

GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2021
7.00 PM

Engine Shed, Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Peterborough, PE2 8TY
Meeting will be livestreamed via [Peterborough City Council's YouTube Page](#)

AGENDA

Page No

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations**

At this point Members must declare whether they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, or other interest, in any of the items on the agenda, unless it is already entered in the register of members' interests or is a "pending notification" that has been disclosed to the Solicitor to the Council. Members must also declare if they are subject to their party group whip in relation to any items under consideration.
3. **Minutes of the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee Meeting Held on 7 July 2021** 3 - 10
4. **Call In of any Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Key Officer Decisions**

The decision notice for each decision will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision may then be implemented on the expiry of 3 working days after the publication of the decision (not including the date of publication), unless a request for call-in of the decision is received from any two Members of the relevant Scrutiny Committee. If a request for call-in of a decision is received, implementation of the decision remains suspended for consideration by the relevant Scrutiny Committee.
5. **Tree Management - Potential Review of the Tree and Woodland Strategy, Scoping for Appropriate Exceptions and Revised Tree Planting Targets** 11 - 36
6. **Ox-Cam Arc - Government Consultation Paper** 37 - 104
7. **Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations** 105 - 110

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8. **Forward Plan of Executive Decisions** **111 - 148**
9. **Work Programme 2021/22** **149 - 154**
10. **Date of Next Meeting**

10 November 2021 – Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee

17 November 2021 – Joint Scrutiny of the Budget

Emergency Evacuation Procedure – Outside Normal Office Hours

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<http://democracy.peterborough.gov.uk/ecSDDisplay.aspx?NAME=Protocol%20on%20the%20use%20of%20Recording&ID=690&RPID=2625610&sch=doc&cat=13385&path=13385>

Committee Members:

Councillors: C. Harper (Chairman), R. Brown, C. Burbage (Vice Chairman), G. Casey, N. Day, Judy Fox, N. Moyo, E. Murphy, L. Sharp, H. Skibsted and C. Wiggin
Co-opted Member: Parish Councillor Michael Samways

Substitutes: Councillors: C. Fenner, A. Joseph, S. Qayyum and N. Sandford

Further information about this meeting can be obtained from David Beauchamp on telephone 01733 384628 or by email – david.beauchamp@peterborough.gov.uk

**MINUTES OF THE GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY
MEETING
HELD AT 7PM, ON
WEDNESDAY, 7 JULY 2021
ENGINE SHED, SAND MARTIN HOUSE**

Committee Members Present: Councillors C. Harper (Chair), C. Burbage (Vice Chair), G. Casey, N. Day, Judy Fox, C. Fenner, A. Joseph, E. Murphy, O. Sainsbury, L. Sharp, C. Wiggin.
Co-opted Member: Parish Councillor Michael Samways

Officers Present in Steve Cox – Executive Director, Place and Economy (Virtually)
Charlotte Palmer – Group Manager, Transport and Environment
Hannah Swinburne – Principal Climate Change Officer
David Beauchamp – Democratic Services Officer

Also Present: Councillor Nigel Simons – Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment
Adrian Cannard – Strategic Planning Manager, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority
Lynne Sullivan – Commissioner (Virtually)
Greg Archer – Commissioner (Virtually)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

- Cllr R. Brown (Cllr C. Fenner in attendance as substitute)
- Cllr N. Moyo (Cllr. O. Sainsbury in attendance as substitute)
- Cllr H. Skibsted (Cllr. A. Joseph in attendance as substitute).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

No declarations of interest or whipping declarations were received.

3. MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON:

3.1. 22 FEBRUARY 2021 – JOINT MEETING OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

The minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees held on 22 February 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

3.2. 10 MARCH 2021 – GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee held on 10 March 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

3.2. 23 MARCH 2021 – EXTRAORDINARY MEETING - GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee held on 23 March 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record

4. CALL IN OF ANY CABINET, CABINET MEMBER OR KEY OFFICER DECISIONS

There were no requests for call-in to consider.

5. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBER

The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee received a report in relation to the appointment of a Co-opted Member in accordance with the Council's Constitution Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions.

The purpose of the report was to seek approval from the Committee to appoint Parish Councillor Michael Samways as a non-voting Co-opted Member to represent the rural communities for the municipal year 2021/2022.

The Democratic Services Officer introduced the report and explained that the Parish Council Co-opted Member had been put forward by the Parish Council Liaison Committee via the Liaison Chair and Think Communities Team and that the appointment would be reviewed annually.

The Committee agreed unanimously to the appointment of Parish Councillor Michael Samways as a non-voting Co-opted Member for the municipal year 2021/22. The Chairman invited Parish Councillor Michael Samways to join the meeting.

ACTIONS AGREED

The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to appoint Parish Councillor Michael Samways as a non-voting co-opted member to represent the rural communities for the municipal year 2021/2022. The appointment would be reviewed annually at the beginning of the next municipal year.

6. TO INFORM STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INITIAL REPORT

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment accompanied by:

- Charlotte Palmer – Group Manager, Transport and Environment
- Hannah Swinburne – Principal Climate Change Officer
- Adrian Cannard – Strategic Planning Manager, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA)
- Lynne Sullivan – Commissioner (Virtually via Teams)
- Greg Archer – Commissioner (Virtually via Teams)

The report asked the Committee to consider the recommendations from the initial report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate and recommend priorities for the city-wide carbon management action plan to the Climate Change Working Group.

The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Members referred to page 53 of the reports pack and asked how much of the £700m/yr funding requirement was attributed to Peterborough and how much the City Council would be expected to contribute. Officers responded that the University of Leeds had provided the costings on the interventions required. These costs were not just for the public sector; they included elements such as the cost of people upgrading their homes. The cost had yet to be broken down on a local authority basis. Officers were keen to attract central government funding via grants, e.g., the zero-emission bus competition and Green Homes grant. The Commission had found that there was appetite in the private sector for investment in green measures if their credentials and return on investment could be demonstrated
- Members requested that the Strategic Planning Manager, CPCA provides the Committee with information from the University of Leeds on the costs of climate interventions to individual local authorities.
- Members praised the sense of urgency in the report.
- Members asked how the decarbonisation of buildings would be achieved given the scrapping of the green homes schemes. Officers responded that they were awaiting policy announcements on heating and building strategies from the Government, with the potential for associated pilot schemes for large scale decarbonisation.
- There was an emphasis on helping private and public landlords know what they had to do to decarbonise.
- Members asked if the Commission considered Peterborough City Council's Local Plan to be fit for purpose given that it was adopted before the Council's declaration of a climate emergency. The Strategic Planning Manager (CPCA) responded that it was not his place to assess the Council's Local Plan. The Commission had found that it was difficult to include changes to Building Regulations within local plans, as these standards were set by the Government. The Commission would favour the Government bringing forward updates to regulations.
- The Local Plan was relatively new and the evidence base would be kept under review as a number of issues had changed within two years.
- Charging points would not be needed on every residential road as 50% of electric cars would only be charged once a week. It would be more logical to install them in retail car parks and city centres that were frequently visited. Charging would become built in to a person's daily activities, as with mobile phone charging.
- Members asked if the Council should have stricter development control measures and commented that they did not believe this would discourage developers from pursuing housing schemes. Officers responded that this was a key part of the Commission's recommendations. Emissions from construction materials would also need to be taken into account alongside emissions from the building while it was in use. It was advised that targets be set to achieve this. The Commission planned to produce reports containing plans and targets for existing homes, e.g. removing gas boilers and introducing heat pumps although energy efficiency measures would be required for this to be effective.
- Members raised concerns that planned building schemes in Peterborough might take place before new emission targets were set and asked what would be done in the meantime to encourage developers to set high standards. The Commissioner responded that being the Chair of Cambridgeshire's Quality panel had highlighted that plans often needed significantly improvements, despite good aspirations. The Government had stated that Local Authorities could set their own standards. Given the urgency of tackling the climate emergency and the fact that

new standards would become normalised quickly, it was felt that the CPCA should set strict standards.

- Members referred to page 59 of the reports pack and asked if the City Council should be approving developments on green space given the aspiration that all new builds have access to nature. The Strategic Planning Manager, CPCA responded that he could not comment on these specific plans but the Commission was investigating forthcoming changes to the planning system that would increase the quality and biodiversity of green space. This could provide an urban cooling effect.
- Officers added that there was a masterplan for the Embankment which would recognise the importance of green space.
- The City Council should lead by example to influence organisations to become more environmentally friendly.
- While there was a need to grow the network, Peterborough had more charging points than most local authorities in the East of England.
- Members commented that cycling facilities needed to be improved in rural areas to ensure safety. Officers responded that the Combined Authority was the Strategic Transport Authority with responsible for the Local Transport Plan and this issue was under review.
- A high proportion of transport emissions were from journeys between 5 and 15 miles in length; a distance well suited to e-bikes and improvements to cycling facilities would encourage more journeys to be made this way; reducing emissions.
- Members asked how new council houses could be made carbon neutral, citing Goldsmith Street in Norwich as a successful project. The Commissioners praised this scheme and cited the work of the Good Homes Alliances which included 20 local authorities. Council officers added that plans for a Housing Revenue Account (HRA) could incorporate zero-carbon principles.
- Young people would be engaged with the Commission's recommendations via the presence of a younger Commissioner and via engagement events. The Commission's report also included a charter on actions people could take and how to encourage behavioural change. Further recommendations would be made in the second phase.
- Members requested that the Group Manager, Transport and Environment provides information to the Committee on plans to engage secondary schools with the work of the Climate Change Commission.
- Members referred to point 9 on page 83 of the reports pack and asked for examples of investment in decarbonisation projects. Officers responded that the Combined Authority would seek to add value and bring forth demonstration projects. Funding for transport schemes was provided through the devolution deal but housing funding was coming to an end. Examples included biodiversity schemes and e-bikes. Opportunities would be taken as they arose.
- Members stated that they hoped sufficient Combined Authority funding would be in place to work with the Council to reconfigure Peterborough's road network to prioritise active travel. Officers responded that the Combined Authority was working alongside the Council to review the Local Transport Strategy. Work had been commissioned on promoting alternatively fuelled vehicles and bus reform, including bus franchising and other models in light of declining use. The Commissioners added that new national strategy was due to be released imminently alongside a National Decarbonisation Plan and it was likely these documents would provide a new focus. Local Authorities would be given the responsibility to secure funding for local projects to discourage car use in towns and cities. Policy was changing rapidly and new funding sources would become

available. In response, Members commented that local authorities should be setting their own targets rather than relying on new central government policy.

