West AAP has complied with the legal requirements and is sound.
3. I held a Pre-Hearing meeting on 2 June 2010 and conducted the Examination by way of written exchanges and a series of hearings that were held between 27 July and 4 August 2010. I have also considered the representations made following the consultation on the Council's Proposed Changes and their Sustainability Appraisal in October 2010.
4. Please convey my thanks to all the Council's staff for their helpful, positive and professional response to my issues and questions. I would also like to record my grateful appreciation to my Programme Officer, Gloria Alexander - her good humour, friendliness, organisational skills, and efficiency ensured that the entire Examination ran smoothly.
5. I hope that my conclusions and recommendations in the accompanying Report will enable your Council to ensure a positive social, economic and environmental outcome for Huntingdon to benefit the local community.

Yours sincerely,

*David Vickery*



The Planning  
Inspectorate

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# **Report to Huntingdonshire District Council**

**by David Vickery DipT&CP MRTPI**

**an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government**

**23 December 2010**

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PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004

SECTION 20

## **REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION INTO THE HUNTINGDON WEST AREA ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT**

Document submitted for Examination on 9 April 2010

Examination hearings held between 27 July and 4 August 2010

File Ref: PINS/H0520/429/6

## **Non-technical Summary**

This report concludes that the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan (AAP) provides an appropriate basis for the planning of this part of the District over the next 15 years. The Council has sufficient evidence to support the strategy and can show that it has a reasonable chance of being delivered.

A limited number of changes are needed to meet legal and statutory requirements. These can be summarised as follows:

- Clarifying how the AAP would provide flexibility and be effective in dealing with the Government's withdrawal of the A14 road improvements in the October 2010 Comprehensive Spending Review and the possibility that the West of Town Centre Link Road might not be implemented;
- Making the AAP effective by detailing how the pedestrian and cycle links in policy HW2 would be implemented;
- Deleting a number of unnecessary Maps;
- Setting out the scale and amount of the retail and employment allocations in policy HW4, and indicating the key factors for development location and future flexibility, so that the policy is consistent with national policy, is effective, seen to be justified, and complies with the Core Strategy;
- Clarifying the access arrangements for various sites allocated in policy HW5 so that they are effective;
- Deleting an unjustified, imprecise and so ineffective alternative uses allocation for parts of Hinchingsbrooke Hospital in policy HW5;
- Making clear how the proposed Country Park extensions and its new car park would be implemented so that policy HW6 is effective;
- Deleting unjustified open space and building sustainability requirements in policies HW8 and HW9;
- Deleting unjustified references to a Hinchingsbrooke Link Road whilst still retaining the possibility of its future investigation; and
- Ensuring that the monitoring section meets Government advice.

All of the changes recommended in this report are based on suggestions put forward by the Council during the Examination in response to points raised by participants. Whilst none of the changes alter the focus of the Council's overall strategy, the main changes (in Appendix A), except PC1 and PC2, have been subject to Sustainability Appraisal. All of the consultation responses have been taken into account.

## Introduction

- i. This report contains my assessment of the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan (the AAP) Development Plan Document (DPD) in terms of Section 20 (5) of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It considers whether the AAP is compliant in legal terms and whether it is sound. Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 12 at paragraphs 4.51 and 4.52 makes clear that to be sound a DPD should be justified, effective and consistent with national policy.
- ii. The starting point for the Examination is the assumption that the Council has submitted what it considers to be a sound plan. The basis for the Examination is the submitted AAP of December 2009. My approach to the Examination has been to work with the Council and the respondents in a positive, pragmatic and proactive manner, with the aim of resolving differences and any elements of unsoundness in the AAP.
- iii. The report deals with the changes that are needed to make the AAP sound, and they are identified in bold in the report by the letters PC (for Proposed Change) followed by a reference number identifying the exact change in Appendix A, e.g. PC11. All of these changes have ultimately been proposed by the Council. None of these changes should materially alter the substance of the AAP and its policies, or undermine the Sustainability Appraisals and participatory processes undertaken.
- iv. Some additional changes put forward by the Council before and during the Examination are factual updates, corrections of minor errors or other minor amendments in the interests of clarity. These are shown in Appendix B. As these changes are not required to make the AAP sound they are generally not referred to in this report although I endorse the Council's view that they add to the clarity and cohesiveness of the AAP. I am content for the Council to make any further necessary additional minor changes to text, page numbers, maps, paragraph numbering etc., to correct spelling, and to make factual updates which may become apparent during the final editing of the AAP before its adoption.
- v. With two exceptions, all of the changes that the Council has proposed following the submission of the AAP have been subject to public consultation<sup>1</sup>. The two exceptions are, firstly, the Council's changes made as a result of the October 2010 Comprehensive Spending Review decision by the Government to withdraw the A14 improvement scheme and, secondly, the minor changes made by the Council as a result of its consideration of the later public consultation responses. These changes have all been shown on the Council's web site. All but three of the Appendix A changes have also been subject to Sustainability Appraisal. The three exceptions (PC1, PC2 and PC15) again result from the Government's withdrawal of the A14 scheme. I have taken all of the consultation responses into account.
- vi. References in the report to documentary sources are provided in footnotes, such as the one below, using the document's reference number in the Examination's official 'Reference Documents' list.

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<sup>1</sup> LOC52

## Assessment of Soundness

### Preamble

1. During the Examination on 6 July 2010 the Secretary of State announced the revocation of Regional Strategies with immediate effect, which included the East of England Plan. However, this was challenged by Cala Homes Ltd in the High Court and the outcome, on 10 November 2010, was to quash the 6 July revocation. The Secretary of State has decided not to appeal this decision. As a consequence, the East of England Plan as it stood on 5 July forms an ongoing part of the development plan.
2. At the time of the 6 July revocation the Council said at the Pre-Hearing Meeting that the absence of the East of England Plan would not alter the major component of housing land supply for the AAP, namely the adopted Core Strategy. Moreover, the Council was of the opinion that housing allocations in the AAP were minimal and were not so significant that the absence of the Regional Strategy would have major consequences for the AAP's soundness. There were no other implications of the revocation that might affect the AAP. There were no contrary views from respondents. Thus it makes no difference to the AAP's soundness whether the East of England Plan is revoked or not. However, the AAP complies with the Core Strategy which, in turn, complies with the East of England Plan.

### Main Issues

3. Taking account of all the representations, written evidence and the discussions that took place at the Examination hearings, there are six main issues upon which the soundness of the AAP depends. It will be recalled that the soundness criteria are whether the AAP is justified, effective and consistent with national policy.

#### **Issue 1 – Do the transport schemes in the AAP's proposals have a justified basis, and does the AAP deal adequately with any uncertainty about them so that it is effective?**

4. On 10 June 2010 the Inquiry into the A14 road diversion improvements which would have affected Huntingdon and the AAP area was postponed pending the result of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review.
5. The Government decided in that Spending Review on 20 October 2010 to withdraw the proposed A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton road improvement scheme. Instead, the Department of Transport will undertake a study to identify cost effective and practical proposals which bring benefits and relieve congestion. The withdrawal of the A14 improvements was a possibility which had been fully canvassed and explored during the Examination at the hearing sessions.
6. The evidence shows that the AAP's proposals could still proceed without the A14 improvements, apart from the reinstatement of the Views Common land (part of policy HW7) and that part of site B in policy HW5 b. which are both presently covered by the A14 viaduct. The Council suggested a number of changes to take account of the Government's A14 decision, which I endorse and which are included in the recommended changes in the Appendices (see below).
7. Those suggestions are: alterations to policy HW1 to delete references to the A14 changes and add the Department of Transport's new A14 study (**PC1**); the deletion of Map 3 showing the now withdrawn A14 changes (the Link Road is

shown on other Maps in the AAP) (**PC2**); an addition to the beginning of the AAP's Appendix 2 (Phasing) (**PC3**); an alteration to its paragraph 2.7 (**PC4**); and the deletion of Map 9 (**PC15**). Without these changes the AAP would be unsound as it would not reflect the fact that the A14 improvements will not take place.

