

Draft Greater Cambridge Cambridge Biomedical Campus Supplementary Planning Document

To:

Cllr Katie Thornburrow, Executive Councillor for Planning, Building Control and Infrastructure
Planning and Transport Scrutiny Committee, 4 November 2024

Report by:

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Wards affected:

All

Director Approval: Stephen Kelly, Joint Director of Planning confirms that the report author has sought the advice of all appropriate colleagues and given due regard to that advice; that the equalities impacts and other implications of the recommended decisions have been assessed and accurately presented in the report; and that they are content for the report to be put to the Executive Councillor for decision.

1.	Recommendations
1.1	<p>It is recommended that the Executive Councillor for Planning, Building Control and Infrastructure:</p> <p>A) Agrees the draft Greater Cambridge Cambridge Biomedical Campus SPD (attached at Appendix 1) and accompanying Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) (Appendix 2) be subject to public consultation;</p> <p>B) Agree that the preparation of materials and the running of the consultation be delegated to the Joint Director of Planning;</p> <p>C) Agree that any subsequent material amendments prior to consultation be made by the Lead Member for Planning, and that any subsequent minor amendments and editing changes that do not materially affect the content prior to consultation be delegated to the Joint Director of Planning in consultation with the Lead Member for Planning.</p>

2.	Purpose and reason for the report
2.1	<p>The purpose of this draft Greater Cambridge Cambridge Biomedical Campus Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is to provide planning guidance to inform development at the existing Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC). The draft SPD does not create policy but sets out principles that should be considered in early stages of the planning process to deliver high quality development across the Campus.</p> <p>The guidance provided in this draft SPD will support existing policies set out in the Cambridge City Council Local Plan (2018) and South Cambridgeshire District Council Local Plan (2018) for the Campus and will form an integral part of the development management process, setting out material considerations for determining planning applications. It will also inform developers and infrastructure providers of the key principles to consider when bringing forward proposals within the Campus, to ensure that they individually and cumulatively make a positive contribution towards the longer-term vision for the Campus.</p> <p>This report seeks approval to consult on the draft SPD prior to considering its adoption, reflecting regulations governing the adoption of supplementary planning documents.</p>
3.	Alternative options considered
3.1	<p>The option to not provide guidance for the development coming forward on the Campus was considered, but preparing a new Supplementary Planning Document was deemed the most effective way forward. This is by providing guidance that can be considered in early stages of the planning process and as a result will deliver high quality development across the Campus.</p>
4.	Background and key issues
4.1	<p>The draft Greater Cambridge Cambridge Biomedical Campus Supplementary Planning Document sets out guidance on the implementation of policies within the Cambridge Local Plan (2018) and the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan (2018) regarding future development at the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. The draft SPD sets out planning principles to guide future development proposals at the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and provides a planning framework for consideration when determining planning applications.</p> <p>The Cambridge Biomedical Campus is an international centre of excellence for patient care, biomedical research and healthcare education, and plays an important local, regional and national role in providing medical facilities and medical research. The</p>

	<p>campus includes a number of major research laboratories and hospitals and facilitates the delivery of world class medical, biomedical and biotechnology services.</p> <p>The guidance provided in this draft SPD will form an integral part of the development management process, setting out material considerations for determining planning applications on the Campus. It will also inform developers and infrastructure providers of the key principles to consider when bringing forward proposals within the campus, to ensure that they individually and cumulatively make a positive contribution towards the longer-term vision for the Campus.</p> <p>The draft SPD is split into chapters that set out the purpose of the draft SPD, the updated overarching ambitions for the Campus, and details the local context and current provision on the Campus. Chapter four identifies a number of high level principles that will inform development coming forward on the campus, supporting the delivery of the ambition for the campus. Lastly, Chapter five sets out the obligations and mitigation of potential impacts from new development with a checklist that developers can consider in the preparation of a planning application.</p> <p>The draft SPD will also be taken to South Cambridgeshire District Council Cabinet on Tuesday 5 November 2024 with the same recommendations. If approved, it is proposed that a consultation is undertaken for eight weeks from 28 November 2024 to 24 January 2025, and that the consultation approach reflects the requirements of national regulations and the Greater Cambridge Statement of Community Involvement. When the consultation is complete consultation responses will be considered and a report brought back to PTSC for consideration and proposed adoption of the draft SPD.</p> <p>The proposed consultation draft SPD has been subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment screening, and in both cases the requirement for further reassessment was screened out. It has also been subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment.</p>
5.	<p>Corporate plan</p>
5.1	<p>The draft Greater Cambridge Cambridge Biomedical Campus SPD aligns with the visions and strategies as set out in the Cambridge City Council Corporate plan 2022-2027: Corporate plan 2022-27: our priorities for Cambridge - Cambridge City Council</p> <p>Priority 1: Leading Cambridge’s response to climate change and biodiversity emergencies</p> <p>If adopted, the SPD would support the Council in addressing the impacts of development on a range of issues that have climate related impacts including delivering open space and landscape, ecology and Biodiversity Net Gain, climate resilience and improving</p>

