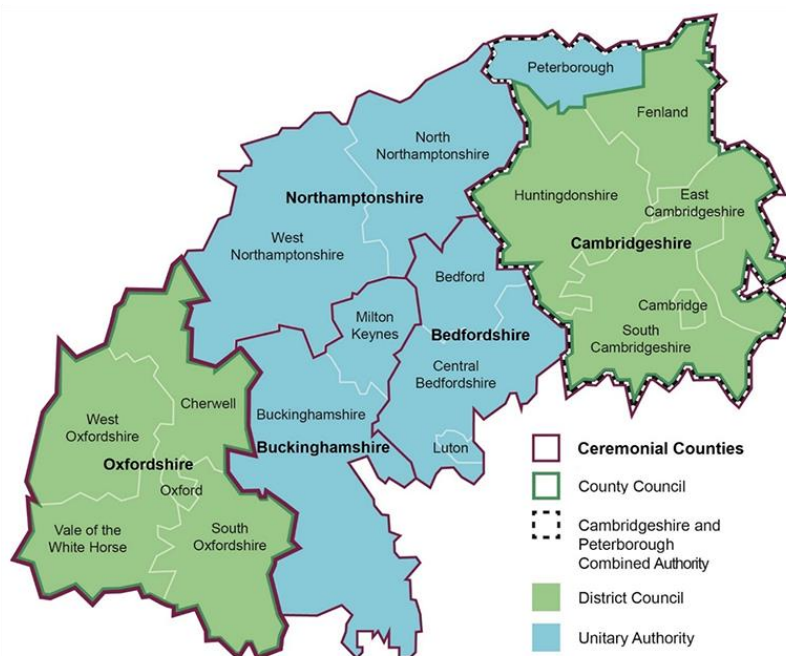**Appendix 1**

Creating a vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc

This consultation relates to the Oxford-Cambridge Arc and is the first of three consultations that will culminate in a spatial framework for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc area (area below). The Spatial Plan will form part of National Planning Policy and is intended to guide the future growth of the area to 2050. Local planning and local transport authorities will have to have regard to it when preparing local transport and local development plans and policies and it will also be a material consideration for relevant planning decisions in the area. It will set out national policy including, but not limited to how land is used; how the environment is protected and enhanced; where and what type of new development happens; and what infrastructure should be provided. Further detail as to how this will be approached, for example, if broad locations for development will be identified for local planning authorities to allocate specific land parcels in their local plans will become clearer as the development of the spatial framework progresses.

This consultation is the first of three consultations that focusing primarily on a vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Area. The final two consultation stages will be as follows:

Towards a Spatial Framework - using the vision as a foundation, options will be developed to deliver objectives scheduled for spring 2022.

Draft Spatial Framework - After further spatial analysis, option testing, impact assessments and engagement a draft Spatial Framework will be published for consultation in autumn 2022.

Consultation documents can be found here:
- Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc – main consultation document
- Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report
- Sustainability Scoping Report - Annex

Vision

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 1-8

What is your positive vision for the Arc in the future?

1. What place could it be? What words come to mind?

Tick all that apply	Theme
√	Sustainable
√	Sense of community
√	Equal/ inclusive
√	Progressive
√	Collaborates for better outcomes
√	More life opportunities
√	Better environment
√	Eco-friendly
√	Connected
√	Better transport
√	Better infrastructure
√	Thriving economy
√	Better Place
√	Better homes
√	More available homes
√	More affordable homes
Health and Wellbeing	Other - please specify

2. If you can, we would love you to tell us more about your vision for the Arc to 2050.

> The vision should:
> - Enable independent living providing accessible, adaptable lifetime homes
> - Provide quality, accessible green spaces, countryside, leisure & cultural facilities & opportunities for recreation improving mental and physical health & wellbeing through infrastructure
> - Prioritise active travel & cycling and walking
> - Look to future needs of the population regarding changes in working patterns, demography, affordable housing
> - Provide appropriate infrastructure sustainable beyond 2050
>
> **(500 Characters)**

3. How do you feel overall about the future of the Arc? What are your hopes and fears?

Fears
Lack of evidence to support delivery for:
- Infrastructure provision & timing
- Viability
- Uncertainty of Local Plan role in delivering spatial framework
- Ineffective response to flood mitigation & resilience

