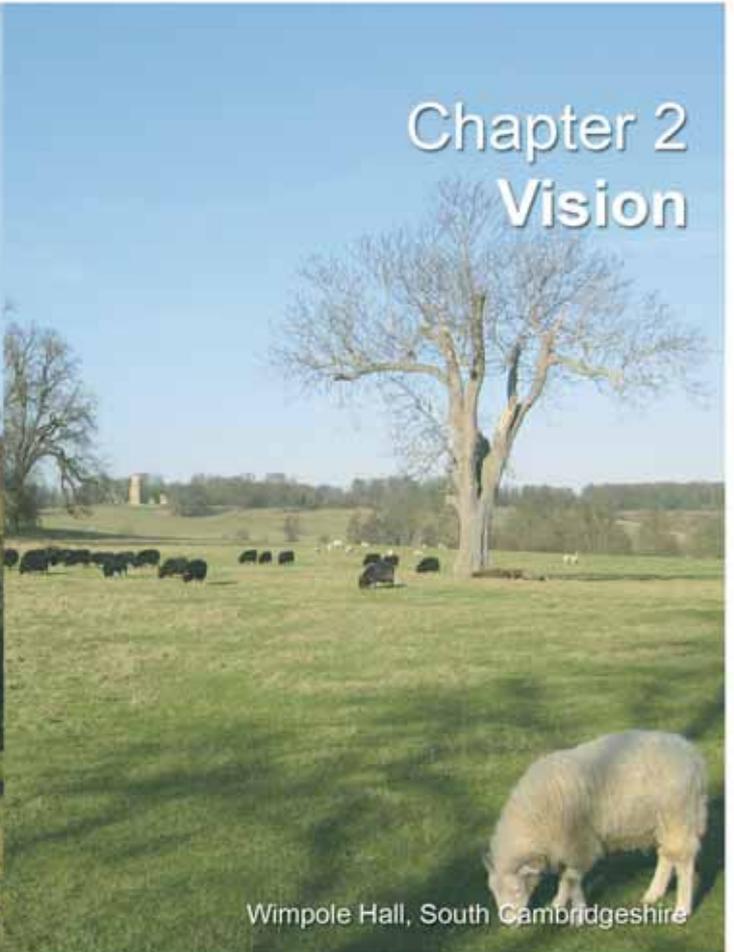


Chapter 2 Vision



Bourn Post Mill and Millers Cottage, South Cambridgeshire



Wimpole Hall, South Cambridgeshire



Cambourne Business Park, South Cambridgeshire



Orchard Park, South Cambridgeshire

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Chapter 2 Vision

- 2.1 The Local Plan is an important document that helps the Council deliver its vision. The Council's Vision provides an ideal vision for the Local Plan.

Issue 1: Vision

South Cambridgeshire will continue to be the best place to live and work in the country. Our district will demonstrate impressive and sustainable economic growth. Our residents will have a superb quality of life in an exceptionally beautiful, rural and green environment.

Question 1:

Do you agree that the Council's corporate vision is the right vision for the Local Plan?

Do you have any other suggestions?

- 2.2 Reflecting the corporate vision, there should be a set of objectives for the Local Plan. In developing the objectives we have been guided by views gathered on what is important to local stakeholders.

Issue 2: Objectives

The objectives for the Local Plan could be:

- A. To support economic growth by supporting our position as a world leader in research and technology based industries, research, and education; and supporting the rural economy.
- B. To protect the character of South Cambridgeshire, including its built and natural heritage. New development should enhance the area, and protect and enhance biodiversity.
- C. To provide land for housing that meets local needs and aspirations, and gives choice about type, size, tenure and cost.
- D. To deliver new developments that are high quality and well-designed with distinctive character that reflects their location, and which responds robustly to the challenges of climate change.

- E. To link development with local facilities and services, and sustainable transport including buses, walking and cycling.
- F. To ensure that all new development provides or has access to a range of services and facilities that support healthy lifestyles and wellbeing for everyone, including shops, schools, doctors, community buildings, cultural facilities, local open space, and green infrastructure.

Question 2:

Do you agree that the objectives set out in Issue 2 should be included in the Local Plan?

Please provide any comments.

- 2.3 South Cambridgeshire is a prosperous area with high levels of economic activity and low levels of unemployment. Its 350 square miles of countryside provide a high quality setting for its 105 settlements. In recent decades the district has experienced significant growth, reflecting the success of the local economy and the need for new homes.
- 2.4 The last round of plan making that started around 10 years ago resulted in a significant change of development strategy, away from a strategy of spreading growth around the villages, to a focus of development on the edge of Cambridge, and a new settlement between Longstanton and Oakington, to be known as Northstowe, which would be linked to Cambridge by the Guided Busway. The aim of the strategy has been to deliver more homes near to jobs, reducing the need for commuting, and supporting economic development. There has been good progress bringing forward a number of these sites, and they will continue to deliver new homes and jobs during the life of the new plan. In the rural area, housing development has been generally limited to meet local needs, with larger developments permitted in the best served villages, known as Rural Centres. Figure 1 shows South Cambridgeshire as it is today.
- 2.5 The Local Plan will determine what the development strategy should be in the future, looking forward to 2031. It is an opportunity to consider what has changed since the last plan, to respond positively to the economic downturn, and consider how housing and employment needs can be met in a sustainable way which reflects the views of local people.