8. The proposed West of Town Centre Link Road is more fundamental to the AAP's proposals, especially those in policy HW4. It is designed to provide access to many of the policy HW4 parcels of development land and the Council said that the Traffic Assessment<sup>2</sup> indicated it would result in a traffic flow reduction of about one third around the nearest part of the town's ring road, thereby enabling better pedestrian and cycle links to the town centre. This will improve accessibility and integration with surrounding areas, which is an Objective of the AAP.

9. The Council stated that it was confident that the Link Road will be constructed and it provided a detailed budget<sup>3</sup> to show that it had the monies available from various reliable and robust sources in order to pay for it. In particular, it was said that the Link Road is Cambridge Horizons' top priority across Cambridgeshire Districts so far as Housing Growth Fund monies are concerned, and that that money is available for the Council to claim. The Council has clearly worked hard with public partners to do all it can to secure funds. Therefore, there is a more than reasonable chance that the Link Road will be constructed within the timescale in the AAP, thereby providing the main necessary infrastructure to implement the proposed development.

10. However, the Council was prudent and right to suggest a change to Appendix 2 to deal with the possibility, however unlikely, that the Link Road might not be built for whatever reason. This change (**PC5**) allows for the possibility of some small scale development in parts of the AAP, the safeguarding of the Link Road route, and the option for the Council to trigger a review of the AAP to deal with the changed situation. Without this change the AAP would be unsound as it would not say how the possible absence of the Link Road would be handled.

11. As submitted the AAP is not effective because it does not clearly explain how the proposed pedestrian and cycle links in policy HW2 are to be implemented, and so it would be unsound. So I endorse the Council's suggested change (**PC6**) to Appendix 2 which corrects this by saying that these links would be provided as part of development and with proposals in the Huntingdon & Godmanchester Market Town Transport Strategy<sup>4</sup>. Despite some respondents' concerns about the effectiveness of these links, I consider that they are understandable and logical, and would improve accessibility in the area. No other alternatives were suggested, but if some are subsequently identified there is no reason why they could not be incorporated into any review of the Market Town Transport Strategy.

12. Policy HW3 is a generalised facilities and transport links enhancement policy for the railway station. Map 5 as submitted is confusing as the new car park nearest the station and the possible temporary car park have now been implemented; it does not explain or aid understanding of the policy; and its other features are covered elsewhere in the AAP. Map 5 should therefore be deleted as the Council suggest because it harms policy HW3's effectiveness (**PC7**).

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<sup>2</sup> INF22

<sup>3</sup> LOC51

<sup>4</sup> INF15

**Issue 2 – Is policy HW4 (George St/Ermine St) consistent with national policy, clear in its requirements so that it is effective, and in conformity with the Core Strategy?**

13. The underlying principles for the HW4 site are laid out in the Core Strategy. Policy CS8 sets out the mixed use nature of the site's development that is to be implemented in this AAP; the minimum ("at least") amount of retail development to be achieved; and the requirement that retail development here should be complementary and appropriate so that it does not jeopardise the delivery of the further redevelopment of Chequers Court in the town centre.

14. HW4 is the key policy in the AAP as it covers the largest and most complex AAP allocation of over 6 hectares of land to the north-west of the town centre through which the Link Road will run. It is to be redeveloped for a variety of mixed uses such as residential, retail and employment. The policy wording as submitted is vague in its intentions, and the concept map, by its very nature, does not purport to set out in detail the policy's implementation. Although the policy sets out the range of dwelling numbers to be achieved (and specifies other uses), it does not indicate the quantum of employment or retail development – and it is this last failing which is the root cause of why the policy is unsound without amendment. The next four paragraphs set out the key reasons for the policy's unsoundness when judged against the PPS12 criteria.

15. Policy HW4 (and its associated text) as submitted is not consistent with national policies because it:

- does not identify the appropriate scale of development for the employment and retail elements of this mixed use site (PPS12 and PPS4);
- fails to specify the amount and type of retail floorspace and so does not take account of the quantitative need for additional floorspace for different types of retail development in Huntingdon (PPS4);
- appears to leave the identification by sequential assessment of a suitable site for retail development to a future planning application (PPS4);
- the lack of retail detail leaves uncertain its impact on the Core Strategy prioritised redevelopment of Chequers Court in the town centre (PPS4); and
- leaves to a masterplan the task of allocating the principal development uses of the various parcels of land within this mixed use site (PPS12).

16. The policy is not justified because:

- the amount and type of retail development in the Chequers Court town centre redevelopment has not been quantified and so the impact of the retail element of this policy upon it cannot be properly assessed; and
- the traffic modelling for the Link Road assumes a quantum of development which was not quantified in the policy, and so its favourable traffic impact conclusions were not assured.

17. The policy is not effective because of the above concerns, and so it is unlikely to be delivered in accordance with the requirements of Core Strategy policy CS8.

18. The policy is not in conformity with the Core Strategy as there is no reasonable certainty what employment and retail developments would be provided, and a judgement cannot be made as to whether it would jeopardise the delivery of the Chequers Court town centre development.

19. However, the Council commendably recognised these unsoundness issues and addressed them by suggesting changes (**PC8**) which primarily specified the proposed retail and employment allocations and set out an explanation of the methodology of calculating the retail floorspace. The changes did not alter the policy's principles, but used existing evidence and information produced by respondents to provide clearer details of its intentions.

20. The employment floorspace suggested figure has been guided by the area shown on the concept map (Map 6e) which is approximately 0.57 hectares. This is not a certain figure as there may also be employment uses mixed in with other uses elsewhere, and vice versa. The Link Road's Transport Assessment<sup>5</sup> model for employment traffic generation would not be exceeded as it assumed a similar employment area of around 0.57 hectares. This level of employment floorspace would be in conformity with the Core Strategy in its policy CS7. To allow for flexibility in the amount of employment, the Council's suggested change sensibly indicates in a footnote that this is a maximum figure, and outlines the factors which would need to be considered for any proposed higher figure.

21. The derivation of the suggested retail floorspace figure is more complex. Put simply, the latest information from the main landowners (Sainsbury's and Churchmanor Estates) on the size of the Chequers Court redevelopment has been subtracted from the total potential need figure for retail development in Huntingdon from the March 2010 retail study<sup>6</sup>. The Council produced a table showing this calculation<sup>7</sup>, which gave a maximum figure of 5,350 square metres [m<sup>2</sup>] of new comparison and convenience floorspace for the HW4 site. This would be below the assumed traffic modelling figure of 9,000 m<sup>2</sup> of retail development on this site, and so it would not affect the Transport Assessment's favourable outcome.

22. As with the employment figure, to allow for flexibility the Council's suggested change indicates in a footnote that this is a maximum retail floorspace figure, and outlines the factors which would need to be considered for any proposed higher figure. All this is necessary for soundness in order to prevent larger amounts of employment or retail development having unforeseen harmful consequences on the town and its shopping centre.

23. The Council's retail study is up-to-date and assesses quantitative and qualitative needs up to 2021 and, more indicatively, up to 2026. For comparison goods the study estimated a potential for around 17,400 m<sup>2</sup> in Huntingdon up to 2026. The study explained that it had recommended concentrating this amount of development in Huntingdon due to a lack of suitable sites in and around St Neots' town centre. This higher figure would still be in conformity with the Core Strategy as the floorspace areas mentioned in policy CS8 are minimum figures only, and that policy does not stipulate a specific proportionate split or exact amount to be shared between each of these two settlements. It is up to the Council in other DPDs to meet the requirement for St Neots' retail provision set out in policy CS8, or conversely to explain why this cannot be achieved.

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<sup>5</sup> INF22

<sup>6</sup> RET4

<sup>7</sup> LOC51



24. For retail convenience goods the study estimated a need for 2,050 m<sup>2</sup> for Huntingdon by 2026. It also identified the need for enhanced convenience retail provision towards the south or west of Huntingdon, which it said this site could satisfy. I am satisfied that the retail study forms a reliable and credible evidence base on which floorspace requirements for this site can be based.

