

Strategic policies in adopted development plan for South Cambridgeshire

According to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) a local planning authority should set out clearly the strategic policies for their area (para 184). There is guidance provided at national level for identifying strategic policies both within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – paragraph 156 and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) (paragraph 074 - 077 Ref ID: 41-074-20140306). The Council has used this to identify the strategic policies in the adopted development plan for South Cambridgeshire.

The Criteria used for identifying Strategic Policies

Extract from NPPF

Local planning authorities should set out the strategic priorities for the area in the Local Plan. This should include strategic policies to deliver:

1. the homes and jobs needed in the area;
2. the provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;
3. the provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
4. the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
5. climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.

Extract from NPPG

When reaching a view on whether a policy is a strategic policy the following are useful considerations:

- A. whether the policy sets out an overarching direction or objective
- B. whether the policy seeks to shape the broad characteristics of development
- C. the scale at which the policy is intended to operate
- D. whether the policy sets a framework for decisions on how competing priorities should be balanced
- E. whether the policy sets a standard or other requirement that is essential to achieving the wider vision and aspirations in the Local Plan
- F. in the case of site allocations, whether bringing the site forward is central to achieving the vision and aspirations of the Local Plan
- G. whether the Local Plan identifies the policy as being strategic

These criteria have been used to identify why a policy is considered to be strategic – for NPPF criteria from 1- 5 and for NPPG from A-G. The following table identifies the strategic policies in the adopted development plan for South Cambridgeshire. Some policies have already been implemented and this is noted in the comments column.

Table identifying Strategic Policies in the adopted development plan

All policies in the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD), Development Control Policies DPD and Site Specific Policies DPD are listed with Strategic Policies highlighted in grey.

Policy in Core Strategy DPD	NPPF Guidance (Para 156)	NPPG Defining strategic policies	Comments
ST/1 Green Belt		AC	Policy setting out an overarching objective. Essential to delivery of development strategy of plan
ST/2 Housing Provision	1	AC	Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs
ST/3 Re-Using Previously Developed Land and Buildings		ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective
ST/4 Rural Centres		BCE	Strategic to deliver development strategy of Local Plan
ST/5 Minor Rural Centres		BCE	Strategic to deliver development strategy of Local Plan
ST/6 Group Villages		BCE	Strategic to deliver development strategy of Local Plan
ST/7 Infill Villages		BCE	Strategic to deliver development strategy of Local Plan
ST/8 Employment Provision	1	AC	Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs
ST/9 Retail Hierarchy	1,2	A	Policy setting out an overarching objective
ST/10 Phasing of Housing Land	1	A	Policy setting out an overarching objective of plan
ST/11 Plan Monitor Manage		A	Policy setting out an overarching objective of plan

Policy in Development Control Policies DPD	NPPF Guidance (Para 156)	NPPG Defining strategic policies	Comments
DP/1 Sustainable Development		AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective of plan
DP/2 Design of New Development		ABCE	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
DP/3 Development Criteria		ABCE	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
DP/4 Infrastructure and New Developments	2,3,4	ABCE	Policy setting out an overarching objective. Vital for delivery of development strategy of plan.
DP/5 Cumulative Development		ABCE	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
DP/6 Construction Methods		AC	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
DP/7 Development Frameworks	1	BCE	Policy setting out an overarching objective
GB/1 Development in the Green Belt	5	ABDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective.

Policy in Development Control Policies DPD	NPPF Guidance (Para 156)	NPPG Defining strategic policies	Comments
GB/2 Mitigating the Impact of Development in the Green Belt	5	ABDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
GB/3 Mitigating the Impact of Development Adjoining the Green Belt	5	ABDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
GB/4 Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt	5	ABDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
GB/5 Recreation in the Green Belt	5	ABDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
HG/1 Housing Density	1	ABC	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
HG/2 Housing Mix	1	ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
HG/3 Affordable Housing		ACDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
HG/4 Affordable Housing Subsidy		ACDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
HG/5 Exceptions Sites for Affordable Housing		ACDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
HG/6 Extensions to Dwellings in the Countryside	1	ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
HG/7 Replacement Dwellings in the Countryside	1	ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
HG/8 Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside for Residential Use	1	ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
HG/9 Dwelling to Support a Rural-based Enterprise	1	ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
ET/1 Limitations on the Occupancy of New Premises in South Cambridgeshire	1	ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
ET/2 Promotion of Clusters	1	ABD	Policy setting out an overarching objective
ET/3 Development in Established Employment Areas in the Countryside	1	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective.
ET/4 New Employment Development in Villages	1	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
ET/5 Development for the Expansion of Firms	1	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
ET/6 Loss of Rural Employment to Non-Employment Uses	1	AD	Policy setting out an overarching objective
ET/7 Conversion of Rural Buildings for Employment	1	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
ET/8 Replacement Buildings in the Countryside	1	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
ET/9 Farm Diversification	1	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
ET/10 Tourist Facilities and Visitor Accommodation	1,2	AD	Policy setting out an overarching objective