- Members commented that the Council might need to recruit additional climate change officers. Officers responded that resourcing for climate change had been increased and the Council would work with the Combined Authority see how the resources could be obtained to take this work further forward.
- Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Joseph, proposed that the Committee recommends that the Climate Change Working Group considers the capacity of Peterborough City Council to play its full part in developing and implementing an area wide action plan with a view to making recommendations regarding officers' skills and availability. This was UNANIMOUSLY agreed.
- Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Murphy, proposed that the Committee recommends that the Climate Change Working Group considers the following: Alongside a Carbon Management action plan, the City will need an emergency resilience and adaptation plan which considers in detail and addresses the impact of climate change our community and considers the impact on our most vulnerable communities. This was UNANIMOUSLY agreed.
- Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Joseph, proposed that the Committee recommends that the Climate Change Working Group considers the following: Engagement with tenant farmers and partner landowners at an early stage, e.g., to encourage non-traditional use of land. This was UNANIMOUSLY agreed.
- Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Joseph, proposed that the Committee recommends to the Climate Change Working Group that Peterborough City Council works with the Combined Authority to transform the road network to favour pedestrians and cyclists. This was UNANIMOUSLY agreed.
- Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Day, proposed that the Committee recommends that Cabinet reviews any decisions that might discourage the use of Brown Bins in Peterborough and considers the use of electric waste collection vehicles, as has been achieved in Oxford. This was UNANIMOUSLY agreed.
- Councillor Murphy proposed that the Committee recommends that the Council sets targets to reduce the Council's baseline emissions, e.g., from libraries and community centres. There was no seconder and the recommendation was therefore DEFEATED.
- Councillor Murphy proposed that the Committee recommends that the Council considers using Stafford Hall as a hub to bring about engagement with the Climate Emergency and considers refurbishing the building with energy efficient measures. There was no seconder and the recommendation was therefore DEFEATED.
- The Committee requested the presence of the Corporate Director Resources at a future meeting of the Committee to provide assurances on the cost of implementing the Commission's recommendations.
- Members asked what the relationship was between the Commission's report and the COP26 Summit. Officers responded that the commission could look at new topics, including COP26. The Combined Authority had requested that the Commission makes recommendations on ongoing structures.
- Members commented that Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) could be beneficial in finding solutions to climate change. Officers added that a subgroup of the Commission had explored technological measures such as the precision use of fertilisers and 3D printing.
- Members commented that some of the Commission's recommendations had previously been deemed unaffordable.
- Members commented that charging points should be introduced in rural areas to allow the use of electric waste collection vehicles.

- Alternative fuels such as HVO could be used in situations where electric vehicles were not suitable.
- Members requested an update on plan to reduce the number of idling vehicles around schools. Officers responded that School Streets projects had been successful, and the Council had offered the scheme to all schools following receipt of funding although not all sites would be suitable. Members were encouraged to inform officers of any schools interested in taking part. Members requested that the Group Manager, Transport and Environment provides the Committee with a list of School Streets projects.
- Members raised concerns that there could be negative impacts of discouraging vehicles from driving in the City, noting the rise in courier vehicles and online shopping during the pandemic, and asked how people could be encouraged to visit the City Centre in a more environmentally friendly way. Officers responded that both 'carrot' and 'stick' measures would need to be employed. Research was needed to see how the COVID-19 pandemic has influenced people's behaviour, e.g. the popularity of working from home. This could lead to businesses viewing city centres differently and this would need to be taken into account.
- Members asked what measures could be employed by the Council immediately to help tackle the climate emergency. Officers responded that insulating existing buildings was highly cost effective and represented good use of environmental grant funding. Encouraging behaviour change and increasing biodiversity via habitat banks were also effective. There was interest in the private sector in improving biodiversity. Members request that the Strategic Planning Manager, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority provides the Committee with information from the University of Leeds on the cost of biodiversity projects to local authorities

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee **RESOLVED** to make the following recommendations to the Climate Change Working Group:

1. To consider the capacity of Peterborough City Council to play its full part in developing and implementing an area wide action plan with a view to making recommendations regarding officers' skills and availability.
2. Alongside a Carbon Management action plan, the City will need an emergency resilience and adaptation plan which considers in detail and addresses the impact of climate change our community and considers the impact on our most vulnerable communities.
3. Recommend engagement with tenant farmers and partner landowners at an early stage, e.g., to encourage non-traditional use of land.
4. Recommend that Peterborough City Council works with the Combined Authority to transform the road network to favour pedestrians and cyclists.

The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee **RESOLVED** to recommend that Cabinet:

1. Reviews any decisions that might discourage the use of Brown Bins in Peterborough.
2. Considers the use of electric waste collection vehicles, as has been achieved in Oxford.

ACTIONS AGREED:

The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

1. Consider the recommendations set out in the initial report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate
2. Recommend priorities for the city-wide carbon management action plan to the Climate Change Working Group
3. Agree to receive a briefing note on a draft version of the final report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate.
4. Request that the Strategic Planning Manager, CPCA provides the Committee with information from the University of Leeds on the costs of climate interventions to individual local authorities.
5. Request that the Group Manager, Transport and Environment provides information to the Committee on plans to engage secondary schools with the work of the Climate Change Commission.
6. Request that the Group Manager, Transport and Environment provides the Committee with a list of School Streets projects.
7. Request that the Strategic Planning Manager, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority provides the Committee with information from the University of Leeds on the cost of biodiversity projects to local authorities
8. Request the presence of the Corporate Director Resources at a future meeting of the Committee to provide assurances on the cost of implementing the Commission's recommendations.

7. REVIEW OF 2020/2021 AND WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2021/22

The Democratic Services Officer introduced the report which considered the 2020/21 year in review and looked at the work programme for the new municipal year 2021/22 to determine the Committees priorities. The report also asked the Committee to consider if further monitoring of recommendations made during 20120/21 was required.

There were no further comments by Members

ACTIONS AGREED

The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee **RESOLVED** to

1. Consider items presented to the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee during 2020/21 and make recommendations on the future monitoring of these items where necessary.
2. Determine its priorities and approves the draft work programme for 2021/2022 attached at Appendix 1.
3. Note the Recommendations Monitoring Report attached at Appendix 2 and consider if further monitoring of the recommendations made during the 2020/2021 municipal year was required.
4. Note the Terms of Reference for this Committee as set out in Part 3, Section 4, Overview and Scrutiny Functions and in particular paragraph 2.1 item 4, Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee and paragraph 3.8 Flood Risk Management as attached at Appendix 3.

8. FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

The Democratic Services Officer introduced the report which invited members to consider the most recent version of the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions and identify any relevant items for inclusion within the Committee's work programme or to request further information. It was noted that a new version of the Forward Plan (Key Decisions from 2 August 2021) had been published since the agenda for this meeting had been distributed. This new plan had been circulated to committee members via email

There were no further comments by Members.

ACTIONS AGREED:

The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee **RESOLVED** to consider the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 8 September 2021 – Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee

7pm – 8.32pm

CHAIRMAN

GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 5
8 SEPTEMBER 2021	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Steve Cox, Executive Director Place & Economy, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Nigel Simons Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment Cllr Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and investment.	
Contact Officer(s):	Darren Sharpe - Natural and Historic Environment Manager	01733 453596

TREE MANAGEMENT: POTENTIAL REVIEW OF THE TREE AND WOODLAND STRATEGY; SCOPING FOR APPROPRIATE EXCEPTIONS; AND REVISED TREE PLANTING TARGETS.

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM:	Deadline date:
<p>It is recommended that Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider the draft revised Tree Risk Management Plan, and decide whether to recommend it to Cabinet 2. Consider whether exceptions to current policy should be devised, such as allowing the removal of trees in certain areas contrary to standard policy; and if so, decide whether to recommend such exceptions to Cabinet. Officers do not recommend introducing any such exceptions. 3. Consider whether an addendum to the Trees and Woodland Strategy is appropriate, which clarifies the operational guidelines to which Aragon operate to, in respect to encroaching vegetation and loss of daylight. Officers do recommend introducing such text. 4. Offer any views on the ongoing work by the cross-party Climate Working Group in respect of whether or not the Council should consider amending its tree planting / tree canopy coverage target, with such views to be reported to Cabinet and the Working Group in due course. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The report is submitted to Scrutiny and presents three items that pertain to the existing Trees and Woodland Strategy.

1. The existing Trees and Woodland Strategy contains a Tree Risk Management Plan contained within Appendix 4 of the Strategy. This document is kept under regular review by the Aragon Direct Services and thus it was considered timely to review and potentially update the current approach for risk management.
2. At its Annual Work Programming Meeting on 8th June 2021, the Committee requested that the Trees & Woodland Strategy be brought to the Committee, specifically to consider the potential to make recommendations on introducing 'exception rules' which would have the effect of allowing the removal of trees in certain areas contrary to normal policy.
3. The tree planting related element of this report is brought to Scrutiny following the Council's instruction (in October 2020) to the Climate Change Cross Party Working Group

to conduct an audit of Council owned land and produce a revised tree planting target by March 2022.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to:

1) allow the Committee to receive and comment on a draft updated Tree Risk Management Plan and the measures outlined within it, which, if subsequently approved by Cabinet and Council, will replace the existing Appendix 4 of Trees and Woodland Strategy.

2) to explore the need for exceptions to be inserted in the Trees and Woodland Strategy, to allow the removal of trees in certain areas contrary to normal policy.

3) update Scrutiny on options being explored for tree planting targets on Council owned land.

Please note that the Trees and Woodland Strategy is a major policy item, and therefore only Full Council can amend its content. Scrutiny can therefore recommend amendments to Cabinet, which in turn can make recommendations to Full Council.

2.2 This report is for the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph no, 2.1 Functions determined by Council:

2. Environmental Capital.

2.4 The outcome of this work has the potential to directly and indirectly support all of the council's corporate priorities.

2.5 The tree planting recommendations included in this report will help to improve air quality across the city which therefore could also have a corresponding benefit for Children in Care.

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	YES	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	TBC – potentially 10 November 2021
Date for relevant Council meeting if applicable	TBC – by February 2022 at the latest	Date for submission to Government Dept. (<i>Please specify which Government Dept.</i>)	N/A

4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 Trees are a vital natural resource, and their importance to human welfare and wellbeing (as well as to wider biodiversity wellbeing) is becoming increasingly recognised by society. PCC, as a major landowner, is a custodian of many thousands of trees – indeed, 20% of land owned by PCC is covered by trees, ranging from woodlands to single urban 'street' trees. To help manage that tree stock (as well as new planting), the Council has an adopted Trees and Woodland Strategy, the last being adopted by Full Council in 2018. It is nationally recognised in the industry as a 'best practice' example of such a Strategy. Members may wish to remind themselves of its content here:

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/planning-and-development/conservation-trees-and-hedges/tree-management>

4.2 The Strategy has been very effective in putting in place clear processes and guidelines as to how the city council will not only discharge its statutory functions in relation to Trees and Woodland, but also establishes guidelines, or 'service standards', in respect of this important resource, a matter which is a very 'public facing' service.