25. The Core Strategy requirement is that any retail development on the HW4 site should be complementary and appropriate, and not jeopardise the delivery of the Chequers Court redevelopment. The two principal land owners of the Chequers Court site took part in the Examination, and the floorspace estimate of that potential redevelopment was based on their figures. So I am satisfied that this is a credible figure so far as can be judged at the present early stage of redevelopment plans for Chequers Court. The suggested retail development floorspace figures for the policy have been calculated by taking away the floorspace estimate of Chequers Court from the retail study's floorspace estimate. Therefore, policy HW4's retail floorspace would not jeopardise Chequers Court in the plan period and so the AAP would conform with the Core Strategy in this respect.

26. Long term retail forecasting is imprecise and the forecast evidence for the last five year period up to 2026 is indicative only. Even so, Government advice in the PPS4 Practice Guidance is that forecasts for development plans should be prepared for intermediate five year intervals, as has been done here. In addition, in the medium term there is a possibility that a large retail development on this site could adversely affect the viability of the Chequers Court redevelopment. But the Core Strategy and the AAP are clear on the priority of Chequers Court, and this is the guiding principle for the AAP retail allocation. The completion of the HW4 retail development is likely to be in the middle of the AAP period (between 2012 and 2020) and so a longer term retail forecast view to 2026 is justified, tempered by the flexibility to reduce or increase floorspace. In the final analysis this, as the PPS4 Practice Guide says, is a matter of planning judgement, and I am satisfied that the policy as changed is sound. This judgement is partly based on the flexibility of the policy as recommended to be changed, as explained below.

27. On that matter of flexibility, the AAP would have sufficient built-in safeguards for the Council to be able to manage any necessary floorspace alterations as the Chequers Court redevelopment details become clearer. The new footnote makes it clear that any increase above the approximate floorspace figure would require justification. If the Council considers that a lesser floorspace figure would be more appropriate in the circumstances of the time, then that also would be possible. Thus with these changes the new retail element of the policy would be flexible and able to respond to changing economic circumstances, particularly the need to ensure the delivery of the Chequers Court redevelopment. The retail floorspace quantum is not "cast in stone".

28. The precise balance of comparison and convenience retail floorspace between the HW4 site and Chequers Court cannot be quantified at present because this depends on the retail offer in the Chequers Court redevelopment. So this, as policy HW4 indicates, is a matter which will have to be resolved during the consideration of any planning application on the HW4 site, and will be dependant on the circumstances at the time.

29. It was said at the hearings that the AAP should be changed so that planning permission for retail development would not be granted on the HW4 site until

planning permission had been granted for the Chequers Court redevelopment and, as a possible additional proviso, that the Chequers Court permission had been implemented. But this is not what the Core Strategy requires, and the AAP is a subordinate Plan whose main purpose is to implement the spatial strategy and policies of the Core Strategy as it relates to this part of Huntingdon. It is not possible to impose either a more onerous or a less restrictive requirement than that in the Core Strategy. In any event, a more restrictive policy as advocated would not be effective as it could result in none of the much needed retail development taking place in Huntingdon if Chequers Court did not obtain permission (or was not implemented). This would not be in the best interests of the people of Huntingdon as it could result in no improvement in the retail offer in the town, and it would also be an unreasonable constraint on the delivery of the HW4 site.

30. In the event of a planning application on the HW4 site for retail development being considered before any Chequers Court site application(s), then the Council will have to decide what to do in the light of the Core Strategy policy CS8 and HW4 requirements not to jeopardise the delivery of Chequers Court. This seems to me to be entirely reasonable, realistic, practical and workable. Thus I am satisfied that policy HW4 is in conformity with the Core Strategy so far as the prioritised delivery of Chequers Court is concerned.

31. The use of the term "sequential analysis" in the AAP as submitted implies that retail development on the HW4 site has not been properly considered as required in PPS4 *Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth*. The retail evidence base for the Core Strategy<sup>8</sup> came to the conclusion that the general HW4 area was "edge-of-centre" under the then similar Government retail guidance. It also concluded that this area "will represent the next sequentially preferable location for comparison sector retail development in Huntingdon" (paragraph 9.27). The Inspector's report on the Core Strategy did not disagree with this conclusion. Indeed, Core Strategy policy CS8 could not have directed "appropriate" retail development to this site unless it had been concluded that it was sequentially acceptable. Therefore, to suggest the contrary in the AAP would be unsound as this would not be in conformity with the Core Strategy which has already decided that the HW4 site is the next sequentially preferable location. And it would also result in a confusing and a less effective and deliverable policy.

32. The Council said that the phrase "sequential analysis" as used in the AAP (most notably in policy HW11, but also in paragraph 10.10 and in Appendix 2 paragraph 2.4) was meant to indicate the factors which would guide the exact location of retail development on this large site. These factors have caused the HW4 policy to prefer a probable retail location at the site's southern end near to George Street, as set out at the end of paragraph 7.4. It follows, for all the above reasons, that I support and welcome the Council's suggested changes to delete the words "sequential analysis" from the AAP, and instead to set out the AAP's key factors by which the location of any planning application for retail development would be judged, and to include that explanation in paragraph 7.4 (**PC9**). This makes the policy sound on this point, and also allows reasonable and sufficient flexibility in the future to decide on the exact location of any retail proposals.

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<sup>8</sup> RET1

33. As proposed to be changed by the Council, policy HW4 sets out the key principles of development on this mixed use site and the approximate scale for its main developments. The policy refers to a concept map (Map 6e) which, together with the text, provides sufficient guidance for the production of a masterplan to flesh out the detail of the HW4 mixed use allocation. The concept plan and the policy wording jointly provide adequate flexibility to deal with changing circumstances and to consider the exact boundaries and disposition of its various mixed uses following a more detailed site assessment. So the Council's suggested changes in **PC8** and **PC9** make the policy sound and resolve the unsoundness concerns previously set out in the box above.

**Issue 3 – Is policy HW5 (Hinchingsbrooke) clear in its requirements and thereby effective?**

34. The College and Water Tower sites within policy HW5 already have planning permissions for various uses, but the policy allocates them for alternative uses should the permissions not be implemented. The Council therefore suggested that the Proposals Map should be altered to reflect these AAP allocations, which should be done as the Proposals Map should geographically represent the policy's intentions. The Regulations do not empower me to recommend this change, but unless the Proposals Map is altered in this way inconsistency would result that would make the AAP unsound.

35. The HW5 policy as submitted is unclear about how a number of the sites would be accessed, which make it less effective as there could be problems with their deliverability. The Council resolved this unsoundness by suggesting a series of necessary changes (**PC10**) to the explanatory text and to Appendix 2 (paragraph 2.5). These set out the various access arrangements for site A and the College site (joint access to be determined), and site B and the Water Tower site (joint access).

36. The policy in part d. contemplates parts of the very large hospital site being considered for office and non-residential uses (D1). However, it does not specify which parts, the size of the potential allocation or when this might happen. This makes it unsound as it would not be effective or justified. The Council had no further information it could put into the policy on these points as this had only been a possibility which had not yet been fully resolved. The Council therefore suggested that part d., and its associated explanatory text in paragraph 7.17, be deleted (**PC11**).

37. The changes make the policy and its associated explanatory text in the AAP sound. The words and concept map (Map 7d) in the AAP provide the subsequent required masterplan with sufficient guidance to work up the detailed implementation of these proposals.

**Issue 4 – Are policies HW6 (Country Park), HW7 (Views Common), HW8 (Open Space) and HW9 (Design) clear in their requirements and thus effective?**

38. Extending the Country Park in policy HW6 is a continuation of a similar Local Plan proposal, but the AAP adds two other areas of land. The Council suggested that the way in which the Country Park would be extended in stages should be set out in the explanatory text at paragraph 8.2. I endorse this as otherwise the policy would be unsound as it would not set out how it would be implemented (**PC12**).

Similarly, the Council suggested a change to Appendix 2 in its paragraph 2.1 to show how the implementation of the County Park extension would be handled and its timing (**PC13**). I welcome this change as it makes the policy effective and so sound in its application.

