

7.0 ILLUSTRATED VISION AND DESIGN PRINCIPLES

7.1

Vision

The vision for Northstowe Phase 2 builds upon the key development principles of the Northstowe Area Action Plan, the Development Framework Document and the core principles of the Cambridgeshire Quality Charter for Growth.

Northstowe will be a sustainable new town development that will support the creation of a vibrant community with a distinctive local identity. This 21st Century town will be founded on contemporary place-making principles and will reference the spatial character of fen-edge market towns.

Phase 2 of Northstowe will provide 3,500 homes, two primary and one secondary school as well as community and sports facilities. It will feature a range of housing types to suit different lifestyles and offer employment opportunities for both the local community and the wider Cambridgeshire area. A new mixed-use town centre within Phase 2 will deliver retail, commercial, service and employment space as well as higher density housing within a well-designed setting which can be easily accessed via sustainable transport modes.

The town centre will offer a range of facilities which will encourage people to visit often, creating a lively atmosphere. A new town square will be the focus of this activity with space for a marketplace, cafes, restaurants, office space and community facilities which will wrap around the square and 'spill-over' into it. The town centre will be a place to learn, do business and have fun as well as a place to shop and meet friends.

Northstowe Phase 2 will be built to encourage sustainable transport and make good use of natural resources. Phase 2 will provide a link for Northstowe to the CGB, allowing residents to travel to Cambridge and nearby towns quickly and sustainably. A network of walking and cycling routes has been integrated throughout the design of Phase 2 to make it enjoyable and quick to travel around the town and to nearby villages. Renewable energy technologies will be integrated into Phase 2 to reduce the carbon footprint of the development and encourage the efficient use of natural resources. The swales and attenuation ponds which act as a storm protection system for the wider area have been designed to act as attractive landscaping features which travel through the site, connecting the housing within the town to the countryside beyond.



FIGURE 7.1: ILLUSTRATIVE MASTERPLAN