4.3 However, for a number of reasons as explained in this report, Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and offer its thoughts on potential changes to the Strategy. Any such recommended changes or comments will then be reported to Cabinet. Cabinet will then determine what to recommend to Full Council.

4.4 This report has three broad elements, each covered separately below.

Tree Risk Management Plan

4.5 Part of the function of the Council's Trees and Woodland Strategy is to help facilitate compliance with:

- Occupiers Liability Act 1957 [revised 1984] which requires it "to take reasonable care" to maintain its trees and woods in a reasonably safe condition.
- The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 which requires the council to have a duty of care to employees and members of the public in respect to safety of the trees in its ownership.

4.6 The existing Strategy, at Appendix 4 of the Strategy, contains a Tree Risk Management Plan. As with all risk management, it is important to regularly review such management processes and update any measures to meet legislative changes, case law or general current best practice guidance. A review and update of this Risk Management Plan has recently been undertaken by Aragon Direct Services (whom deliver tree services on the ground for the Council) and relevant Council officers, and it is recommended that the Risk Management Plan be updated and agreed as an amendment to the existing main Strategy. Appendix 1 of this report provides the recommended updated Risk Management Plan.

4.7 In summary, the changes proposed in the Plan (compared with that agreed in the 2018 Strategy) are relatively limited. The main systems of health and safety checks on trees that have been developed over time are proposed to be maintained. The overall aim of the revised Plan continues to be to keep risks presented by trees as low as it is reasonably practical to do so. The main proposed changes, therefore, are:

- To reflect upon recent case law that has subsequently already influenced current operations and thus needs to be formally reflected in the plan.
- To provide a clearer structure to the document, in order to explain the 'what', 'why' and 'how'.
- To introduce a 'high priority tree survey' process for sizeable trees which are within falling distance of a high value target.

If Members have any concerns with the updated Tree Risk Management Plan, we would be grateful to receive such comments prior to taking to Cabinet.

Exceptions to remove trees within certain areas contrary to standard policy

4.8 This Report now turns to the Scrutiny Committee's express request for a report to be brought to it which considers whether the Trees and Woodland Strategy should be amended to allow for certain 'exceptions' to standard policy to be created, which would have the effect of allowing certain trees to be felled (or otherwise substantially reduced in size) when standard policy would dictate that such felling would not be approved.

4.9 In advance of bringing the Report to Committee, Scrutiny Members were asked to set out what possible exceptions (or issues) should be considered by officers to help facilitate preparation of this Report. The following themes of concern were raised:

- Long term problems where trees are blocking out light to residential homes.
- Encroachment over properties where the branches are both large or densely covered in foliage.
- Self-seeded trees

This Report discusses each of the above, and sets out an officer recommendation on them.

- 4.10 The encroachment of trees on residential properties and the loss of light remains the two most frequent enquiries raised regarding council owned trees (44.9% of the 1,182 enquiries received last year). It is also important to note, however, that since the introduction of proactive management of the tree stock and the establishment of clear guidance in the Trees and Woodland Strategy, over the last 8 years the number of enquiries has reduced by 53% (from approximately 2,500pa). This demonstrates that the Council are starting to address some of the historic issues experienced with our tree stock, and also demonstrates that by having clear procedures written down in the form of a Strategy helps communicate what we aim to do and, equally, what we will not do.
- 4.11 The current framework and management process we have in place, as established by the Strategy, allows tree officers employed by Aragon Direct Services to make clear decisions based on the policies within the Strategy. Prior to having such clear management and policy procedures in place, tree complaints were dealt with in an ad hoc manner, arguably inconsistently, and often led to ‘those who shout loudest get what they want’.
- 4.12 Accordingly, officers (and Aragon Direct Services) are very concerned with the introduction of any kind of ‘exception’ rules. Introducing any kind of ‘exceptions’ rule within our policy framework has a considerable risk of undermining the clear management and policy framework we have in place. By definition, it brings an element of doubt into the decision maker’s mind (“should an exception be made in this case?”), opens the door to more complaints (“you have the ability to make an exception, so why aren’t you?”), and risks setting precedents (“you cut the tree down as an exception to policy at 31 Anystreet, why not mine at 35 Anystreet?”).
- 4.13 As a matter of principle, therefore, officers do not support the introduction of any ‘exceptions to policy’ type arrangement. Any such introduction is likely to increase workloads (including on cases which are not deemed necessary, such as less significant issues such as leaf fall, loss of view or satellite reception), increase complaints and, overall, increase costs. It could ultimately end up returning the service to a more ad hoc (and highly inefficient and inconsistent) management regime.
- 4.14 It is Officers’ opinion that the existing Strategy provides the policy and toolkit to address the vast majority of the issues raised. It is therefore proposed that no exception based policies are inserted within the existing strategy. It is, instead, recommended that resources remain targeted to proactive management rather than short term reactive responses, and it would be helpful if ward councillors could be encouraged to support Aragon to identify key areas within their wards where the full scope of the strategy can be implemented e.g. short sections of problematic shelterbelts or key residential streets experiencing issues.
- 4.15 Whilst officers are therefore not recommending exception policies be introduced, officers do think it would be helpful if the Strategy was updated to introduce an addendum to the Strategy that clarifies the operational guidelines to which Aragon operate to, in respect to encroaching vegetation and loss of daylight. The suggested new text is as follows:

Daylight Loss

Trees are often perceived to block light to nearby properties. However, pruning or removal of trees will often have a negligible impact on the amount of light reaching a house or garden. The Council will only consider taking reactive action (pruning or felling) in the following circumstances:

- *The separation between the tree's branches and windows of the main room of the dwelling is less than 4 metres.*
- *The works are considered compliant with BS3998: Recommendations For Tree Work; and*
- *The trees lost would not have significant landscape impact or would not result in the loss of a significant community asset.*

For the purposes of this guidance windows to toilets, bathrooms, storerooms and circulation areas are excluded. Equally the guidelines do not apply to sheds, greenhouses, summer houses, garages and workshops. Where a dwelling has a conservatory, the opening between it and the house, not windows to the front or side of the conservatory, is taken as the window position.

Encroaching vegetation (trees).

Council owned trees will not be pruned to prevent overhang of a private property unless it is touching the main dwelling or garden buildings. Where cases of this nature are reported it is aimed, following pruning, to provide 2 metre clearance from the structure to the offending branches.

The council will advise residents of their common law rights to prune overhanging vegetation to the boundary line of the property (the exception to this would be where the tree is covered by a TPO and consent would first have to be obtained from the Local Planning Authority).

- 4.16 An additional item of concern raised by Cllrs, for the purpose of potentially introducing exceptions to standard policy, was the problems caused by trees self-seeding where it is detrimental to local residents or infrastructure. This issue is long running within the city and typically arises as a result of trees seeding within shrub beds and pavement cracks etc. These seedlings are seldom appropriate to allow to mature in their current location, owing to the proximity to properties or the density of the seedlings. These self-sets do not fall within the current tree maintenance contract but do fall within the grounds maintenance contract as part of hard surface and shrub bed maintenance. As a consequence of budget pressures, shrub beds are now only maintained once a year resulting in self set seedlings establishing far more frequently. To resolve this, Scrutiny Committee may wish to consider recommending that additional resources are inserted into the grounds maintenance contract. Officers do not recommend the Trees and Woodland Strategy is amended to address this concern.
- 4.17 In conclusion, therefore, in respect of 'exceptions' to allow more felling/pruning being introduced to the Strategy or additional policy relating to self-set trees, officers are recommending no such exceptions be introduced. If Scrutiny Committee disagrees with this position, and wish to recommend to Cabinet that such exceptions be introduced, then officers would be grateful if such a request was as clear as possible as to what exceptions, and under what circumstances, Committee sees such exceptions as being appropriate to introduce in the Strategy. This would then reduce (but not eliminate) the risks as outlined in this report.

Tree Planting Target

- 4.18 The Report now turns to whether or not the council should amend its Tree Planting Target. At a meeting of Full Council in October 2020, Council instructed the cross-party Climate Change working group and relevant officers to:

"1. Carry out an audit of council owned land in the city to identify possible planting opportunities

2. Research and recommend much more ambitious tree planting targets for planting on Council land and to submit to Full Council not later than March 2021 amendments to the Trees and Woodland Strategy and the Carbon Management Plan to include the proposed new targets."

- 4.19 It became apparent that there was insufficient time and resources to meet the March 2021 target, especially in terms of a comprehensive audit of Council owned land. In February 2021, therefore, Cabinet resolved that it:

"Supports the work of the Climate Change Cross Party Working Group to identify mechanisms to enable the Council to significantly increase tree canopy cover across the city over the next ten years and to present detailed proposals within a maximum 12 months detailing how this can be achieved."

4.20 The Working Group continues to discuss what an appropriate revised planting target should be (the present council agreed target being to increase tree canopy cover on PCC owned land from 20% to 22%). The Working Group are looking at options to substantially increase this target, but it is (as are officers) mindful of the cost and resource implications involved.

4.21 Whilst no firm Working Group proposals are available to present to Scrutiny Committee today, any overarching views the Committee has on tree planting targets, and whether additional resource should be found to boost our planting targets, would be welcome and will be reported to both the Working Group and Cabinet. Ultimately, it will be Full Council to amend, or otherwise, the current target. Alternatively, Scrutiny Committee may be content for the Working Group alone to advise Cabinet on this point, but it was considered important to at least remind Scrutiny Committee of this ongoing discussion, due to Scrutiny Committee's wider tree related interests.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 No external consultation has taken place on any matters referred in this paper.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 It is anticipated that Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee will consider and comment on the report, and set out its views for Cabinet (and, if applicable, the Climate Working Group).

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 The proposed updated Tree Risk Management Plan has considered current best practice and has been developed alongside the framework of resources available to the Council and extensive working knowledge of the tree resource within the city.

The Trees and Woodland Strategy is considered to provide a robust strategic pro-active management regime for the Council's trees. The introduction of exemptions could be counter-productive and risks harmful to the progress made to-date.

Minor addendums to add clarity on operational guidelines are however considered beneficial to provide a clearer understanding for all customers.

The revised tree planting targets are being devised via officers and the cross-party Climate Change Working Group, at the request of Full Council.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 Tree Risk Management Plan

Other rejected options include:

1. Keep plan as existing. This was dismissed as it was considered that the Council would not comply with best practice guidance or its legal duties.
2. Specify a Plan that exceeds best practice guidance or resources. Although commendable this approach would impose unacceptable financial pressures on the authority.