39. The Council suggested a change to paragraph 8.3 to make clear the intention that a new car park will be pursued (**PC14**). I endorse this change as it makes effective an otherwise vague and uncertain part of the policy. All these changes make policy HW6 coherent, effective and sound.

40. Policy HW7 (Views Common) to retain and enhance the area as open space will not be as effective as submitted due to the Government's withdrawal of the A14 scheme (the A14 embankment currently runs across it). The Council's suggested changes to the policy and to delete Map 9 recognise that the A14 will remain in the medium term and are necessary to make the policy sound and effective (**PC15**). The open space allocation is, in any event, shown on the Proposals Map and so Map 9 is not necessary.

41. The explanatory text to policy HW8 (Open Space) in paragraph 8.9 set out a requirement for open space expressed as an area related to a specified population increase. However, there was no evidence to justify this requirement and so it is unsound. The Council explained that it is preparing a fully justified open space standard in its forthcoming Development Management DPD, and so it suggested the deletion of this open space stipulation from the AAP (**PC16**). This is the correct course of action to make the AAP sound.

42. Policy HW9 (Design) set out some standards for the sustainability of buildings in matters such as energy efficiency in its parts 1, 2 and 3. However, none of these were justified with supporting evidence as required in the PPS1 Climate Change Supplement and so they are unsound. The Council said that the standards would form part of the future Development Management DPD where the necessary evidence would be produced, and so it was not necessary to retain them in the AAP. For these reasons I endorse the Council's suggested change to delete these parts of the policy and the supporting text in paragraphs 9.2 to 9.4 (**PC17**).

**Issue 5 – Does the AAP give sufficient guidance on infrastructure; and are the phasing provisions realistic and sufficiently flexible so that they can deal with slippages in the delivery of development proposals?**

43. The Council submitted during the Examination a schedule of the AAP's infrastructure<sup>9</sup> to implement its proposals which contained an estimated timeframe, cost and the main funder(s), based on the Local Investment Framework<sup>10</sup>. Whilst some of the costs are estimates, it is not essential to be absolutely exact. What the Council's evidence shows, particularly for the Link Road, is that there is a very good and reasonable likelihood that the necessary infrastructure can be economically provided for the AAP's development proposals within the stated timescale in Appendix 2. On the basis of these figures I agree with the Council that the necessary infrastructure costs would be within the normal range of expected contributions from any development within the district.

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<sup>9</sup> LOC51

<sup>10</sup> INF4

44. The AAP as submitted says that a local access road ("link road") into the Hinchingsbrooke area would be investigated. However, this was said to be only a possibility, and that it was not needed in order to deal with the extra traffic that would be generated by the AAP's developments. Therefore, the mention of developer contributions towards it in paragraph 1.5 of Appendix 2 is unsound as this requirement is presently unjustified and contrary to statute and Government advice. I therefore endorse the Council's suggestion to remove that requirement (**PC18**), together with necessary updating following the A14 scheme withdrawal. For the same reasons, I support the Council's suggested changes to delete references to the Hinchingsbrooke link road in the third paragraph of policy HW11 and in paragraph 10.9 (**PC19**).

45. Therefore, with these changes, the infrastructure policy HW10 and its associated Appendix 1 are sound as they are founded on robust evidence.

46. The restrictive second paragraph of policy HW11 (phasing and implementation) is contrary to the evidence which is, as previously mentioned, that most of the AAP's developments can take place without the A14 road improvements. To make the policy factually correct and thus sound I therefore endorse the Council's suggested change to delete this paragraph together with the associated and similar explanatory text in paragraph 10.8 (**PC20**), with an addition to indicate the 'nil detriment' basis for proposals' traffic flows on the A14.

47. This report has previously set out some necessary changes to Appendix 2 (Phasing) to ensure soundness for the transport aspects and the development proposals in the AAP. With those changes both policy HW11 and the fuller explanation in Appendix 2 deal clearly and effectively, and so soundly, with the proposed phasing and implementation of the AAP. The phasing timings are sufficiently flexible to deal with known possible delays in the provision of major infrastructure, such as the Link Road.

### **Issue 6 – Are the mechanisms in the AAP for monitoring sufficiently clear, detailed and meet national policy requirements?**

48. The monitoring chapter as submitted lacks detail because key indicators, timescales and targets are not clearly set for each policy. These deficiencies render the monitoring ineffective and unsound. The Council recognised this problem and submitted an amended monitoring chapter as a suggested change.

49. In line with paragraph 4.4 of PPS12, the revised monitoring chapter shows for each policy (as far as is practicable) when, where and by whom a list of identified actions will take place to ensure effective delivery. This will enable transparent and effective monitoring. 'SMART' targets (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound) have been set having regard to the availability of data and to the Council's resources.

50. This suggested change is reasonable and appropriate, and I endorse it to secure soundness in terms of effectiveness (**PC21**).

## **Legal Requirements**

51. My examination of the compliance of the AAP with the legal requirements is summarised in the table below. I conclude that the AAP meets all the legal requirements.

Local Development Scheme (LDS)	The AAP is identified within the approved LDS February 2010 which sets out an expected adoption date of January 2011. This is achievable and the AAP is generally compliant with the LDS.
Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	SA has been carried out, independently verified, and is adequate.
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and relevant regulations	The SCI was adopted in November 2006 and consultation has been compliant with its requirements, including the consultation on the post-submission SA and suggested changes.
Appropriate Assessment (AA)	The Habitats Regulations Assessment (November 2009) put forward some recommendations for the avoidance and mitigation of a number of adverse impacts, and these were included in the submitted AAP. The AA thus concluded that the AAP would not have an adverse effect on European sites.
National Policy	The AAP complies with national policy except where indicated, and changes are recommended to correct this.
Regional Strategy (RS)	The AAP is in general conformity with the RS.
Sustainable Community Strategies (SCS)	Satisfactory regard has been paid to the District and County SCSs.
Core Strategy	The AAP conforms with the Core Strategy except where indicated, and changes are recommended to correct this.
2004 Act and Regulations (as amended)	The AAP complies with the Act and the Regulations.

## Overall Conclusion and Recommendation

**52. I conclude that, with the changes proposed by the Council set out in Appendix A, the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan DPD satisfies the requirements of section 20 (5) of the 2004 Act and meets the criteria for soundness in PPS12. Therefore I recommend that the AAP be changed accordingly. And, for the avoidance of doubt, I endorse the Council's proposed minor changes set out in Appendix B.**

*David Vickery*

Inspector

This report is accompanied by:

Appendix A (separate document); and Appendix B (separate document)

**PLANNING CONSERVATION  
(Report by the Planning Conservation Working Group)**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 At its meeting held on 8th June 2010, the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) decided to establish a working group to evaluate the performance of the Council's Planning Conservation Team and make recommendations where appropriate. The working group comprised Councillors M G Baker, P Godley, D Harty and R West and Messrs D Hopkins and M Phillips. Councillor West was co-opted onto the working group as the Member of the Development Management Panel with special interest in conservation. The working group has met on 10 occasions in the ensuing months with Councillor Baker acting as rapporteur.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

2.1 The Panel's interest in the subject was prompted by public perception of the conservation service offered by the District Council as reported to Councillors. It quickly became apparent in the working group's investigations that planning conservation can be a very emotive subject which can generate strong feelings on the part of recipients of the service provided by the Council. The views of individuals therefore have to be tempered accordingly.

2.2 In addition to the relevant legislation, the work of the Planning Conservation Team is guided by Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment which sets out the Government's overarching aim of ensuring that the historic environment and its heritage assets should be conserved and enjoyed for the quality of life they bring to this and future generations.

2.3 In embarking on its study, the working group decided that the review of the service should consider and evaluate the role of the Council's Planning Conservation Team in the preservation of Huntingdonshire's built heritage with particular reference to conservation areas and listed buildings.

## **3. EVIDENCE AND INVESTIGATIONS**

3.1 The working group carried out extensive consultation to ensure that any recommendations that it made would be evidence based as opposed to personal anecdotes or the views of parties aggrieved by a decision.

The following investigations and enquiries were therefore made:-

- A questionnaire to town and parish councils, the results of which are summarised at Appendix A.
- An interview with the Heritage and Conservation Team Leader on the work undertaken by the Conservation Team.