- 2.6 The remaining chapters of this document identify a series of issues to consider, and a range of potential options that respond to them, from broad issues regarding the strategy for growth and where it should be focused, through specific site options for possible development, to options for planning policies that could be used to shape new development. The options identified for consultation that affect the spatial strategy are shown on the Figure 2.
- 2.7 Our neighbouring authorities are also refreshing their Local Plans. This includes Cambridge City, where due to the relationship with South Cambridgeshire there are many overlapping issues, including the potential for cross boundary developments. In the wider area, Alconbury Enterprise Zone in Huntingdonshire will provide around 8,000 new jobs and up to 7,000 new homes. South Cambridgeshire has been working closely with surrounding authorities, to ensure plans are coordinated and wider infrastructure needs are considered.

Figure 1:
South Cambridgeshire Today

Key

 **General Extent of the Green Belt**

 **Major Developments**
(housing and employment mix)

- A. Northstowe
- B. North West Cambridge
- C. NIAB 2
- D. Orchard Park
- E. Trumpington Meadows
- F. Cambridge East

 **Rural Centre**

 **Minor Rural Centre**

 **Major Green Infrastructure Today**

1. Fen Drayton Lakes
2. Milton Country Park
3. Cambourne
4. Coton Countryside Reserve
5. Wandiebury Country Park
6. Wimpole
7. Fowlmere RSPB Reserve

 **Guided Busway**

 **Train Line**

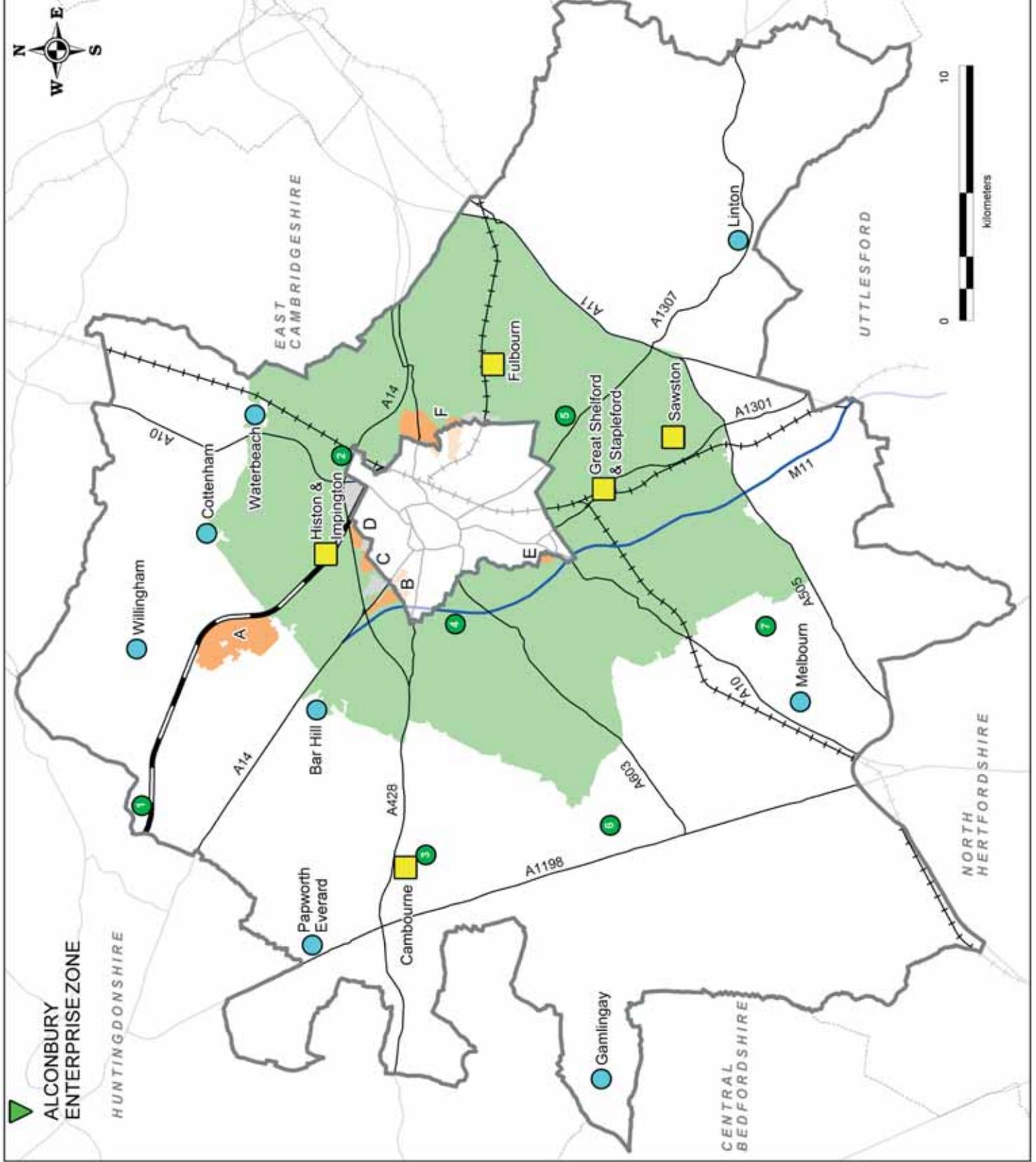


Figure 2: Options for South Cambridgeshire's Future

Key



General Extent of the Green Belt
(could change as a result of review)



Green Belt Broad Locations



Major Developments
(housing and employment mix)



Options for Major Sites



Proposed New Cambridge Science Park Station



Rural Centre



Minor Rural Centre



Better Served Group Village



Option for Category Change



Major Green Infrastructure Today



Major Green Infrastructure Target Areas (Green Infrastructure Strategy)



Guided Busway



Train Line