Policy in Development Control Policies DPD	NPPF Guidance (Para 156)	NPPG Defining strategic policies	Comments
SF/1 Protection of Village Services and Facilities	2,4	ABD	Policy setting out an overarching objective
SF/2 Applications for New Retail Development	1	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
SF/3 Retail Development on Land Allocated for Other Uses	1	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
SF/4 Retailing in Villages	1	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
SF/5 Retailing in the Countryside	2	ACE	Policy setting out an overarching objective
SF/6 Public Art and New Development			Policy that local community could review to be specific for their area.
SF/7 Underground Pipes, Wires, Fibres And Cables			Policy not carried forward into Submission Local Plan
SF/8 Lord's Bridge Radio Telescope	3	AC	Policy setting out an overarching objective. Essential to protect operation of internationally important telescope.
SF/9 Protection of Existing Recreation Areas	2,4	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
SF/10 Outdoor Playspace, Informal Open Space, and New Developments	2,4	BCE	Strategic as minimum standard to ensure provision of open space in new developments
SF/11 Open Space Standards	2,4	BCE	Strategic as minimum standard to ensure provision of open space in new developments
SF/12 The River Cam	2,4	BD	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
NE/1 Energy Efficiency		ABC	Strategic to deliver climate change mitigation and adaption. Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development.
NE/2 Renewable Energy		ABC	Strategic to deliver climate change mitigation and adaption. Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development.
NE/3 Renewable Energy Technologies in New Development	5	BE	Strategic to deliver climate change mitigation and adaption
NE/4 Landscape Character Areas	5	ABDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective
NE/5 Countryside Enhancement Areas	5	F	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development.
NE/6 Biodiversity	5	ADE	Policy setting out an overarching objective
NE/7 Sites of Biodiversity or Geological Importance		ADE	Policy setting out an overarching objective
NE/8 Groundwater	5	ABDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective
NE/9 Water and Drainage Infrastructure	5	ABDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective

Policy in Development Control Policies DPD	NPPF Guidance (Para 156)	NPPG Defining strategic policies	Comments
NE/10 Foul Drainage - Alternative Drainage Systems	5	ABDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective
NE/11 Flood Risk	3,5	ABCDE	Policy setting out an overarching objective
NE/12 Water Conservation	3,5	ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective. Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
NE/13 Hazardous Installations	5	BD	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
NE/14 Lighting Proposals	5	BD	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
NE/15 Noise Pollution	5	BD	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
NE/16 Emissions	5	BD	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
NE/17 Protecting High Quality Agricultural Land	5	ADE	Policy setting out an overarching objective
CH/1 Historic Landscapes	5	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
CH/2 Archaeological Sites	5	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
CH/3 Listed Buildings	5	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
CH/4 Development Within the Curtilage or Setting of a Listed Building	5	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
CH/5 Conservation Areas	5	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
CH/6 Protected Village Amenity Areas			Local communities may have parish specific policy for protecting green spaces within their area.
CH/7 Important Countryside Frontages			Local communities may have parish specific policy to protect views for their area.
CH/8 Advertisements	5	AB	Policy setting out an overarching objective
CH/9 Shop Fronts	5	AB	Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
CH/10 Linton Special Policy Area			Local community may have parish specific aspirations for this area.
CH/11 Duxford Imperial War Museum	2,4,5	B	Museum as special case as nationally important.
TR/1 Planning for More Sustainable Travel	3	ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective
TR/2 Car and Cycle Parking Standards	3	ABE	Policy setting out an overarching objective
TR/3 Mitigating Travel Impact	3	ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective
TR/4 Non-motorised Modes	3	ABC	Policy setting out an overarching objective

Policy in Development Control Policies DPD	NPPF Guidance (Para 156)	NPPG Defining strategic policies	Comments
TR/5 Rail Freight Interchanges	3	AC	Policy setting out an overarching objective
TR/6 Aviation-Related Development Proposals	3	AC	Policy setting out an overarching objective. Policy seeking to shape broad characteristics of development
M/1 Plan Monitor Manage		A	Policy setting out an overarching objective of plan

Policy in Site Specific Policies DPD	NPPF Guidance (Para 156)	NPPG Defining strategic policies	Comments
SP/1 Cambridge Northern Fringe West (Orchard Park)	1,2,3,4,5	DFG	Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/2 North West Cambridge Huntingdon Road to Histon Road	1,2,3,4,5	DFG	Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/3 Cambourne	1,2,3,4,5	DFG	Implemented. Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/4 Cambourne Approved Masterplan and Design Guide	1,2,3,4,5	DFG	Implemented. Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/5 Cambourne School Lane Special Policy Area	1,2,3,4,5	DFG	Implemented. Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/6 North of Impington Lane, Impington	1	F	Implemented. Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/7 Powell's Garage, Woollards Lane, Great Shelford	1	F	Implemented. Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/8 Bayer CropScience, Hauxton	1	F	Implemented. Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/9 Fulbourn and Ida Darwin Hospitals	1	F	Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/10 Papworth Everard Village Development			Local community may have parish specific aspirations for this area
SP/11 Fen Drayton Former Land Settlement Association Estates			Local community may have parish specific aspirations for this area.
SP/12 Allocations for Class B1 Employment Uses	1	F	Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/13 Allocations for Class B1, B2 and B8 Employment Uses	1	F	Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation
SP/14 Allocations for Open Space			Local community may have parish specific aspirations.
SP/15 Conservation Area and Green Separation at Longstanton	5	BF	Strategic to the setting of new town of Northstowe
SP/16 Cambridgeshire Guided Busway	3	E	Implemented. Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs.
SP/17 Rail Infrastructure	1,2,3,4,5	DFG	Strategic to delivery of homes and jobs. Site allocation

Policy in Site Specific Policies DPD	NPPF Guidance (Para 156)	NPPG Defining strategic policies	Comments
SP/18 Rail Freight	3	ACF	Policy setting out an overarching objective of plan
SP/19 Cambridge Airport Safety Zone	3	AC	Policy setting out an overarching objective. Essential to have public safety zone around airport

Area Action Plans:

The adopted Area Action Plans (AAP) that are part of the adopted development plan for the district are considered to be strategic to the delivery of homes and jobs within the district and therefore all policies within them are considered strategic. The adopted AAPs are Northstowe AAP; Cambridge East AAP; Cambridge Southern Fringe AAP; and NW Cambridge AAP. Policies in any new Area Action Plans prepared and adopted will also be considered strategic.