Hopes
- Commitment to climate change
- Sensitivity to enhancing the natural environment
- Balanced approach to growth in sustainable locations
- Meeting the needs of residents long term across all ages
- Meeting equalities & diversity, tackling deprivation
- Commitment to cycling & walking

(499 Characters)

4. What do you think are the most important things that it needs to do, as a strategic plan, to achieve this? Work at an Arc-wide level to tackle shared issues/ opportunities on:

Tick all that apply	Theme
√	Environment
√	Economy
√	Connectivity and growth Place-making
√	Supporting monitoring and delivery

5. If there is anything you would like to add, we would love you to tell us.

The strategic plan should
- Define the approach for the wider Arc area & its role
- Provide community & economic benefit to existing settlements & market towns
- Define where major growth will be focused to avoid speculative unsuitable development
- Address North/South East/West connections to facilitate future economic connectivity
- Ensure development viability
- Guarantee appropriate infrastructure delivery
- Encourage mixed-use intergenerational development
- Encourage knowledge creation & diffusion

(500 Characters)

Green Spaces, Nature and Biodiversity

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 10-15

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Green spaces, nature, and biodiversity

1. Making sure the natural environment is protected, restored, and improved. For example, improving new and existing green spaces.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

2. Making sure the most is made of the natural environment and that all people can have access to it. For example, making improvements to woodlands, wetland, green space and water and making sure people can visit them if they want to.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

3. Making sure new growth leaves the environment in a better state than before. For example, keeping land in its natural state, and making it more wild, where appropriate.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

4. Anything else to add about your vision for green spaces, nature, and biodiversity?

- Increase green space per person above national average
- Create accessible spaces protected from development
- Ensure sustainable links to natural environment
- Use visitor centres to educate about relationship between natural environment & climate change
- Commit to net increase in biodiversity
- Creating communities, social cohesion, equality, health & well being
- Understand impacts of recreational pressure from growth
- Provide mix of formal & informal green space with appropriate management

(495 Characters)

Climate Change

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 10-15

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Climate change and net zero

5. Making sure new development helps to achieve net zero carbon at an Arc level towards national net zero targets. For example, through good design, sustainable travel choices, renewable energy and trapping carbon.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

6. Making sure that new development can respond to the current and future effects of climate change. For example, through new carbon emissions, water use, waste disposal and renewable energy targets.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

7. Anything else to add about your vision for climate change and/ or the contribution to net zero?

- Climate change allowances should be bold stretching beyond 2050
- Robust approach to flood mitigation & resilience encouraged
- Promote opportunities for low carbon housing & manufacturing techniques
- Encourage renewable/clean energy, grey water recycling & district wide heating
- Create car free centres
- Understand the impacts of growth on the wider area regarding emissions, flooding & air quality
- Facilitate public transport improvements
- Retaining the best & most versatile agricultural land

(499 Characters)

Air Quality and Waste

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 10-15

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Air quality and waste

8. Making sure new development helps to improve air quality within the Arc. For example, through high quality design, low emission zones and sustainable transport.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

9. Taking a combined approach to air quality across the Arc. For example, through being careful about where each land uses should go, supporting journeys via public transport and active travel and enhancing green spaces and routes across the area.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

10. Making better use of resources and managing waste. For example, promoting the re-use of materials, and protecting and improving soil quality and minerals.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

11. Anything else to add about your vision for air quality and waste?

- Introduce Clean Air Zones or low emission zones in vulnerable areas: residential, schools, hospitals, children's play, local centres
- Ensure development does not increase air quality issues further afield
- Incorporate infrastructure that enhances air quality e.g. electric charging points
- Promote clean heating in homes
- Encourage underground intelligent waste storage solutions to minimise infrastructure, refuse collection fuel usage and improve recycling rates and impact on streetscape

(492 Characters)

Water

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 10-15

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Water

12. Promoting a combined approach to managing water across the Arc, through protecting water resources, improving water quality and reducing the risk of flooding. For example, treating wastewater, improving water storage, and reusing surface runoff.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

13. Making sure new development reduces existing flood risk and is resilient to future flooding. For example, through tree planting and multifunctional sustainable drainage.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

14. Improving water availability and cutting the risk of drought. For example, through new sustainable water resources and infrastructure, and measures which reduce water use.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

15. Anything else to add about your vision for water?

New developments should:

- Reduce downstream flooding impacts especially on the River Great Ouse and incorporate nature compatible drought storage and drainage measures which also provide amenity, social and recreational value.