Amendments to policy (including exceptions)

Other rejected options include:

1. Prune any tree that shades or overhangs private property. This would introduce a significant financial burden exceeding existing budget along with the destruction of one of the city's most valuable natural assets.
2. Insert a broad range of exemptions. This would make the role of the Tree Officer untenable and would impose financial burdens far in excess of existing budgets.

Tree Planting Target

A variety of options have, and continue to be, considered by the Working Party.

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

9.1 Tree Risk Management Plan

It is considered that the revised Tree Risk Management Plan will impose no new financial burden on the council.

Addendum to operational guidelines

The proposed changes are considered to be minor and currently considered to be deliverable within existing budgets.

Tree Planting Target

Any increase in the tree planting target will require additional resources, potentially substantial running into £millions (both short term and annual basis for maintenance). These costs are not currently planned for in the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The potential for securing grants to pay for any increase in planting targets is also being explored. These are matters forming part of the discussion at the Working Group.

Legal Implications

- 9.2 There is a legal duty to maintain any trees planted on land that the Council owns and is responsible for, as defined in the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999, Highways Act 1980 and The Occupiers Liability Act 1957. If Council commits to the planting of additional trees, PCC will be legally responsible for their maintenance.

The loss of daylight on neighbouring properties from Council owned trees may constitute, in some people's mind, a nuisance based in law. It is however reported that to-date that no such cases have been brought to the courts or succeeded in respect of trees. This maybe because a remedy is seldom available.

Where a tree is causing actual harm directly to a person property e.g. rubbing on a shed roof, the resident has the right to abate the nuisance themselves. It is however considered that the Local Authority would take reasonable steps to abate the nuisance in response to harm.

Equalities Implications

- 9.3 There are no known implications, positive or negative

Rural Implications

- 9.4 There are no known implications, positive or negative

Carbon Impact Assessment

9.5 Directly, there will be no impact arising, as Scrutiny Committee are not the decision maker. A full CIA will be undertaken as part of the Cabinet's consideration of recommendations arising. If Scrutiny recommend increased tree felling or increased tree planting, and such a recommendation is approved by full council, then this could have a material effect on the amount of CO2 the council offsets from its operations.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 Trees and Woodland Strategy 2018

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 – proposed updated Tree Management Risk Plan

Tree Risk Management Plan Second edition

Peterborough City Council
Planning Services
Place and Economy
Sand Martin House
Bittern Way
Fletton Quays
Peterborough
PE2 8TY



Table of Contents

1	Introduction	1
	Aragon Direct Services	1
	The Tree Risk Management Plan	1
2	The tree service	1
	The tree surveyors	2
	The tree survey tools	2
	The tree survey software	2
	The profile of the tree service	3
	The budget	3
3	The tree data	3
	Overview	3
	Cyclical surveys	4
	Streets and parks survey	4
	Shelterbelt survey	4
	Woodland survey	4
	School survey	4
	High frequency tree survey	4
	The survey control measures	5
	<i>Ad hoc</i> inspections outside the survey regime	5
	Monitoring the survey	5
	Reports	6
4	Tree management	6
	Management information	6
	Discharging the duty of care	7
	Sustainable tree management	8
5	Conclusion	8



Abbreviations and references	9
Abbreviations	9
References	9
Appendix A – the legal background	10
Legislation	10
Case law	11
Appendix B – the tree survey criteria	15



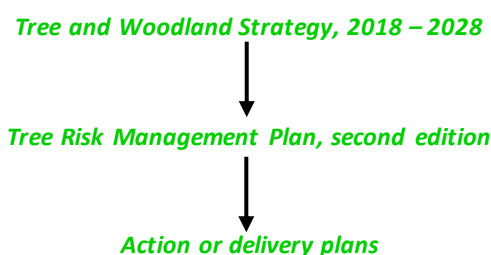
1 Introduction

Aragon Direct Services

- 1 Peterborough Limited, which trades in the name of **Aragon Direct Services** (ADS), is a private limited company, which is wholly owned by **Peterborough City Council** (the Council) as a Local Authority Trading Company.
- 2 One of the services provided by ADS is grounds maintenance, which includes the tree service, under which Council-owned trees are routinely inspected and any necessary maintenance is carried out in a timely way to mitigate risk, and new trees planted and managed.

The Tree Risk Management Plan

- 3 The purpose of this, the second edition of the **Tree Risk Management Plan** (the Plan), is to explain the steps that ADS take to deliver the Council's adopted **Tree and Woodland Strategy 2018 – 2028** (TWS) to ensure the sustainable management of the wide range of trees and woods managed on behalf of the Council by ADS.
- 4 In hierarchical terms the relationship between the documents is as follows:



- 5 To support the Council in discharging its duty of care under the broad range of legislation and case law affecting trees, people and property, see **Appendix A**, the TWS draws upon the comprehensive and dynamic legislative framework under which tree management in the public realm must be delivered. The Plan articulates the measures that ADS have put in place, and in particular a response to:
 - the publication in 2000 by the **Forestry Commission** of *Practice Guide 13 Hazards from Trees – a general guide*, and
 - the publication in 2007 by the **Health and Safety Executive** of Sector Information Minute *Management of the risk from falling trees SIM 01/2007/05*, (the SIM), and
 - the publication in December 2011 by the **National Tree Safety Group** of their suite of documents *Common sense risk management of trees. Guidance on trees and public safety in the UK for owners, managers and advisers* provides a summary of the law in respect of an owner's liabilities for injury to others caused by the fall of a tree or branch in **Chapter 3 What the law says**.
- 6 The Plan is presented in three sections, dealing with:
 - the tree service,
 - the tree data, and
 - tree management, the range of actions that will be followed.

2 The tree service

- 7 The tree service to implement the Plan will comprise the following:



The tree surveyors

- 8 The tree survey will be undertaken by suitably trained, qualified and experienced ADS staff, or specialist contractors working under ADS guidance. Typical minimum arboricultural qualifications awarded under the **National Qualifications Framework** would include the **NVQ/SVQ Level 3 in Treework**, the **AA/ABC Awards Technician's Certificate in Arboriculture**, the **EAC European Tree Technician**, or a **National Award** or **Diploma** (depending upon the syllabus), or their successors under the **Qualifications and Credit Framework**.
- 9 In addition, the ADS tree surveyors would have attended the **Lantra Awards Professional Tree Inspection** course or be working toward that qualification within 6 months of the confirmation of their employment.
- 10 The criteria to be assessed during the survey are listed in **Appendix B**.
- 11 The requirement will be that a surveyor is able to demonstrate their competence in the recognition of tree species, diseases, defects and signs of debility, and the consequences of those symptoms. On-going training will be made available as required in order to maintain the currency of the surveyors' arboricultural knowledge.
- 12 In addition, a surveyor will be able to demonstrate:
 - 1 understanding of and competence in the use of survey software in the field.
 - 2 understanding of and competence in the implementation of the Council's chosen tree risk assessment system.
 - 3 understanding of and consistent implementation of the Council's chosen protocol for valuing amenity trees.
- 13 It will be the surveyor's responsibility to acknowledge their own limitations in both knowledge and understanding to ensure that they do not attempt to sign off a survey for which they are not suitably and sufficiently qualified. The surveyor will be encouraged to refer those surveys for a second opinion.

The tree survey tools

- 14 The two main tools that the surveyors use are:
 - 1 the **Tree Hazard: Risk Evaluation and Treatment System** (THREATS) developed by the **Forbes-Laird Arboricultural Consultancy** and embedded in the data capture and management software **ezytreev**.
 - 2 the **Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees** protocol (CAVAT) as a means of valuing amenity trees as public assets.
- 15 The determination of the most appropriate control measures is based upon the application of arboricultural knowledge and experience by the surveyor, who may seek a second opinion from a colleague or their line manager, including a recommendation for a more detailed inspection, including the use of decay detection devices such as the resistograph or sonic tomograph, should the surveyor determine that to be necessary.

The tree survey software

- 16 **ezytreev** from **RA Information Systems** (www.ezytreev.com) is used for both data capture and subsequent data management.
- 17 A series of drop-down menus on a hand-held data logger must be completed before the record can be closed, the data point updated, and before the surveyor can move on.
- 18 The work programme is generally driven by the outputs from ezytreev, particularly for the higher levels of risk that are identified, but the timing of service delivery may be moderated for lower risk categories to meet with



other cyclical or strategic regimes or objectives. Where this has happened, the works have generally been delivered ahead of the time dictated by ezytreev.

The profile of the tree service

- 19 ADS will determine the appropriate structure for of the tree service required to deliver the Plan, and the authority, competence and responsibilities of the individuals in that structure. The appropriate level of resource will be kept under constant review by ADS.
- 20 Analysis of the survey data will lead to the development of a tree work programme; the most appropriate means to deliver the programme will be agreed between ADS and the Council.

The budget

- 21 The primary objective for ADS when using the budget allocated to them from the Council will be to ensure that the surveying capacity and capability is maintained to provide a contemporary evidence base: resources will then be allocated to tree service delivery.
- 22 The indicative costs of the common range of tree service tasks or services will be used to plot how to draw down the available budget.
- 23 For operational reasons it is likely that some of the works that are identified by the survey will be brought forward and completed in advance of the recommended date because of the need to use the overall budget wisely and to consolidate service delivery within particular areas at given times.

3 The tree data

Overview

- 24 Assets are assessed by qualified personnel who use THREATS as a method for identifying, recording, and managing hazards from trees and deciding upon suitable control measures. At the same time, the trees are given a value as a public asset using the CAVAT protocol.
- 25 Guided by those assessments, recommendations for individual tree management are made and recorded.
- 26 At the initial survey assets are placed into one of three categories as prompted by the tree management software, designed in collaboration with the Council. Those three categories are:
 - individual trees, or
 - tree groups, or
 - shelterbelt and woodland groups.
- 27 A single tree within the categories “tree groups” or “shelterbelt and woodland groups” will only be recorded as an individual when necessary to mitigate risk.
- 28 Other data fields in the tree management software allocate the asset to a site type:
 - streets, footpaths and cycleways, or
 - parks and open spaces, or
 - shelterbelt, or
 - woodland, or
 - schools, or
 - other sites, including cemeteries, allotments, nature reserves etc.
- 29 In addition, the asset is allocated to the appropriate civil parish or ward.



Cyclical surveys

- 30 There is a cyclical survey regime for each asset type, and generally they are on a three-year cycle: the exception is the annual school survey and the 18-month cycle for those trees classified as requiring high frequency inspection.