	<p>energy efficiency.</p> <p>Priority 2: Tackling Poverty and Inequality and helping people in the greatest need</p> <p>The draft SPD sets out development principles that seek to address inequality by encouraging the provision of high quality development on the Campus that encourages healthy lifestyles, physically active communities and positively contributes to mental health and wellbeing. Having access to cultural, retail and leisure facilities also contribute to a sustainable, accessible and equitable community for people living in the area, visiting or using facilities such as healthcare.</p> <p>Priority 4: Modernising the Council to lead a greener city that is fair for all</p> <p>If adopted, the SPD will contribute to the Council's delivery of the priority as the document seeks to provide clear guidance for development coming forward on the Campus to support in the delivery of high quality design. It will also support the Council's development management process, setting out material considerations for determining planning applications.</p>
6.	Consultation, engagement and communication
6.1	<p>During the preparation of the draft SPD, officers engaged with a number of service areas to help inform and prepare the document.</p> <p>The report seeks to agree the draft SPD for public consultation where comments will be invited and considered as part of the final version of the SPD.</p>
7.	Anticipated outcomes, benefits or impact
7.1	<p>If approved, the Cambridge Biomedical Campus SPD will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. The development principles set out in the draft SPD will support the delivery of high quality development at the Campus and provide a clear planning framework for consideration when determining planning applications.</p>
8.	Implications
8.1	Relevant risks
	<p>During the writing of this report consideration was given to the following implications:</p> <p>A) Financial</p> <p>B) Legal</p>

	<p>C) Equality and socio-economic implications D) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications E) Procurement Implications F) Community Safety Implications All of the implications listed have been considered below.</p>
	<p>Financial Implications</p>
8.2	<p>1. The draft SPD seeks to provide guidance informing developers and infrastructure providers of the key principles to consider when bringing forward proposals within the Campus. The guidance is designed to streamline the planning application process which will have financial implications. The guidance that has been provided within the document ensures that this is a robust and effective process. There are no fraud risks identified as a result of this report.</p> <p>The costs of preparing the draft SPD through to the proposed adoption in Spring 2025 is covered by the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service budget.</p>
	<p>Legal Implications</p>
8.3	<p>There are no legal implications arising from the report. Officers have sought appropriate legal advice from 3C Legal when preparing the draft SPD.</p>
	<p>Equalities and socio-economic Implications</p>
8.4	<p>The draft CBC SPD sets out principles related to the positive contribution to user experience and the community as well as encouraging the incorporation of equal and accessible places for all users into the design of proposals on the Campus.</p> <p>The draft SPD has been subject to an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA).</p>
	<p>Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental implications</p>
8.5	<p>The draft SPD will support the Council in delivering the Doubling Nature Strategy and sets out principles that align with the aim to increase and enhance nature across the district. The draft SPD also references the Zero Carbon Strategy and provides guidance to inform development that will reduce carbon emissions and support the Council's priority to achieve carbon net zero.</p> <p>The draft SPD also sign-posts to other adopted Greater Cambridge SPDs to consider alongside the draft CBC SPD. The draft SPD refers to the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (2020) that provides guidance on ways to reduce energy demand and</p>

	associated carbon emissions, and refers to the Biodiversity SPD (2022) that sets out how development can enhance biodiversity through the planning process. The draft SPD also sign-posts the Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD (2018) that provides guidance for developers on how to manage flood risk and water as part of new proposals.
	Procurement Implications
8.6	There are no procurement implications arising from the report.
	Community Safety Implications
8.7	There are no community safety implications arising from the report.
9.	Background documents Adopted Cambridge Local Plan (2018) Adopted South Cambridgeshire Local Plan (2018)
10.	Appendices
10.1	Appendix A: Greater Cambridge Cambridge Biomedical Campus Supplementary Planning Document (Draft for Consultation) 2024 Appendix B: Draft Equality Impact Assessment for the Cambridge Biomedical Campus Supplementary Planning Document Appendix C: Sustainability Appraisal Screening Report Appendix D: Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report
	To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact Lizzie Wood - Principal Planning Policy Officer Telephone: 07593 421045 lizzie.wood@greatercambridgeplanning.org Terry De Sousa - Planning Policy and Strategy Team Leader Telephone: 07563 421289 terry.desousa@greatercambridgeplanning.org