- Encourage greywater harvesting, green roofs, above ground SuDs, permeable surfaces

- Enable appropriate waste-water treatment infrastructure capacity prior to development

- Reduce groundwater contamination and pollution from new development

(466 Characters)

Education and Training

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 17-24

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Education and training

1. Making sure the Arc keeps growing as a place of educational excellence, partnership and research. For example, through growth which helps existing universities and colleges.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
			√	

2. Making sure the economic benefits of growth are felt by all communities within the Arc. For example, through putting new education and training facilities in places where more people can easily get to go to them.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

3. Anything else to add about your vision for education and training?

- Spread the benefits of the Arc through education & training, matching skills to jobs
- Identify & enhance skills & training in other priorities sectors such as agritech, digital & precision engineering advanced manufacturing, zero carbon & green economy, construction, health & care in the Arc to support increased job opportunities, sustainable economies & enhance rural economies.
- Provide education & training facilities in easily accessible locations across the whole Arc
- Reduce inequalities

(499 Characters)

Jobs and Businesses

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 17-24

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Jobs and businesses

4. Making sure that the Arc keeps growing as a place for business, science and technology, and innovation. For example, through putting these types of new workspaces in places where they can make the most of cross-sector collaboration.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

5. Making sure that existing industries keep growing within the Arc. For example, through putting industries in the best places to suit their needs.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

6. Making sure the Arc builds upon and grows its skills, expertise and capabilities. For example, through making sure people can get around easily to bring the right people to the right job locations.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

7. Making sure that the right types of buildings are provided in the Arc so that businesses can keep growing as well as supporting the green economy. For example, through building new flexible and adaptable workspaces meeting the needs of a range of different businesses of different sizes.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

8. Anything else to add about your vision for jobs and businesses?

- Ensuring all local economies within the Arc are understood & that not all districts can emulate the Cambridge scenario but could provide complementary economic benefits
- Siting new sectors in places that make the most of cross-sector collaboration
- Linking supply & manufacturing.
- Providing flexible workspaces to address post-pandemic changes to working behaviour
- Facilitating the growth of existing industries within the Arc
- Create skills vision, address high skilled labour shortage

(494 Characters)

Infrastructure

-

Thinking about the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Infrastructure:

1. Making sure planning takes a combined approach to new development by providing the infrastructure and services required at the right time to support growth. For example, by planning for the need for utilities (e.g. water, energy, waste) and community infrastructure (e.g. schools, hospitals, GP surgeries).

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

2. Making sure new development makes the most of existing resources. For example, through making sure that materials are reused, renewable energy supplies are used, and waste is properly planned for.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

3. Making sure that digital infrastructure is put in at the same time as other development takes place. For example, speeding up the fitting of high-speed broadband to support home- based work and help new ways of learning.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

4. Anything else to add about your vision for infrastructure?

- Provide a robust evidence base beyond 2050 identifying timelines for delivery, funding mechanisms & viability especially for infrastructure outside of Local Authority control: water, utilities, renewable energy, NSIPs
- Develop complementary strategies enhancing infrastructure in areas that may not directly benefit from new infrastructure e.g. upgrading rural digital connectivity
- Assurance of ongoing maintenance
- Reflect Local Authority leisure & sport strategies to demonstrate Arc wide demand

(500 Characters)

New Development

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 25-31

Thinking about the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on New development

5. Making sure growth within the Arc is placed around areas with better transport links. For example, through having more development around stations and bus routes, supported by cycling and walking tracks.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

6. Making sure new development cuts down the need to travel around the local area. For example, through providing safe and easy walking and cycling routes to town centres, shops and schools.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

7. Making sure new developments reduce existing and future infrastructure demand and resources used. For example, making sure that designs leave enough space for existing and future measures which reduce energy and water use, and cut down on waste.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

8. Making sure sustainable transport principles are included in the design of new developments. For example, by designing new developments in a way that enables people to walk or cycle all or part of their journeys.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