Highways and parks survey

- 31 Individual trees and tree groups assigned to this site type, and every asset grouped by parish or ward in the following site types, will be re-surveyed on a three-year cycle:
- streets, footpaths and cycleways
 - parks and open spaces
 - cemeteries

When inspecting Council owned highway street trees, Aragon surveyors will also notify the highways authority of any privately owned trees of concern within falling distance of the highway. It is recognised however that Aragon only undertake these surveys on a three year cycle and do not visit and inspect all sections of the highway network, owing to certain parts of the network containing no Council owned trees. In order to address this, highway inspectors will through the course of their routine activities be required to make basic tree assessment surveys, and report concerns to Aragon for further assessment. To satisfy these duties, highways inspectors will have attended a **Lantra Awards** Highway Tree Inspection course (or similar) to ensure that trees within falling distance of the highway (both private and PCC owned) are suitably inspected at the same frequency as highways undertake their routine road condition surveys. Where concerns are raised by highway inspectors, cases are escalated to an Aragon to detail risk and quantify actions required. Equally when trees of concern are highlighted from Aragon inspections these are referred to highways for enforcement action under the Highways Act.

Shelterbelt survey

- 32 Under this survey cycle every asset grouped by parish or ward in the following categories and site types will be visited every three years:
- shelterbelt groups, and
 - shelterbelt site type

Woodland survey

- 33 Every asset grouped by parish or ward in the following categories and site types will be assessed every three years under this survey cycle:
- woodland groups, and
 - woodland site type

School survey

- 34 Every asset in the school site type will be assessed every year.

High frequency tree survey

- 35 Under this survey cycle the surveyor will, every 18 months, visit every individual asset grouped by parish or ward in the following categories:
- individual tree category where the tree is:



- a High Target Tree with a stem diameter of over 40cm and with a Target Score under THREATS of High or Very High

The survey control measures

- 36 To allow for unexpected seasonal variations and operational factors, there will be a six-month surveying window, not exceeding three months before or after the target re-inspection date, to ensure that all the required surveys are completed. The exception will be the high frequency survey period which must not, under any circumstances, exceed 18 months.
- 37 The timing of subsequent surveys will be evidence led and will depend upon the particular information about each individual tree that the surveyors capture during the preceding cycle of the survey.

Ad hoc inspections outside the survey regime

- 38 In addition to the programmed cycle of the survey regime there will be occasions when *ad hoc* inspections of specific trees or tree groups are required in response to an enquiry. Where enquiries stipulate health and safety concerns those assessments will be to the same standard as for the cyclical survey regime.
- 39 The outputs from the *ad hoc* health and safety surveys will therefore provide the opportunity to balance the need for work, as derived from the application of the embedded THREATS protocol, with an indication of the value of the tree, as derived from the application of the embedded CAVAT.

Monitoring the survey

- 40 To monitor the implementation of the survey ADS have put procedures in place to demonstrate that each of the following have been met and any agreed benchmarks and or milestones have been achieved, and if they have not then what control measures will be put in place:
- 1 the scope of the survey will endeavour to :
 - Plot free-standing individual trees as individual data points,
 - Plot groups by reference to their dripline,
 - Plot individual trees exhibiting noteworthy health and safety concerns within groups as an individual data point
 - 2 the extent of the survey has been met: either the complete set of data has been captured for each tree under ADS's control in these areas, or it has not:
 - street trees (and highway trees)
 - trees in parks and open spaces
 - trees in some, but not all, schools
 - trees in woodlands
 - trees in the urban woods
 - village and rural trees
 - trees on other sites
 - 3 all the required data fields have been completed:
 - quantitative data is likely to be recorded from a sequence of drop-down menus and so should be consistently presented,
 - qualitative data may be recorded as free text that may require editing before it can be used, editing may give the opportunity to a suitably qualified and experienced arboriculturist to verify the data.
 - 4 the embedded version of THREATS has been consistently applied, across time, geography and the team:



- the use of a suitably qualified and experienced arboriculturist to lead the analysis and comparison of the data captured by the team will help the team move toward a common vocabulary of risk and a shared understanding of the interpretation of THREATS.
- 5 the embedded version of CAVAT has been consistently applied, across time, geography and the team:
- as for risk assessment, the leadership of a suitably qualified and experienced arboriculturist will help the team move toward a common vocabulary of value and a shared understanding of the interpretation of CAVAT.

Reports

- 41 Typical reports that are generated include:
- 1 the progress of the survey, both within each electoral ward and across Peterborough,
 - 2 an analysis of the enquiries that have been received, for example how many over what period, where, how they have been dealt with,
 - 3 the prescriptions for work as generated by the survey, and
 - 4 the delivery of the tree work programme generated by the survey.
- 42 The progress of the tree work programme will be publicised on both the Council and ADS web sites, updates may be shared using social media.

4 Tree management

- 43 The implementation of the Plan aims to satisfy the following requirements.

Management information

- 44 The SIM recommends that the tree manager in the public realm should hold the following management information:
- 1 an overall assessment of risks from trees to enable the risks associated with tree stocks to be prioritised, and to help identify any checks or inspections that may be needed,
 - 2 a system for periodic checks, to involve a quick visual check for obvious signs that a tree is likely to be unstable to be carried out by a person with a working knowledge of trees and their defects, but who need not be an arboriculturist,
 - 3 a record of when an individual tree has been checked or inspected with details of any defects found and action taken,
 - 4 a procedure to obtain specialist assistance when a check reveals defects beyond the experience and knowledge of the person carrying out the check,
 - 5 a system to enable people to report damage to trees and to trigger checks following potentially damaging activities, such as work by the utilities in the vicinity of trees or severe gales,
 - 6 specific assessments for those trees that the duty holder wishes to retain, despite the presence of serious structural faults,



- 7 an action plan to manage the risk that has been identified by a check, without unnecessarily felling or pruning trees,
 - 8 a register of individual trees that require more detailed inspection because, for example, they have structural faults that are likely to make them unstable and a decision has been made to retain the tree with these faults in close proximity to targets, and
 - 9 a monitoring regime to ensure that the arrangements are fully implemented.
- 45 As one of the leading tree management database systems the developers of *ezytreev* have ensured that the available fields and the software architecture have been designed to meet the recommendations of the SIM.

Discharging the duty of care

- 46 The SIM states, at paragraph 3:

*Employers, persons carrying out undertakings or in control of premises all have duties under the HSW Act. In particular, there is the duty to do all that is reasonably practicable to ensure that people are not exposed to risk to their health and safety. Doing all that is reasonably practicable does **not** mean that all trees have to be individually examined on a regular basis. A decision has to be taken on what is reasonable in the circumstances and this will include consideration of the risks to which people may be exposed.*

- 47 The SIM goes on to state at paragraph 5:

In addition to duties under the HSW Act there are a number of reasons why . . . duty holders . . . may want to manage their tree stocks, for example responsibilities under other legislation and the risk of civil liabilities to:

- *reduce the risk of property damage from subsidence;*
- *maintain stocks to preserve their amenity, conservation, and environmental value;*
- *prevent personal injury through trips and falls on footways disturbed by tree roots; and*
- *prevent vehicle damage and personal injury from obscured sightlines on the highway.*

For these and other reasons, some duty holders may undertake inspection of trees in a manner well beyond the reasonably practicable requirements of the HSW Act.

- 48 The SIM continues, at paragraph 7:

Individual tree inspection should only be necessary in specific circumstances, for example where a particular tree is in a place frequently visited by the public, has been identified as having structural faults that are likely to make it unstable, but a decision has been made to retain it with these faults.

- 49 It is clear therefore that by adopting and fully implementing the steps described in the Plan ADS will be able to discharge their duty of care under the broad range of legislation and case law affecting trees, people and property.
- 50 ADS will follow two broad principles when considering what tree management response is appropriate to meet the requirements of the TWS in each circumstance, be that as part of planned works or an emergency response:
- 1 appropriate action will be taken to mitigate a risk to the personal safety of residents or visitors, or of harm to property, which is directly related to the condition of, or presence of, an ADS-managed tree, and



- 2 early intervention will be preferred to prevent everyday arboricultural situations from developing into a hazard that is difficult or unreasonably expensive to control.
- 51 The general presumption will be that tree pruning will provide the preferred option of a sustainable solution; however, in some circumstances tree removal may be the only option.
- 52 The appropriate response in each circumstance will be determined by the particular facts, however an analysis of the previous decisions that have been taken, each one based on high quality management information, will help to deliver tree care in an even and consistent way that can withstand public scrutiny and audit.

Sustainable tree management

- 53 The Plan seeks to help to deliver the Council's commitment to protect, plant and maintain the trees and woodland within its authority as set out in the TWS. Sustainable systems of management will be promoted that will aim to:
- maintain or enhance the tree population,
 - facilitate the removal of dangerous or potentially hazardous trees,
 - promote biodiversity and conserve the tree/woodland eco-system,
 - conserve veteran trees with significant ecological, historical and amenity value,
 - establish a tree population with a balanced diversity of age class,
 - optimize the use of timber and other products of tree management.
- 54 Records of tree management decisions that were based on high quality management information will help to deliver tree care in an even and consistent way that can withstand public scrutiny and audit.

5 Conclusion

- 55 The Plan above has evolved to satisfy the Council's need to discharge their duty of care to manage the risk represented by the tree and woodland assets under their control, whilst maintaining the broad range of benefits and values those assets provide to the general public both now and for future generations.



Abbreviations and references

Abbreviations

ADS	=	Aragon Direct Services
CAVAT	=	Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees
HSE	=	Health and Safety Executive
HSW Act	=	Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
MHSWR	=	Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
the Council	=	Peterborough City Council
the Plan	=	Tree Risk Management Plan
the SIM	=	Sector Information Minute Management of the risk from falling trees
the TWS	=	Tree and Woodland Strategy
THREATS	=	Tree Hazard: Risk Evaluation and Treatment System

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Appendix A – the legal background

Legislation

- A1 As part of their carrying out of undertakings, or control of premises, including public spaces, employers have a duty of care under the **Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974**. In particular there is a duty to do what is reasonably practicable to ensure that they and other people are not exposed to risk. **Section 3** of the Act confirms that an employer cannot pass on their legal duty by way of a contract to third parties.
- A2 The **Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999** (MHSWR) require a risk assessment to be carried out to identify the nature and level of the risks associated with the works and associated operations. Regulation 3.1 states:

Every employer shall make a suitable and sufficient assessment of:

- a. the risks to the health and safety of his employees to which they are exposed whilst they are at work; and*
- b. the risks to the health and safety of persons not in his employment arising out or in connection with the conduct by him of his undertakings.*

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1999/3242/regulation/3/made>

- A3 The MHSWR affect all parts of the tree management process, though in the context of this Plan they apply most particularly to the undertaking of tree inspection on a reasonable cycle and the completion of the necessary remediation work.
- A4 Under **The Occupiers Liability Act 1957** ADS, as the occupier, owes a duty of care to all visitors to ensure that their visit is reasonably safe. Trespassers are protected under **The Occupiers Liability Act 1984** from the risks that the occupier is aware of. Consideration, therefore, is needed to be given to any known tree-related risks and the actions necessary to reduce or remove them.
- A5 Other legislation requiring positive action in response to health and safety concerns includes the **Highways Act 1980**. The Government has, for at least three decades, published advice on the inspection and care of trees:

*The Secretaries of State wish to draw . . . attention **once again** to the need for regular inspection of roadside trees in order that any considered to be a danger to road users can be made safe or felled.*

(DOE, 1973:2)

- A6 Collectively, street trees and trees within falling distance of the highway (including those outside the ownership and direct control of the highway authority and so potentially some ADS-managed trees) are classed as highway trees. The highway authority is responsible for ensuring that highway trees do not endanger the highway and its users. Recommendations in **Well-maintained Highways, Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance Management** include R9.3:

Highway safety inspections should include highway trees . . . Inspectors should take note of any encroachment or visible obstruction and any obvious damage, . . . a separate programme of tree inspections should be undertaken by arboricultural advisors

(Roads Liaison Group, 2005:119)

- A7 When an occupier fails to meet the requirements of their statutory duty of care, which subsequently results in reasonably foreseeable harm or damage to persons, animals, or property, it is likely to be construed that the occupier has been negligent and may result in their prosecution. This may be either because of their action



(for example using a person without sufficient skill to survey trees, by undertaking incompetent pruning, or by destabilising a tree by root severance) or by their omission (for example by a failure to inspect trees on a reasonable cycle or the failure to carry out prescribed remedial actions).