- An interview with a local architect to gauge his views on the Council's heritage and conservation service.
  - An interview with representatives of two local listed schools to obtain their perspective of the heritage and conservation service.
  - A visit to various listed building sites in Huntingdon town centre which was led by the Heritage and Conservation Team Leader and the Head of Planning Services.
  - An interview with the local Historic Areas Adviser from English Heritage to discuss the work of English Heritage.
  - Interviews with three individuals who own listed buildings or buildings in conservation areas as to their personal experience of dealing with the Council's Planning Services Team.
  - An interview with the Planning Services Manager (Policy) to discuss the working group's provisional findings.
- 3.2 The working group has found that the Council's conservation service compares favourably with those of other authorities and that there is no significant cause for concern in terms of performance. However, the decisions of the conservation team can have very far reaching consequences for the individuals and organisations affected by them, which can colour their perception of the process and the decisions themselves. The results can be detrimental to the Council's profile and can potentially lead to a distrust and suspicion of the process and those involved.

#### **4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 4.1 Huntingdonshire contains 2198 listed buildings, 59 of which are grade I, 126 are grade II\* and the remainder are grade II. There are 61 conservation areas. In 2009 the Conservation Team dealt with 122 listed building applications, which was more than any other District Council in Cambridgeshire.
- 4.2 The planning team responsible for those listed buildings and conservation areas is relatively small, consisting of 2 full time and 3 part time officers. As well as planning applications and enquiries, conservation officers deal with issues and enquiries relating to the contribution that the District's heritage makes to tourism and economic regeneration. The team compiles the conservation area character statements, Buildings at Risk register, advises on new listings and is involved with urban design issues, as well as promoting good practice and offering training and advice.
- 4.3 In view of the breadth of the subject, the working group had some difficulty in focusing on those aspects which were particularly salient to the study. Moreover, the working group was not in a position to question the professional competence of the members of the Planning Conservation Team, nor would it wish to do so. Instead, the working group concentrated on the public perception of the service and the impact on the owners of buildings that are listed or situated in conservation areas.

#### **5. ROLE OF THE PLANNING CONSERVATION TEAM**

- 5.1 It was clear, from the interviews undertaken, that the officers in the team are very committed and care passionately about the conservation of the District's heritage. They are well qualified and very experienced officers in conservation whose work is appreciated and applauded by English Heritage.



- 5.2 It was also apparent that the officers' role is not easy. They see their responsibility as the protection of the District's built heritage as once unauthorised work has gone ahead to a listed structure, a part of that heritage can be lost forever. Such instances are not uncommon, a high profile case recently at Ramsey Almshouses having resulted in a substantial fine for the developers. In other cases that were drawn to the working group's attention, it was demonstrated that some owners of listed buildings refuse or ignore any attempts at help or assistance and permit buildings to deteriorate to the stage where they become dangerous or dilapidated.
- 5.3 The Panel also learnt that the Council's powers are fairly limited in terms of the action that can be taken to encourage or force owners to prevent buildings from neglect or falling into disrepair, even though evidence of deliberate neglect or damage to a heritage asset in the hope of obtaining consent should not be taken into account in any decision. In reality, the Council is able to step in only when a building is judged to be dangerous or is no longer weather-tight and, even then, the action is restricted to making the building safe or to protect it from the elements. The only other option is purchase, either by agreement or by compulsory purchase, with the aim of selling the property on, either before or after renovations have been undertaken. Such courses of action are extremely time consuming and expensive with no guarantee of the Council recovering its costs and are only likely to be embarked upon in the most extreme cases.
- 5.4 Against that background, it is easy to see why officers could be tempted to adopt a cautious approach when dealing with the owners of listed buildings or structures in conservation areas.

## **6. INTERVIEWS WITH OWNERS AND AGENTS**

- 6.1 The working group interviewed a local architect, the bursar/property manager of two of the large listed buildings in the District used as educational establishments and three owners of individual listed buildings or buildings in conservation areas. Members also met a representative of English Heritage who provided very helpful information on the role of the local authority.
- 6.2 The perceptions of the interviewees varied greatly but it was possible to detect a common theme which can be summarised as disillusionment with the process. Other interviewees had become sufficiently frustrated by their experience that they had submitted official complaints to the Council, although these were not subsequently upheld by the investigating officers.
- 6.3 While the number of interviews that the working group could undertake was of necessity limited, a picture emerged whereby the reaction of the interviewees could be effectively divided into three elements - those with a detailed knowledge of the system, the owners of listed educational establishments in Huntingdonshire and individual owners who had little previous knowledge of the system. It would have been useful to interview other owners or agents and to receive further evidence but time was limited after 10 meetings of the working group and there was a lack of response to a press release inviting owners and agents to submit their views and comments on the Council's planning conservation service. The limited depth of the evidence available therefore may not be truly

representative of public perception but the working group felt that sufficient information was available to extrapolate its findings.

*Those with Conservation Knowledge*

- 6.4 Those interviewed were the local Historic Areas Adviser of English Heritage, a local architect and the owner of several listed buildings and buildings in conservation areas in Huntingdonshire and elsewhere. Their general view was that the service offered by the Council in terms of planning conservation compared favourably with other authorities and that officers were helpful and co-operative.
- 6.5 The English Heritage officer offered a very useful insight into planning conservation which was independent of the District Council and much of what he said was reinforced in subsequent interviews. He drew attention to the fine balance between preserving the heritage of an area and allowing change, especially as the stock of listed buildings is finite and each building is unique. Change has to be judged against the harmful impact or the loss of significance of a heritage asset with the presumption being that consent should be refused unless it can be demonstrated that there are mitigating factors such as public benefit, no viable use of the asset can be found, conservation through grant funding or public ownership is not possible or the harm or loss of the asset is outweighed by the benefits of bringing a site back into use. The cost and the ability of an owner to fund such works is not a material consideration but it was suggested to the working group that there are usually alternatives that can be investigated and that problems are most often found when owners have preconceived ideas or ignore the advice of conservation officers, having purchased a listed building to renovate without having first undertaken sufficient research as to what this can entail.
- 6.6 However, the Historic Areas Adviser also made the point that listed buildings should not be preserved 'in aspic' and that part of the special interest for which structures have been listed is their special character and the story that they can tell. Change therefore is possible, provided the character of the listed building or impact on a conservation area is not harmed. Thus enhancements could be allowed to fund repairs that could not otherwise be achieved, with good design adding to a building's story. In the case of buildings of greater significance such as grade I and grade II\* particularly, owners had to have regard to their responsibilities as the custodians of heritage assets and were well advised to prepare a forward plan of future repairs and maintenance to allow sufficient time for discussions with conservation officers, arrange funding and determine timescales.
- 6.7 One particular explanation that the working group found useful was the difference between alteration and maintenance to listed buildings. Maintenance in the way of like for like repair does not require planning permission but is subject to VAT. Conversely alterations do require planning permission but don't attract VAT. It was suggested to the working group that a reversal of the liability for VAT would reduce the financial impact on owners and could be of great benefit in enabling owners to maintain an asset satisfactorily.
- 6.8 The local architect was complimentary in terms of his dealings with the Council's Planning Conservation Team and while it was accepted that

differences of opinion could occur from time to time, he indicated that these were resolved in an amicable and satisfactory manner.

- 6.9 Similarly the owner of several listed buildings in the District and elsewhere spoke in very fulsome terms of his dealings with planning conservation team officers in Huntingdonshire with whom good working relationships had been established. It was clear that the owner had the relative luxury of being able to take a long term view of the maintenance of the properties that he owned and to discuss and bring forward plans in a structured and timely way. It was also apparent, if not mentioned explicitly, that affordability was not a particular concern.