9. Anything else to add about new developments in the context of connectivity and infrastructure?

- Learn from Freiberg Principles & Healthy New Towns Programme
- Infrastructure connections are social & physical
- Developments should be a place where existing communities feel welcome & at home
- Balance existing community needs & ensure connectivity to the rural area with complementary infrastructure

- Early implementation of infrastructure e.g. schools, shops to prevent car reliance
- Consider brownfield sites within current sustainable locations
- Understand future business expansion needs

(496 Characters)

Getting Around

-

Thinking about the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Getting around

10. Creating better transport connections across the Arc and making sure they are provided in a way which supports sustainable new growth. For example, by planning for public transport and physical transport infrastructure requirements.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

11. Making sure there are more opportunities for active travel such as walking and cycling across the Arc. For example, wider pavements, segregated cycle lanes, improved network of cycle lanes, and better pedestrian crossings.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

12. Making sure that there is the right form of public transport in the right areas across the Arc and can be used by all travellers, including people with any particular needs.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

13. Cutting down on the impact of cars and other private vehicles within the Arc. For example, by supporting more sustainable forms of private travel like cycling.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

14. Anything else to add about your vision of getting around?

- Consider density of development (complementary to context & character of the area) creating critical mass closer to transport hubs e.g. walkablility 800m & frequency of services
- Look to opportunities to improve existing infrastructure – reducing carbon impact
- Consider small multi modal transport hubs
- Use travel plans to encourage electric bike, scooter provision, quality public transport
- Consider business & freight connectivity requirements
- Active travel supported by Sports England

(496 Characters)

Location of Growth

-

Thinking about the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Location of growth

1. Making sure new developments are built in the most sustainable locations, for the environment, the economy and communities. For example, by developing brownfield redevelopment and making sure they have good access to town centres, shops and schools

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

2. Anything else to add about your vision for location of growth?

- Greater certainty required on broad locations for growth in settlements further afield from key infrastructure
- Locations should complement and not reduce vibrancy and vitality of existing settlements
- Should protect the best and most versatile agricultural land for future
- Minimise the cost to the environment and avoid adverse impacts to heritage assets
- Consider proportionate development to enhance existing settlements
- Identify biodiverse green spaces to define appropriate locations

(495 Characters)

Homes

Thinking about the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Homes in your area

3. Ensuring the right types of housing are delivered in the right locations to meet the needs of both renters and buyers. For example, family houses, first-time buyers, specialist housing, student accommodation and opportunities for people to build their own homes.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

4. Increasing the amount and availability of affordable homes within the Arc.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

5. Anything else to add about your vision for homes in your area?

- Homes should limit their impact on climate change improving on technical and space standards, use of sustainably sourced materials, environmentally friendly heat generation, water consumption etc.
- Deliver an appropriate mix of housing to support local needs including affordable, key worker and special needs housing and older peoples/specialist housing.
- Focus on creating multigenerational communities. Homes that are adaptable for those with disabilities and an ageing population

(485 Characters)

Design of New Developments and Streets

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 34-37

Thinking about the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on Design of new developments and streets

6. Making sure a coordinated approach is taken to the design and delivery of new developments to ensure they are supported by new and existing infrastructure.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

7. Making sure the environment and sustainability is at the heart of new developments. For example, by improving the built and natural environment, making sure development complements surrounding areas, and is supported by the right level of infrastructure.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

8. Making sure there is the right mix of uses in new developments to help make high quality and thriving new places.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

9. Making sure new developments help support healthy lifestyles for existing and future communities. For example, through walking and cycling, high quality green spaces, and accessible streets.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

10. Making sure new developments promote resilience to climate change. For example, through green roofs, managing surface water, tree planting, storing rainwater and new green spaces.

Not important	Less important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
				√

11. Anything else to add about your vision for the design of new developments and streets?
- Provide compatible infrastructure e.g. electric charging points
- Introduce traffic free centres and pedestrian and cycling priority on all streets
- Consider harm and benefit to heritage assets and historic environment

- Reuse disused buildings to provide community benefit and reduce carbon impact
- Public realm should be designed to also accommodate the needs of less able and older people.
- Use sustainable design and construction methods
- Incorporate multifunctional green spaces and corridors

(497 Characters)

Public Engagement

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 39-43

1. How can government engage the public better?

Tick	Method
√	Communication materials
	Social listening
√	Focus groups
	1-1 interviews and experiments
	Ethnography
√	Citizen assemblies and citizen juries
√	Other types of engagement

2. Before this consultation, I was familiar with the area known as the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.