Case law

- A8 In **Noble v Harrison** [1926] 2 KB 332 (CA), a tree shed a limb onto a passer-by, causing personal injury. The Court of Appeal reversed the original finding in favour of the claimant because the defect could not have been discovered by inspection. Rowlatt J said:

I see no ground for holding that the owner is to become an insurer of nature, or that default is to be imputed to him until it appears, or would appear upon proper inspection, that nature can no longer be relied upon...

(cited in Stagecoach, paragraph 57)

- A9 In similar vein, in **Brown v Harrison** [1947] 177 LT 281, Somerville LJ reiterated the relevant test in these terms:

Having regard in each particular case to the circumstances of the particular case if there is a danger which is apparent, not only to the expert but to the ordinary layman, which the ordinary layman can see with his own eyes, if he chooses to use them, and he fails to do so, with the result that injury is inflicted ... the owner is responsible, because in the management of his property he had not acted as a normal, reasonable landowner would act.

(cited in Mynors 2011: 222)

- A10 In his summing up in **Edwards v National Coal Board** [1949] 1 All E. R. 743 Asquith LJ interpreted reasonably practicable as follows:

'Reasonably practicable' is a narrower term than 'physically possible' ... a computation must be made by the owner in which the quantum of risk is placed on one scale and the sacrifice involved in the measures necessary for averting the risk (whether in money, time or trouble) is placed in the other, and that, if it be shown that there is a gross disproportion between them – the risk being insignificant in relation to the sacrifice – the defendants discharge the onus on them.

(cited in Mynors 2011: 217)

- A11 In **Quinn v Scott** [1965] 1 WLR 1004, Glyn-Jones J found for the claimant because the decay of the tree (which was owned by the National Trust), was there to be seen and the tree should have been felled. The judge said:

The duty of the Trust is to take such care as a reasonable landowner — and that means a prudent landowner — would take to prevent unnecessary danger to users of the highway adjoining the Trust's land. There is not to be imputed in the ordinary landowner the knowledge possessed by the skilled expert in forestry... But, in my opinion, there may be circumstances in which it is incumbent on a landowner to call in somebody skilled in forestry to advise him, and I have no doubt but that a landowner on whose land this belt of trees stood, adjoining a busy highway, was under a duty to provide himself with skilled advice about the safety of the trees...

(cite in Stagecoach, paragraph 62)

- A12 In **Chapman v Barking and Dagenham LBC** [1997] 2 E.G.L.R. 141 a branch was broken from a tree in a high wind and fell onto the van being driven by Mr Chapman, and he was severely injured. The tree had exhibited features that warranted closer inspection and there was a duty on the Council to make inspections, which they had failed to do and so they were found to be at fault. Judge Viscount Colville of Culross QC stated:



I am satisfied that, despite all encouragement and advice both from external sources and to some extent from their own officers, the defendant Council did not at any relevant time appreciate the distinction between making lists of trees and routine maintenance, as opposed to systematic expert inspection as often as would be reasonably required. I find that no such inspections were ever made, that it was a clear duty on the defendants to make them, and that they have failed in that duty.

(cited in Mynors, 2011: 223)

- A13 The need to use a suitably trained, experienced and/or qualified tree inspector was at the core of **Poll v Bartholomew and Bartholomew** [2006] EWHC (QB) 4BS50394 when the claimant, having collided with a fallen ash tree, successfully sued the landowners for negligence. The judgment also recognised that there are varying levels of skill in inspectors and it is the employers' duty to ensure that they employ a competent person at the appropriate skill level, re-asserted in **Atkins v Scott** [2008] 6KB04804.
- A14 In **Corker v Wilson** [2006] 5MY04657 the branch of a roadside oak tree fell and struck the claimants car causing injuries and damage. The claim of negligence was dismissed as no breach of duty was established, and so the failure of the branch from the roadside oak tree that led to the injury to Mr Corker was deemed not to have been foreseeable.
- A15 Similarly, in **Selwyn-Smith – v – Gompels** [2009] 8SN00362 the claim of negligence was dismissed as it was deemed that the catastrophic failure of the Austrian pine that resulted in damage to the garage and injury to Mr Selwyn-Smith could not have been foreseen.
- A16 In **Micklewright v Surrey County Council** [2010] 8GU20243 a branch fell from a highway oak tree, one of over 2 million on the Surrey road network, resulting in the death of Mr Imison in 2007, adjudged to be accidental at the inquest. The claim was that the defendant had breached their common law duty of care and their statutory duty under OLA. However, the defendant had instigated a system of inspection in 2008, and the central point in the case was (at paragraph 43) that,

even if an adequate system of inspection had been in place so that the tree had been inspected by a suitably trained Highways Inspector before the accident, nothing would have been found which would have resulted in a detailed inspection by a qualified arboriculturist and the works which would have prevented the accident.

- A17 The judgment included, at paragraph 15:

Neither the common law or the statute law requires an owner or occupier to make his land completely safe. His duty is to take such care as in all the circumstances of the case is reasonable. What is reasonable varies with the circumstances. It follows that the owner or occupier must make some assessment of the potential risk presented by any tree on his land. He must therefore inspect trees at appropriate intervals. In ascertaining how frequently the trees need to be inspected the owner or occupier must have regard to the size of the risk involved and the difficulty of counteracting that risk. The question is "Was the owner or occupier's conduct reasonable?"

- A18 The judgment was that the action failed.

- A19 The case went to the Court of Appeal [2011] EWA Civ 922 but the appeal was dismissed; the central point was raised in paragraph 9:

Having found that the defendants had no proper system of inspection, the learned judge had then to consider the following questions: (i) what sort of inspection would have been required? (ii) had such inspection been carried out, would it have revealed anything warranting a more expert inspection? and (iii)



The whole focus of the appeal was in effect on the judge's approach to and answer to (ii) above. Since he answered that in the negative, (iii) did not receive close attention.

A20 In **Bowen and others – v – National Trust** [2011] EHC 1992 (QB) the Trust was claimed to have breached their statutory duty of care under OLA, and their co-extensive common law duty, “to take reasonable care to provide reasonable safety”, after a branch failure at Felbrigg Hall tragically resulted in the death of one child and injuries to others. Despite that tragedy the Trust was found to have acted reasonably.

A21 The issue being considered (paragraph 6):

is whether those who inspected this tree, as they did on two occasions prior to the fall of B3, exercised such care as was reasonable in the circumstances of this tree at this place. It is easy to state the law in this area, but less easy to apply it, particularly in a case with such a tragic outcome as this. The thrust of the case against the defendant is that its tree inspectors, for whom it is vicariously liable, failed to exercise reasonable care in their task.

A22 Despite the disastrous consequences the judgment concludes at paragraph 43:

I accept these inspectors used all the care to be expected of reasonably competent persons doing their job, and the defendant had given them adequate training and instruction in how to approach their task. To require more would serve the desirable end of compensating these claimants for their grievous loss and injuries. But it would also be requiring the defendant to do more than was reasonable to see that the children enjoying the use of this wood were reasonably safe to do so. I regretfully conclude that I cannot find that the defendant was negligent or in breach of its duty in respect of this tragedy.

A23 In **Battley v Wycombe District Council** [2013] OWL00094 the claimant was struck by a falling Lombardy poplar tree and the main issues were the extent of the inspection and/or testing which the Council should have carried out, what such inspection and/or testing would have revealed and whether what would have been revealed was causative of the tree's failure. The cause of failure was agreed to be a combination of root decay and gale force winds, with gusts of between 55 – 70 mph.

A24 In paragraph 86 the judgment states:

Thus the following particulars of negligence have been admitted or proved against the Defendant: failure to recognise the tree as owned, failure to inspect it, failure to consider the threat posed to its anchorage / stability by the excavation and installation of the heavy concrete strip, failure to use equipment to investigate the internal condition of the root plate and failing to cut it down before this incident occurred.

A25 In 2014 in the case of **Stagecoach South Western Trains v Hind and Steel** [2014] EWHC 1891 (TCC), where a mature ash tree in the rear garden of Rose Cottage, owned by Hind and worked upon at her direction by Steel, failed and fell onto the railway causing damage to a train, the claimant sought to recover damages, but that case was dismissed. The judge found that there was no duty to warn in this specific case and that the tree that failed was not obviously dangerous and so the claim of negligence was dismissed.

A26 The case of **Witley Parish Council v Cavanagh** [2018] EWCA Civ 2232 in the Court of Appeal in 2018 has divided opinion: the NTSG commentary from their web site states:

It does, however, highlight that zoning is material in safeguarding against risk to the public, and that some trees in locations with high levels of use (generally to be determined by landowner or agent) may warrant more frequent and thorough inspection than trees in other locations. Decisions will be informed by factors such as tree species, life-stage, condition and size. Whether inspections are two-yearly, or even more frequent, will depend on individual circumstances; equally, three-yearly, or less frequent, inspections may be appropriate in other circumstances.

(<https://ntsgroup.org.uk/123-2/>)



A27 In **Colar v Highways England** [2019] C32YP685 the judgment from the County Court was that the assessment that had been undertaken was inadequate and failed to identify evidence that was causative of the tree failure which led to the Claimants injuries and that liability must be determined in their favour.