#### *Owners of Educational Establishments*

- 6.10 The working group interviewed the Bursar from Kimbolton School and Property Manager from Hinchingsbrooke School. Both schools are situated in grade I listed buildings which, in many ways, are two of the most important heritage assets in Huntingdonshire. In interviewing representatives of the schools, the working group was aware of a number of recent applications made by both establishments for listed building consent and they were chosen in comparison to Abbey College at Ramsey even though that is another equally important listed building.
- 6.11 Both of the officers interviewed (who the working group met together rather than separately) expressed some apprehension that their comments might affect their working relationship with the Council's conservation officers and their views are therefore couched in general terms. Both officers mentioned the difficulty in maintaining such important and large listed structures on limited budgets, one publicly funded and the other privately financed from fees. In both cases, their primary function is the education of the pupils in their care and the cost of maintaining listed buildings has to compete against the expense of offering high quality education in a competitive environment. The use of the establishments for education also means that they are subject to more wear and tear than if the buildings had continued in private occupation which had been their original purpose. With the dynamics of schools subject to constant change and the time when certain works could be carried out being limited to school vacations, both stressed the necessity for timely decisions and advice to enable work to be scheduled and achieved successfully. While they accepted their position as custodians of important heritage assets, both made the point that they were effectively doing so for the benefit of the community as a whole as opposed to any specific benefit that they derived from an educational or aesthetic perspective.
- 6.12 It was apparent from the information presented to the working group, that both establishments felt that the Council could be more supportive and helpful in its approach. They felt that there was little recognition of the practical and financial difficulties which are faced by working schools in grade I listed buildings and that conservation officers tended to be reactive rather than positive, thereby sometimes resulting in abortive costs and delays in having to redraw and resubmit amended plans. Similarly, there was a feeling that conservation officers were reluctant to offer advice and preferred to respond to the submission of detailed schemes or formal applications for permission which, if refused, again resulted in costs and delays in resubmissions.

6.13 Whatever the merits or otherwise of the comments of the schools' representatives, it was clear to the working group that there was a need for an improvement in communication between the schools and the conservation officers. The schools hoped for greater flexibility, co-operation and support and a greater appreciation of the practicalities of maintaining valuable listed buildings against a background of financial constraint and a need to enable the structures to continue to evolve with time. There was an appreciation that conservation officers at both the District Council and English Heritage would prefer a planned maintenance schedule of future works but the schools felt that the cost of professional help in producing such plans could not be afforded.

#### *Owners of Individual Properties*

6.14 In addition to the owner mentioned in paragraph 6.9, the working group interviewed the owners of two properties, one of which was listed and the other situated in the heart of a conservation area. One had recently renovated a listed building and the other was in the process of seeking pre-planning advice on the renovation of a semi-derelict building in a conservation area. Both owners had come to the attention of the working group as a result of approaches to ward councillors about their experience with planning and conservation officers which had resulted in the submission of formal complaints to the Council. Because their frustration had resulted in formal complaints, both owners were extremely frank with the working group about their experiences and opinions.

6.15 Both owners had purchased buildings in need of substantial repair and which in one case was described as derelict; in the case of the listed building this had been included in the Council's buildings at risk register and the other was virtually uninhabitable. Both claimed to have been aware of the challenges of renovating old buildings that they intended to subsequently live in and both had been enthusiastic at the outset of the process. Both were operating on budgets that they had estimated would be sufficient for the work and had anticipated the support of conservation officers in rescuing buildings that were in a poor state of repair and restoring them to a habitable condition.

6.16 The experience of both owners was very similar. Both spoke to the working group about the problems that they had encountered in dealing with planning and conservation officers throughout the process which they had found to be extremely time consuming and expensive with implications for the budgets that they had set aside for the work. They complained of a lack of help and advice, inconsistencies, inflexibility and an adversarial attitude. In both cases, the owners had become disillusioned at an early stage and the situation had deteriorated rapidly thereafter to feelings of frustration and suspicion which had culminated in formal complaints to the Council. One aspect of the complaint related to an allegation that unauthorised access had been gained to the interior of a property that was being refurbished which, if true, the working group found to be wholly unacceptable. As an aside and as mentioned earlier, those complaints had not been upheld by the investigating officers.

## **7. INTERVIEWS WITH PLANNING AND CONSERVATION OFFICERS**

7.1 The working group held a number of meetings with officers from the Planning Division. At the outset of the working group's investigations, the Heritage and Conservation Team Leader provided a very helpful insight

into the work of the section that she manages, the legislative background and Government guidance. She drew attention to some of the many success stories that the team could point to in working with owners to restore and improve buildings at risk and protect the built heritage of the District. Conversely, she also provided examples of the disastrous effects of some unauthorised works which had severely affected the merit of some of the listed buildings in the District.

- 7.2 The Team Leader kindly arranged for a tour of Huntingdon town centre by the working group at which Members were also accompanied by the Head of Planning Services. Attention was drawn to several examples of listed buildings or structures where owners had allowed the buildings to deteriorate to the stage where they had become dangerous and others where owners had undertaken work without permission or had ignored advice that had been given. Other examples were pointed out where development had taken place in sympathy with the historic surroundings and where imaginative design had allowed new build to blend in with listed buildings.
- 7.3 It was clear to the working group that the conservation team have a difficult role to play. Owners often have preconceived ideas and limited budgets and while enthusiastic, may lack sufficient knowledge and experience to fully appreciate what is involved in owning, maintaining or restoring listed buildings or important buildings in conservation areas. In other cases, conservation officers may be met with intransigence and resistance on the part of owners and builders which can lead to protracted negotiations and investigations to try to encourage necessary maintenance to be carried out or to ensure that renovations do not affect the character and heritage of individual buildings and structures.
- 7.3 Finally, the working group met the Planning Services Manager to discuss some of its preliminary findings and was encouraged by his receptive and positive response to the suggestions made.

## **8. PUBLIC AND PARISH COUNCIL PERSPECTIVE**

- 8.1 The working group issued a press release explaining the extent of the study that was being undertaken and inviting members of the public to come forward with any information that they felt would be useful. On this occasion no responses were received.
- 8.2 The working group also wrote to town and parish councils with a questionnaire to ascertain the extent of their knowledge of the situation locally in terms of the buildings that were listed, those that may be at risk and their relationship with the conservation team. The results are analysed in the following paragraphs.
- 8.3 The results demonstrate that although 83% of councils are aware of the conservation area boundaries within their parish, only 61% are aware of the conservation area character statements that the District Council publishes and updates from time to time. The statements are a source of valuable information about the special characteristics of the buildings and environment that comprise each conservation area which can assist local councils in formulating their comments on individual applications for planning permission and help those councils to alert the District Council where unauthorised works are taking place. An improved awareness on

the part of local councils of the conservation area character statements was thought by the working group to be useful.

- 8.4 The District Council's website represents a readily available source of information and advice but 59% of local councils that responded to the questionnaire have never used the website. Of those councils that have used it, 71% found the information to be fairly or very useful. In light of this, the working group suggests that the District Council should explore ways of raising the Conservation Team's profile on the website.
- 8.5 Having regard to training, only 22% of the questionnaire respondents felt that the District Council offers sufficient training on heritage and conservation issues which suggests that there is a need for the District Council to explore the value and feasibility of offering town and parish councils more training in heritage and conservation issues. In addition, 72% of questionnaire respondents consider that a visit from an officer from the Conservation Team would be of value to their council.
- 8.6 With the current Government's emphasis on localism and the financial pressures on public bodies, the District Council being no exception, the working party was conscious of the increasingly important role that town and parish councils can play locally in supporting the work of the conservation team. The Localism Bill was published towards the end of the working group's study and there was therefore insufficient time to investigate its planning proposals and the impact on local communities. However, the working group is of the opinion that improved communication between the Conservation Team and town and parish councils would be beneficial for both parties in terms of helping local councils in their own communities and assisting the team in their role.