Yes	No
√	

3. Do you have anything else to add on engaging communities?

- Restrictive word limit penalises those who may find it hard to articulate views & gives the impression that limited time will attributed to analysing comments
- Need to address equalities & diversity issues with consultation. Alternatives to online and in writing are needed to assist the older population and those with disabilities e.g. the visually impaired.
- Should host local exhibitions in accessible locations
- Use of social media important to reach younger generation
- Engage with business

(498 Characters)

Data and Evidence

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 44-46

1. To what extent do you agree with our proposed approach on data and evidence?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
		√		

2. Do you have anything else to add on data, evidence and digital tools?

- Additional free software may be required to process complex data sets to support Local Plan preparation
- Access to source data and methodology with relevant permissions is also required
- Documents should be accessibility compatible and available in alternative formats for those with disabilities or those with limited internet
- Evidence should understand Local Authority priorities, corporate plans and policies including

existing Local Plans and SPDs
- Requires more illustrations and maps

(494 Characters)

Delivery and Funding

1. To what extent do you agree with our proposed approach on delivery and funding?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
		√		

2. Do you have anything else to add on delivery and funding?

- The Framework must understand the impact of market absorption rates on delivery timescales for developments in proximity
- Further information is required regarding housing requirements and how this will affect Local Authority housing targets e.g. 5YHLS and HDT. Danger that this forces a return to non-plan led development and development through permission in principle
- Funding guarantees will be required for infrastructure projects
- Clarification required on the remit of the Arc Growth Body

(497 Characters)

Monitoring and Evaluation

- [Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#) – pages 47-50

1. To what extent do you agree with our proposed approach on monitoring and evaluation?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
		√		

2. Do you have anything else to add on monitoring and evaluation?

- Need to be clear whose responsibility it is if monitoring and evaluation objectives are not being met. If development is reliant on infrastructure provision which will be guided by an Arc Growth Body will Local Authorities be penalised for non-delivery of developments?
- Full access to monitoring data required to support Local Plan preparation and Local Growth Strategies
- Clear timelines for review of Spatial Framework required to help Local Authorities forward plan

(471 Characters)

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

- [Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report](#)

1. To what extent do you agree with the key strategic issues and opportunities in the proposed scope for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Spatial Framework?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
		√		

2. Are there any other strategic issues and/or opportunities that need to be considered in the appraisal?

- Opportunities to reinvigorate market towns within the Arc
- Protecting as well as enhancing heritage assets
- Local areas of importance such as the Great Fen have not been recognised which includes peatlands and carbon capture programmes and projects.
- Reference to equalities and diversity required especially in relation to poverty, disabilities and integrated communities.

(375 Characters)

3. Are you aware of any additional strategic data that we should take into account as part of the sustainability appraisal?

- The documents lack detail, only providing a vague overview of the Arc ignoring local landscapes, character areas etc valued by members of the public & Local Planning Authorities.
- Little reference is made to settlement distribution & the importance of market towns within the Arc.
- Lack of references to source data in the Scoping Report & Annex make it difficult to identify additional strategic data.
- Fails to recognise advanced manufacturers, digital & creative sector in Huntingdonshire

(493 Characters)

4. Are you aware of any additional plans or programmes you think will be important to consider within the sustainability appraisal?

- The Scoping report fails to identify any local evidence documents, plans, policies or strategies. Corporate Plans, Local Plans, open space, housing and economic development strategies for example provide existing baselines for the state of the district and identify opportunities.

(283 Characters)

5. To what extent do you agree with our approach to the Sustainability Appraisal?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	√			

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report – Annex

- Sustainability Scoping Report - Annex

6. Do you have any comments or observations regarding the sustainability appraisal scoping report annex?

> - The Plans, Policies and Programmes review fails to identify any local authority documents or evidence and instead focusses on nationally significant documents. Area specific studies by organisations such as English Heritage, the Environment Agency and the Wildlife Trust for example also provide added value and context. Without reference to locally specific documents it is difficult to justify the identification of key themes, messages and objectives that can feed into the Spatial Framework.
>
> **(497 Characters)**