Appendix B – the tree survey criteria

- B1 The usual criteria that would prompt a tree to be identified as an individual are as follows:
- that which would commonly be recognised as a tree, i.e. a clearly visible woody stem with secondary thickening and with a diameter at 1.5m above ground level of in excess of 7.5cm
- B2 In general, mature shrubs such as elder for example, would not be identified and recorded as an individual unless management intervention were required to mitigate risk associated with that specific asset. Their presence would routinely be reported to Grounds Maintenance for their action.
- B3 When undertaking cyclical surveys, Aragon rely on accurate land ownership data provided by the Council's GIS layers, which are supplied and uploaded onto Ezytreev on a quarterly basis. Those features identified as trees that are within the Council's most recent land ownership GIS layer would be recorded as being the responsibility of the Council. Where further clarification on ownership and responsibility is required, Aragon will seek this from the relevant Council department responsible
- B4 Those features identified as trees that are outside the Council's most recent land ownership GIS layer would be recorded as private trees.
- B5 Tree groups may be identified where a common management prescription would be applied; within a group a tree individual may be identified and recorded as an individual where management intervention may be required to mitigate risk.
- B6 Tree groups are not subject to THREATS or CAVAT evaluations as standard.
- B7 Within the High Frequency Survey, High Target trees will be excluded from the survey of shelterbelt site types as there is necessarily insufficient data to locate individual High Target trees in these site profiles.



GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
8 SEPTEMBER 2021	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Steve Cox, Executive Director Place & Economy, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investment.	
Contact Officer(s):	Richard Kay – Strategic Planning Manager	01733 453596

OX-CAM ARC – GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION PAPER

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Steve Cox, Executive Director Place and Economy	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that Government intends to prepare an Oxford Cambridge Arc Spatial Framework, within which Peterborough sits, and that a round 1 (of 3) consultation is currently underway, closing 12 October 2021; and Provides any comments as it sees fit on the consultation proposals, with such comments to be reported to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investment for the purpose of helping to establishing the Council’s formal response to the consultation. The Cabinet Member will be responsible for the final consultation response, by way of a Cabinet Member Decision Notice (CMDN). 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 With agreement by the Chairman, it was agreed that this important Government consultation paper be brought to Scrutiny Committee’s attention prior to Cabinet determining a formal response to it.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to enable Scrutiny Committee to express its views on the Government consultation paper entitled ‘Creating a vision for the Oxford Cambridge Arc’, available here and attached in Appendix B:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1003974/Creating_a_vision_for_the_Oxford-Cambridge_Arc.pdf:

Any views expressed by Scrutiny Committee will be reported to Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and investment. That Cabinet Member will then agree, via a Cabinet Member Decision Notice (CMDN), the final response on behalf of the Council.

- 2.2 This report is for the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee to consider under

its Terms of Reference Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph no, 2.1 Functions determined by Council:

- 2. Environmental Capital
- 3. Economic Development and Regeneration including Strategic Housing and Strategic Planning
- 4. Transport, Highways and Road Traffic

2.4 The outcome of this Government led work has the potential to directly and indirectly support all of the council's corporate priorities.

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 Peterborough, along with the whole of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire, sit within the Government defined 'Oxford to Cambridge Arc' (Ox-Cam Arc). Government is proposing to establish national policy for this area, and is consulting on proposals. In the words of Government:

This consultation is being undertaken to inform our approach to the future of the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, which has been identified by the government as a key economic priority. We are seeking views to help us create a vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Spatial Framework, and in doing so guide the future growth of the area to 2050. This is in line with the commitment we made at the launch of the Spatial Framework process in February 2021. The Spatial Framework will form national planning policy and transport policy for the Arc and local planning and local transport authorities must have regard to it when preparing local transport and local development plans and policies, and it will be capable of being a material consideration in relevant planning decisions in the area.

4.2 To put it into context, this Spatial Framework would essentially be the guiding (and statutory) document sitting above, for example, the Peterborough Local Plan, the Cambridgeshire-Peterborough Local Transport Plan and other wider strategies and plans (such as environmental based strategies). For those with a good memory, it is not too dissimilar, it appears, to the 'Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) / Regional Economic Strategy (RES)' statutory plans that were around at the turn of the century, but which were formally revoked and abandoned as a concept in 2010. In those cases, such RSSs/RESs for Peterborough were the 'East of England' RSS / RES. This new form of strategy (or 'spatial framework') covers a different geographical area, this time focussing on what Government perceives as being an area of huge economic potential – the Oxford to Cambridge Arc area.

4.3 Undoubtedly, the next Peterborough Local Plan (and other local strategies) will be compelled to follow whatever this Arc Framework establishes. It is therefore of crucial importance that the final document contains policies and proposals which support and align to this Council's priorities and ambitions.

4.4 We are not yet at that final stage – indeed, this is round one of a promised three rounds of consultation. But nevertheless, it is important the council places on record its 'asks' for this document, to give it the best chance of securing those 'asks' in the final document.

The consultation proposals

4.5 The consultation document was published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) on Tuesday 20 July, the first of 3 planned public consultations on the Spatial Framework. Alongside this, Government has published a [Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report](#). The consultation is supported by a new and innovative digital engagement platform designed to give a voice to the wider community, as well as traditional engagement methods such as workshops.

- 4.6 Feedback from this consultation will help, it is stated, to shape the vision for the Spatial Framework and ensure that it is built on the priorities and aspirations of the communities it will serve, thus creating the Spatial Framework's vision for the Arc to 2050. Using the vision as a foundation, the next document proposed by MHCLG 'Towards a Spatial Framework' is planned to be published for consultation in Spring 2022. Government then hopes to publish a draft Spatial Framework for consultation in Autumn 2022, with implementation of the final framework shortly after. Consultation will take place at each stage, and is open to all members of the public.
- 4.7 Government's local economic forecasts suggest that by 2050 we could see economic output in the Arc doubling to over £200bn, and it see the Arc's success as key to the UK's national prosperity, international competitiveness, and ability to meet wider challenges (including climate change and supporting nature recovery, technological change, fighting COVID-19 and preventing future pandemics).
- 4.8 The consultation document is split into eight chapters, providing an introduction to creating a vision for the OxCam Arc:
- Introduction: Creating a Vision;
 - The Environment;
 - The Economy;
 - Connectivity and Infrastructure;
 - Place-making;
 - Commitment to engaging communities;
 - Commitment to data, evidence and digital tools; and
 - How to Monitor and deliver the Framework.

As part of the consultation the Government is seeking to identify potential delivery mechanisms for the investment priorities within the Spatial Framework, which includes the potential to set up a new Arc Growth Body.

- 4.9 Separately, but not forming part of Government's consultation proposals, it is worth noting a recently published document entitled *The Shared regional principles for protecting, restoring and enhancing the environment in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc* produced by the OxCam Arc Environment Working Group:
(https://www.semlep.com/modules/downloads/download.php?file_name=2306).
These 'principles' have been set to effectively create a 'Green Arc' as an internationally significant exemplar for the very best in sustainable living and working, for practical ways to doubling nature, and innovative solutions to energy and water shortages as well as stimulating a green economy.

- 4.10 The 5 principles are:
- working towards a target of net zero carbon at an Arc level by 2040;
 - to protect, restore, enhance and create new nature areas and natural capital assets;
 - to be an exemplar for environmentally sustainable development in line with the ambitions set out in the Government's 25 year plan;
 - to ensure that existing and new communities see real benefits from living in the arc; and
 - using natural resources wisely.

These principles have been created to form the basis for the creation of an OxCam-wide Environmental Strategy that will embrace everything from green spaces, to housing standards, to sustainable transport, energy generation and transmission and water management and conservation. These principles are not government proposals, but the Council may wish to comment upon them in parallel with commenting on the Government consultation proposals.

PCC Response to the consultation

- 4.11 Officers are currently considering the consultation proposals, and will be presenting a draft response to the Cabinet Member in due course, ahead of the consultation close in October.
- 4.12 The set of questions asked by Government are at Appendix A.

- 4.13 The questions are arguably not a particularly helpful framework to provide a PCC response to Government. The questions are almost entirely in the form of a statement, and requesting the responder to grade the statement from 'Not Important' to 'Very Important'. However, reading such statements, it's hard not consider every single one of them as 'Very Important'. To label any of them with anything other than 'Very Important' would imply PCC doesn't particularly 'care' about that the theme of that statement, when in practice it does. Officers are likely to recommend, therefore, that all such statements be graded as 'Very Important', but it is not clear what Government will learn from the consultation if all consultees respond likewise, which seems likely.
- 4.14 Other consultations are phrased somewhat unusually and, arguably, overly informal, such as Q2 ("we would love you to tell us more") and Q3 ("How do you feel overall about the future of the Arc? What are your hopes and fears?").
- 4.15 Notwithstanding the limitations of answering the majority of questions set, there are a number of other questions along the lines of "Anything else to add..." in respect of a particular topic or theme. Officers will be recommending these are the questions where a more specific 'Peterborough ask' can be given. That said, such responses under these questions are limited to 500 characters, which is perhaps less than this paragraph. Government is clearly not seeking lengthy submissions at this stage.
- 4.16 It should be made clear at this stage that this first round consultation document is very much a starting point, and not in any way a 'draft final plan'. It simply sets out high level evidence and broad statements of ambitions. There is very little spatially specific content, so there is very little 'Peterborough' specific content to comment on. Indeed, other than Peterborough being identified on the maps within the document, the word 'Peterborough' is not used a single time in the entire consultation document.
- 4.17 In terms of what the 'Peterborough ask' may be, it is likely to focus on:
- Infrastructure investment (including city centre regeneration)
 - Environmental ambitions (and alignment to the council's declared 2030 carbon net zero target)
 - Support for Education / skills
 - Natural environment commitments (including a potential request for a 'John Clare Countryside' landscape opportunity area designation)
- 4.18 To help the continued formulation of the PCC response to the consultation, Scrutiny Committee's views on the proposals (or what it would like to see as proposals in future consultation documents) will be most welcome. Such views will be reported to the Cabinet Member, so a final response can be submitted to Government.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 This is a Government led consultation event, with the Council a consultee. The Council is not a decision maker, in terms of the final content of the Framework. Two further rounds of consultation are promised, likely in 2022.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 6.1 It is anticipated that Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee will consider and comment on the consultation proposals, and set out its views for Cabinet Member consideration.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 To give the Scrutiny Committee the opportunity to influence the Council's formal response to the consultation paper.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 To not give Scrutiny Committee the opportunity to influence the Council's response. This was

rejected, because the long term implications of this Government proposals could be significant for Peterborough, therefore wider Member engagement was considered appropriate.

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

9.1 Nil

Legal Implications

9.2 None directly, but once the Framework is adopted by Government it will form part of national policy with the same degree and influence as the National Planning Policy Framework. As such, as a minimum, all planning decisions determined by the council will be legally obliged to take into account the framework in reaching that decision.