## **9. BUILDINGS AT RISK**

- 9.1 An important function for the Conservation Team is the compilation of a 'buildings at risk' register that contains information on those listed buildings that are considered to be in danger or in need of repair. The list is currently in the process of being revised but the list approved in 2007 contains 276 buildings regarded as being at risk within 6 categories of severity. Although this was an improvement on the 318 included in 2004, it does illustrate the scale of the problem faced by the conservation team in trying to protect the District's heritage assets. An example of a structure that had been successfully removed from the register as a result of the interventions of the conservation team was pointed out during the working group's visit to Huntingdon town centre, as was an example of a grade II listed building in a prominent location on the High Street dating from the 18th Century which has been on the at risk register since 1998 and, despite numerous efforts by conservation officers to engage with the owners, has deteriorated to the extent where a dangerous structures notice has had to be served in respect of the property. The working group has been made aware of the options now open to the Council in circumstances such as this and has been left in little doubt as to the time consuming nature of both the abortive approaches to the owners and the possible solutions and the potentially high cost to the Council of the latter.
- 9.2 In view of the size of the at risk register, the time available to the conservation team to try to tackle individual properties and owners must, of necessity, be limited but it seemed likely to the working group that properties would continue to deteriorate unless solutions could be found

or owners addressed their responsibilities to upkeep buildings satisfactorily. In that regard, the working group considered that it might be helpful if problems could be brought to the attention of the team at an early stage where early interventions could prevent more costly repairs at a later date and it was suggested that there might be a role here for ward councillors and town and parish councils to help by acting as the 'eyes and ears' in their localities.

- 9.3 In a similar vein, the questionnaire responses highlighted that although only a small proportion of parish councils (18% of respondents) have a local conservation group or civic society, where they do exist 33% of respondents find them fairly effective and 67% of respondents find them to be very effective. The working group felt that occasional meetings between these groups and the conservation team would be beneficial and that it would be helpful for the conservation team to consider how town and parish councils might encourage the formation of conservation groups or civic societies where they don't currently exist.

## **10. LISTED BUILDING GRANTS**

- 10.1 The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 enables the District Council to make discretionary grants towards the cost of repairs to historic buildings which, by the very nature of the need to use traditional methods and materials, will usually result in greater costs than more modern buildings. The working group has been informed that the current grants budget of £30,000 per annum, although small in the context of the money spent on listed buildings repairs and renovation in Huntingdonshire in any year, is a valuable resource which helps the conservation team to offer some financial support to owners to encourage them to carry out important repairs, especially where this involves buildings at risk. Individual grants can vary between 20% of the cost of repair up to £2,000 to a maximum of 40% of the cost of repair up to £10,000.

- 10.2 Grant aid can be made available through English Heritage to charities and churches to offset up to 80% of the cost of works but the body has limited funds available which means that requests for assistance are assessed on a needs basis. Due to the number of requests received, funding is always directed towards buildings which are grade I or grade II\* listed. With public funding under pressure at the District Council and elsewhere, the working group has concerns that one of few tools available to the conservation team may be under pressure which could affect their ability to encourage owners to undertake necessary repairs.

- 10.3 The Historic Areas Adviser of English Heritage informed the working group that alterations to listed buildings are zero rated for VAT purposes whereas expenditure on maintenance incurs the full VAT rating. English Heritage have campaigned for some time for this to be reversed to encourage expenditure on maintenance and it seems to the working group that this should be the desired approach.

- 10.4 The responses to the parish councils questionnaire indicate that a significant number of those authorities are unaware of the grants that are available to assist the owners of listed buildings on the 'buildings at risk' register to help with the cost of repairs. Depending upon any final decision on the allocation of funding for grant purposes, the working group considers that the District Council makes more information available on the funding available to the owners of listed buildings.

## **11. TERMINOLOGY**

11.1 The working group saw a number of examples of the correspondence from the authority concerning conservation issues which members of the public claim to have difficulty in understanding. The terminology involved in planning and conservation can be complicated and there will no doubt be occasions when formal language will be required. However members of the working group did find that the terminology used in some of the correspondence that they saw was not easy for a lay person to understand. When communicating on complex issues such as conservation, the working group felt that it would be helpful for all concerned if 'plain English' could be used to help explain the position of the authority and what is required.

## **12. CONCLUSION**

12.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel embarked upon the review of the planning conservation service as a consequence of approaches to ward councillors by their constituents about the performance of the service, in a similar vein to the recent study on the development control service. The working group encountered similar experiences in investigating heritage and conservation when compared with development control. Although the contrast between 'winners and losers' is less marked in conservation terms than between development control applicants and objectors, the working group still encountered strong feelings and emotions on the part of recipients of the service. Perhaps this is an inevitable consequence of the Council's regulatory function and the controls that are exercised to protect the District's heritage but the working group did find that improvements could be made in terms of communication and the image of the service.

12.2 It became apparent to the working group that views were polarised by the knowledge and experience of the recipients of the service. While the view is necessarily a generalisation because of the limited number of interviews that were carried out, those with prior knowledge or those working in planning conservation had a good working relationship and appreciative opinion of the Council's conservation service and the individuals involved in it. They spoke highly of the officers and the service they provided. Conversely, others that the working group interviewed had a different perspective, where the twin pressures of the cost of maintaining or altering listed buildings and the time required for consultation and dialogue had led to frustration and a feeling that the service was being overly prescriptive and unsympathetic to the practical and financial problems faced by the owners of such structures.

12.3 The working group was also conscious of the perspective offered by the English Heritage representative who was interviewed. There is a case for listed buildings and conservation areas to change and age over time which has to be balanced against the criteria set out in PPS 5. Where buildings have deteriorated or there is no viable alternative use, the working group's view is that a more sympathetic approach could be adopted by the Council and that owners should be offered assistance and support as to what may be acceptable and achievable.

12.3 The working group concluded that in general terms the planning conservation service works well and that conservation officers are



dedicated individuals who are to be commended for the service that they provide in an often pressurised and difficult environment. Nevertheless there are improvements that the working group suggests should be implemented as a result of its investigations which have been highlighted in the report and are listed in the recommendations below. Primarily these concentrate on the area of communication, proactive support and, with the advent of the localism agenda, the potential roles that Members themselves and town and parish councils can play in mediation and alerting the District Council as to what is happening in their wards and parishes. The preliminary findings have already been discussed with the Planning Services Manager who appears receptive to the suggestions that have been made.

12.4 Members of the working group wish to extend their appreciation to all those who were interviewed and responded to the questionnaire. They were particularly grateful for the help and assistance provided to them by the Heritage and Conservation Team Leader, Planning Services Manager (Policy) and Head of Planning Services.

### **13. RECOMMENDATIONS**

13.1 The working group therefore

#### **RECOMMENDS**

- (a) that, because of the particular importance of the listed buildings and the practicalities of their use as educational establishments, the Planning Division hold regular meetings with a representative of Hinchingsbrooke and Kimbolton Schools (and Ramsey Abbey College if similar experiences are found there) with the aim of developing a good working relationship on conservation issues and planning future maintenance requirements and that a Member of the Council be nominated as an intermediary between the Division and each of the schools to attend (and potentially) chair those meetings;
- (b) that the Council offers specific training to town and parish councils in heritage and conservation issues to raise awareness locally on the subject and on the value of conservation character statements, buildings at risk register, etc.;
- (c) that town and parish councils be encouraged to work with the District Council on heritage and conservation issues by alerting the Council of any deterioration in the condition of listed buildings and unauthorised works to listed buildings or in conservation areas in their parishes;
- (d) that consideration be given to regular meetings between conservation officers and parish councils with a view to refreshing the training provided and in pursuance of recommendation (c) above;
- (e) that the District Council encourages town and parish councils where conservation groups or civic societies currently do not exist to seek the establishment of such bodies to promote an interest in the local heritage;

- (f) that the District Council explores ways of improving its website to provide additional information on conservation issues and procedures;
- (g) that the Conservation Team publicise the availability of grants from potential sources to help owners of listed buildings fund the cost of maintenance and repairs;
- (h) that representations be made through the Local Government Association to alter the present arrangements for value added tax so that repairs and maintenance of listed buildings become zero rated, thereby reducing the cost of maintaining heritage assets; and
- (i) that officers be encouraged to use 'plain English' in their communications with the public to help in an understanding of complex conservation issues and explain what is required.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Notes of the Planning Conservation Working Group

[www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk](http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

Making the Most of Your Local Heritage: A Guide for Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment

**Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings**  
**Questionnaire for Parish Councils - Summary**

- 1) **Is your Council aware of the boundaries of any conservation area(s) that exist in the Parish?**

Yes – 83%

No – 17%

St Neots Town Council would find a refresher plan useful.

- 2) **Is your Council aware of a Conservation Area Character Statement that the District Council has published for any conservation area(s) that exist in your Parish?**

Yes – 61%

No – 39%

St Neots Town Council have requested the latest updates.

A Conservation Area Character Statement has not been written for Hartford.

- 3) **If the answer to question 2 is yes, how useful do you find the Conservation Area Character Statement?**

Have not used it – 18%

Not very useful – 18%

Fairly useful – 36%

Very useful – 27%

- 4) **Does your Council know which buildings in your Parish have been listed as being of special architectural or historic value?**

Yes – 83%

No – 17%

- 5) **Is your Parish Council aware that the District Council has produced a 'Buildings at Risk' register that contains information on the buildings that are considered to be most at risk?**

Yes – 56%

No – 44%

- 6) **Does your Council think that there are listed buildings that are at risk (of neglect, vandalism etc) in your Parish?**

Yes – 59%

No – 41%

- 7) **If the answer to question 6 is yes, please list the buildings below that you think are at risk in your Parish**

Barn at Westward Farm, Winwick

Crown and Cushion Public House, Great Gransden

91 High Street, Earith  
West Lodge, Little Paxton Lane, Little Paxton  
Lock Up, Holywell-cum-Needingworth  
Ferryboat Inn, Holywell-cum-Needingworth  
Totus Building, St. Ives  
The Gables, High Street, Ramsey  
As the Huntingdonshire District Council schedule (St. Ives Town Council)  
Cottage on Illings Lane, Broughton  
Grafham Church

- 8) Is your Council aware of the grants that are available to assist the owners of listed buildings on the 'Buildings at Risk' register to help with the cost of repairs?**

Yes – 61%  
No – 39%

- 9) Do you think that the Heritage and Conservation Team do enough to protect the buildings at risk (if any) in your parish?**

Yes – 29%  
No – 71%

- 10) Please give the reason for your answer to question 9**

The parish doesn't have any disfigured buildings so one can only assume that buildings are being checked and monitored.

Westward Farm (Winwick) has fallen down and lies in ruins.

Failure to recognise state of Crown and Cushion Public House (Great Gransden) as at risk.

St Neots Town Council is not advised of buildings at risk.

When we requested that parts of the High Street in Earith should not be included in the conservation area, they still included most of the area, but left out the more modern houses.

The parish (Kings Ripton) has had help through grants in the past under this scheme.

Pike and Eel Pub (Holywell-cum-Needingworth) – this was de-listed on agreement by Huntingdonshire District Council without consulting the parish and against its wishes. Because it had been allowed to develop in a way that did not complement the original building this was successful.

Regular meetings between the Team and local civic societies could prove a very positive move to share information and understand decisions.

The parish council receives a copy of the 'buildings at risk register' very intermittently and no other information so it is hard to judge whether or not the Team are doing enough to protect buildings at risk or any other building of historic interest.

As far as is known the Heritage and Conservation Team has not identified any to Ramsey Town Council.

There are several recent examples of buildings within St. Ives where the work of the team has been effective.

This building has been in poor condition for some time but does not appear on your register – Broughton.

Don't grant money to churches.

Because we've had no contact from them in the last 10 years.

- 11) **How important do you think it is to safeguard the condition of listed buildings and other buildings within a conservation area?**

Unimportant  
Fairly unimportant  
Fairly important – 6%  
Very important – 94%

- 12) **Is there a local conservation group or civic society in your Parish that is involved in maintaining the local heritage of the Parish?**

Yes – 18%  
No – 82%

- 13) **If the answer to question 12 is yes, how effective do you think the group/society is in terms of maintaining the heritage of the buildings in your Parish?**

Ineffective  
Fairly ineffective  
Fairly effective – 33%  
Very effective – 67%

Hartford Conservation Group – A regular watch is kept on the state of the buildings. A focus on each listed building has been included in the recent newsletters highlighting these buildings to all the members of the Conservation Group. The Conservation Officer spoke at the AGM on the listed buildings of Hartford. These examples demonstrate the effectiveness of the Conservation Group.

Somersham's History Society does not seek to be involved with local conservation matters and therefore has no input in these matters.

- 14) **How useful do you find the Council's website in terms of the information that it contains about heritage and conservation?**

Have not used it – 59%  
Not very useful – 12%  
Fairly useful – 18%  
Very useful – 12%

- 15) **Do you think that the District Council offers sufficient training to town and parish councils and parish meetings on heritage and conservation issues?**

Yes – 22%  
No – 78%

- 16) **If you think that more training is required, what subjects would you prefer to be offered?**  
(please list)

How to assess extensions to listed building applications.  
Regulations.  
Heritage listing and buildings at risk.

Conservation Team presentation on conservation area.  
 Categorising of listed buildings.  
 How to maintain the areas.  
 General heritage and conservation.  
 To be informed what training is available.  
 What is our role as a parish council?  
 An understanding of all 4 dimensions associated with historic buildings and planning.  
 Further understanding of the District Council's role on heritage and conservation and the real action the authority undertakes or considers for buildings which are believed to be at risk, alterations to listed buildings or demolition, plus new build and alterations to buildings which effect the conservation area or the setting of a listed building and whether English Heritage and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings are properly contacted as consultees for all relevant planning applications.  
 A general introduction to the heritage and conservation issues with examples of what can be done to existing buildings and what is likely to be considered unacceptable.  
 Introduction to heritage and conservation issues. (I'm not aware that any training is available).  
 Planning laws on conservation issues.  
 Grant funding.  
 Categorising of listed buildings.  
 Planning law on listed buildings.  
 Planning applications.  
 Help in support of local churches particularly maintenance.

**17) Do you think that a visit from an officer from the Heritage and Conservation Team would be of value to your town/parish council or council meeting?**

Yes – 72%  
 No – 28%

**18) How many times has your council had contact with officers of the Heritage and Conservation Team in the last 12 months?**

None – 56%  
 Once – 22%  
 Two to five – 11%  
 More than five – 11%

**19) If you have any contact with the Heritage and Conservation team, how would you rate this experience?**

Not very useful – 20%  
 Fairly useful – 70%  
 Very useful – 10%

**20) Please give reasons for your response to question 19.**

Barn (Westward Farm, Winwick) has fallen down.  
 Refused to acknowledge status of the Crown and Cushion Public House (Great Gransden) as at risk.  
 Received guidance.  
 They informed us of what it means to the village (Earith).

They have not kept us informed what was going on without us having to constantly chase up (Brington & Molesworth).

The Chairman of Hartford Conservation Group was in correspondence, written and verbal, with the Team and a member of the Team was the keynote speaker on the listed buildings of Hartford and Huntingdon Town Hall at the 2009 AGM of the Conservation Group.

St Ives Civic Society – It is difficult to work out how the Team relate to Planning Officers and how they could allow the proposed “improvements” to St. Ives town centre pass into the public arena.

Past experience has shown that there have been occasions where it has been difficult to extract useful information and advice from the Team where their help is vital. There have also been a couple of occasions in recent years where the conservation area or setting of a listed building has been overlooked or seemingly ignored when a decision has been reached or approving planning applications.

Somersham Parish Council also specifically requested to be included in the 2007 revised character statement in lieu of producing a design statement, this was agreed by Huntingdonshire District Council but again we were excluded from the process and only given a copy of the final draft for comment.

The Team consists of staff who work part time and who are therefore difficult at times to arrange meetings with.

**Please add any further comments about the heritage and conservation service provided by the District Council.**

It would be very helpful if there could be regular meetings of the Heritage and Conservation Team and Officers of the Civic Societies of Huntingdonshire.

Once again regular contact amongst Civic Societies and Huntingdonshire District Council’s heritage and conservation officers would be of great benefit.

Involvement of Civic Societies in the early stages of proposals to alter the nature of conservation areas would prevent acrimony when the plans are eventually and unilaterally published by Huntingdonshire District Council.

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