Equalities Implications

9.3 The Equalities Implications are a matter for Government to determine, as it develops its proposals

Rural Implications

9.4 There are no presently known implications for rural areas, but depending on the final policy of Government there could be implications for rural areas, particularly in terms of planning, development, and the environment. These implications could be positive, negative or both.

Carbon Impact Assessment

9.5 The Council is not preparing or adopting the document, and therefore is not in a position to suggest whether the proposal has (or will have) any implications on carbon emissions.

The final document, as adopted by Government, has the potential for significant negative (eg construction) and positive (eg higher energy efficiency standards, carbon capture) carbon implications, depending on what policies it proposes. However, no view on this can be taken at this stage, as no specific proposals on these matters are set out.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 [Creating a vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

11. APPENDICES

11.1 *Appendix A – the consultation questions*
Appendix B – Consultation Paper ‘Creating a vision for the Oxford Cambridge Arc’

Creating a vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc:

Creating a vision

Q1: What place could it be? What words come to mind?

Q2: If you can, we would love you to tell us more about your vision for the Arc to 2050.

Q3: How do you feel overall about the future of the Arc? What are your hopes and fears?

Q4: 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 the Environment; Economy; Connectivity and growth; Place-making; and Supporting monitoring and delivery?

Q5: If there is anything you would like to add, we would love you to tell us.

The Environment

Green spaces, nature and biodiversity

Q1: 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]

Q2: 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]

Q3: 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]

Q4: Anything else to add about your vision for green spaces, nature, and biodiversity?

Climate change resilience and net zero

Q5: 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]

Q6: Making sure that new development can respond to the current and future effects of climate change. For example, through new carbon emissions, water use, water disposal and renewable energy targets. [Not important/ Less important/ Neutral/ Important/ Very Important]

Q7: Anything else to add about your vision for climate change and/ or the contribution to net zero?

Air quality and waste

Q8: 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]

Q9: 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]

Important]

Q10: 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]

Q11: Anything else to add about your vision for air quality and waste?

Water

Q12: 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]

Q13: 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]

Q14: 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]

Q15: Anything else to add about your vision for water?

The Economy

Education and training

Q1: 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]

Q2: 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]

Q3: Anything else to add about your vision for education and training?

Jobs and businesses

Q4: 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]

Q5: 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]

Q6: 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]

Q7: 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 meet the needs of a range of different businesses of different sizes. [Not important/ Less important/ Neutral/ Important/ Very Important]

Q8: Anything else to add about your vision for jobs and businesses?

Connectivity and Infrastructure

Infrastructure

Q1: 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]

Q2: 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]

Q3: 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]

Q4: Anything else to add about your vision for infrastructure?

New development

Q5: 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]

Q6: 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]

Q7: 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]

Q8: 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]

Q9: Anything else to add about new developments in the context of connectivity and infrastructure?

Place-making

Location of growth

Q1: 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]

Q2: Anything else to add about your vision for location of growth?

Homes in your area

Q3: 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]

Q4: Increasing the amount and availability of affordable homes within the Arc. [Not important/ Less important/ Neutral/ Important/ Very Important]

Q5: Anything else to add about your vision for homes in your area?

Design of new developments and streets

Q6: 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]

Q7: 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]

Q8: 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]

Q9: 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]

Q10: 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]

Q11: Anything else to add about your vision for the design of new developments and streets?

Our commitment to engaging communities

Q1: How can government engage the public better? [Communication materials/ Social listening/ Focus groups/ 1-1 interviews and experiments/ Ethnography/ Citizen assemblies and citizen juries/ Other types of engagement]

Q2: Before this consultation, I was familiar with the area known as the Oxford-Cambridge Arc. [Yes/ No]

Q3: Do you have anything else to add on engaging communities?

Our commitment to data, evidence and digital tools

Q1: To what extent do you agree with our proposed approach on data and evidence? [Strongly disagree/ Disagree/ Neutral/ Agree/ Strongly Agree]

Q2: Do you have anything else to add on data, evidence and digital tools?

How we will monitor and deliver the Framework

Q1: to what extent do you agree with our proposed approach on delivery and funding? [Strongly disagree/ Disagree/ Neutral/ Agree/ Strongly Agree]

Q2: Do you have anything else to add on delivery and funding?

Monitoring and evaluation

Q1: To what extent do you agree with our proposed approach on monitoring and evaluation? [Strongly disagree/ Disagree/ Neutral/ Agree/ Strongly agree]

Q2: Do you have anything else to add on monitoring and evaluation?

Oxford-Cambridge Arc Spatial Framework Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Q1: 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]

Q2: Are there any other strategic issues and/or opportunities that need to be considered in the appraisal?

Q3: Are you aware of any additional strategic data that we should take into account as part of the sustainability appraisal?

Q4: Are you aware of any additional plans or programmes you think will be important to consider within the sustainability appraisal?

Q5: To what extent do you agree with our approach to the SA? [Strongly disagree/ Disagree/ Neutral/ Agree/ Strongly agree]



HM Government



OXFORD -
CAMBRIDGE
ARC

Creating a vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc

Consultation

July 2021



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Contents

Scope of this consultation	iii
1. Introduction: Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc	1
The government's ambition for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc	1
The government is developing a Spatial Framework to help deliver on that ambition	2
What is the Spatial Framework, and what could it do?	2
Why we are consulting you now	4
What you have told us so far	5
Next steps	7
What do you think?	8
2. The Environment	10
Our ambition for the Arc's environment	10
The Arc's environment today	10
How the Spatial Framework could help us to realise our ambition	11
What you have told us so far	14
What do you think?	15
3. The Economy	17
Our ambition for the Arc's economy	17
The Arc's economy today	17
How the Spatial Framework could help us to deliver our ambition	22
What you have told us so far	22
What do you think?	24
4. Connectivity and Infrastructure	25
Our ambition for connectivity and infrastructure in the Arc	25
Connectivity and infrastructure in the Arc today	25
How the Spatial Framework could help to deliver our ambition	28
What you have told us so far	30
What do you think?	31
5. Place-making	34
Our ambition for place-making in the Arc	34
Place-making in the Arc today	34

How the Spatial Framework could help us to deliver our ambition	35
What have you told us so far	36
What do you think?	37
6. Our commitment to engaging communities	39
Why do we want to engage?	39
Our commitment to you	39
What have we done so far?	40
How will our engagement be structured?	41
Engagement roadmap	42
Have your say	43
What do you think?	43
7. Our commitment to data, evidence and digital tools	44
Introduction	44
Our commitment	44
Evidence base	46
What do you think?	46
8. How we will monitor and deliver the Framework	47
Delivery and funding	47
Introduction	47
Our approach to delivery and funding	47
What do you think?	48
Monitoring and evaluation	48
Introduction	48
Our commitment to monitoring and evaluation	49
What do you think?	50

Scope of this consultation

Geographical scope:	This consultation relates to the Oxford-Cambridge Arc. This is shown in Figure 1.1 and defined as the area that covers the ceremonial counties of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire.
Topic of this consultation:	This consultation is being undertaken to inform our approach to the future of the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, which has been identified by the government as a key economic priority. We are seeking views to help us create a vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Spatial Framework, and in doing so guide the future growth of the area to 2050. This is in line with the commitment we made at the launch of the Spatial Framework process ¹ in February 2021. The Spatial Framework will form national planning policy and transport policy for the Arc and local planning and local transport authorities must have regard to it when preparing local transport and local development plans and policies ² , and it will be capable of being a material consideration in relevant planning decisions in the area.
Scope of this consultation:	<p>In February 2021, the government published a policy paper¹ that set out how we intend to develop a Spatial Framework to help us realise our ambition to support sustainable economic growth in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.</p> <p>In this consultation, we are seeking views on what the vision for the future growth of the Arc should be to 2050 to be delivered through the Spatial Framework.</p> <p>We are undertaking a fully integrated Sustainability Appraisal (SA), incorporating a strategic environmental assessment for the purposes of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (commonly referred to as the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations 2004 or “SEA Regulations”). The Sustainability Appraisal will also be informed by other statutory assessments and regimes such as a habitats regulations assessment pursuant to the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. As part of this consultation, we are seeking views on the initial work we have done to set the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal. Questions related to the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal can be found in Chapter 8 of the Scoping Report published as part of this consultation.</p>

¹ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Planning for sustainable growth in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc: An introduction to the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Spatial Framework, February 2021. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/Government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/962455/Spatial_framework_policy_paper.pdf

² See s.112 Transport Act 2000 and s.19(2) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

	<p>We are interested in hearing from those who live, work and have an interest in the future of the area – particularly from those who have not responded to a consultation of this kind before.</p> <p>We recognise that we have provided a limited range of options for responses to questions – this is so that the consultation is accessible and easy to respond to, and so that we can more easily collect and analyse the views of everyone who responds at this early stage. However, we are open to other ideas on the vision and will consider all relevant views expressed.</p> <p>There will be further opportunities to have your say. This is the first of three planned consultations on the Spatial Framework for the Arc.</p> <p>For information, where relevant, responses to this consultation may be considered as part of the development of other government led initiatives and proposals in the Arc to help realise economic growth ambitions. It is also highly likely that in parallel to the Spatial Framework consultations, the government will hold other consultations on such further proposals, which may support the development and delivery of the vision for the Spatial Framework.</p>
<p>Impact assessment:</p>	<p>The government is mindful of the Public Sector Equality Duty and its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010. This includes the need to consider all individuals when carrying out their day-to-day work such as shaping policy and delivering services, and the duty to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people as set out in the Equality Act 2010. This duty and other responsibilities will be kept under consideration as the Spatial Framework develops to ensure we consider the impact of its proposals and policies on all individuals including those with protected characteristics. We are seeking, through this consultation, the views of all people, including groups with protected characteristics. We have designed this consultation process to be inclusive and accessible to different people and groups.</p>

Basic information

<p>To:</p>	<p>This consultation is open to everyone. We are keen to hear from the public and interested parties from across the public and private sector.</p>
<p>Body/bodies responsible for the consultation:</p>	<p>Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government</p>
<p>Duration:</p>	<p>This consultation will last for 12 weeks from 20 July 2021 to 12 October 2021.</p>

Enquiries:	For any enquiries about this consultation, please visit our online platform or our guidance webpage for more information.
How to respond:	<p>You can respond by using our online platform, which we strongly encourage you use. Using the online platform greatly assists our analysis of the responses, enabling more efficient and effective consideration of issues raised. If you are responding in writing, please make it clear which question or questions you are responding to. Written responses should be sent to:</p> <p>Oxford-Cambridge Arc Unit Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF</p>

1. Introduction: Creating a Vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc

The government's ambition for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc

- 1.1 The Oxford-Cambridge Arc is a national economic priority area³.** We believe it has the potential to be one of the most prosperous, innovative and sustainable economic areas in the world, and can make a major contribution to national economic recovery as we seek to build back better from the impact of COVID-19.

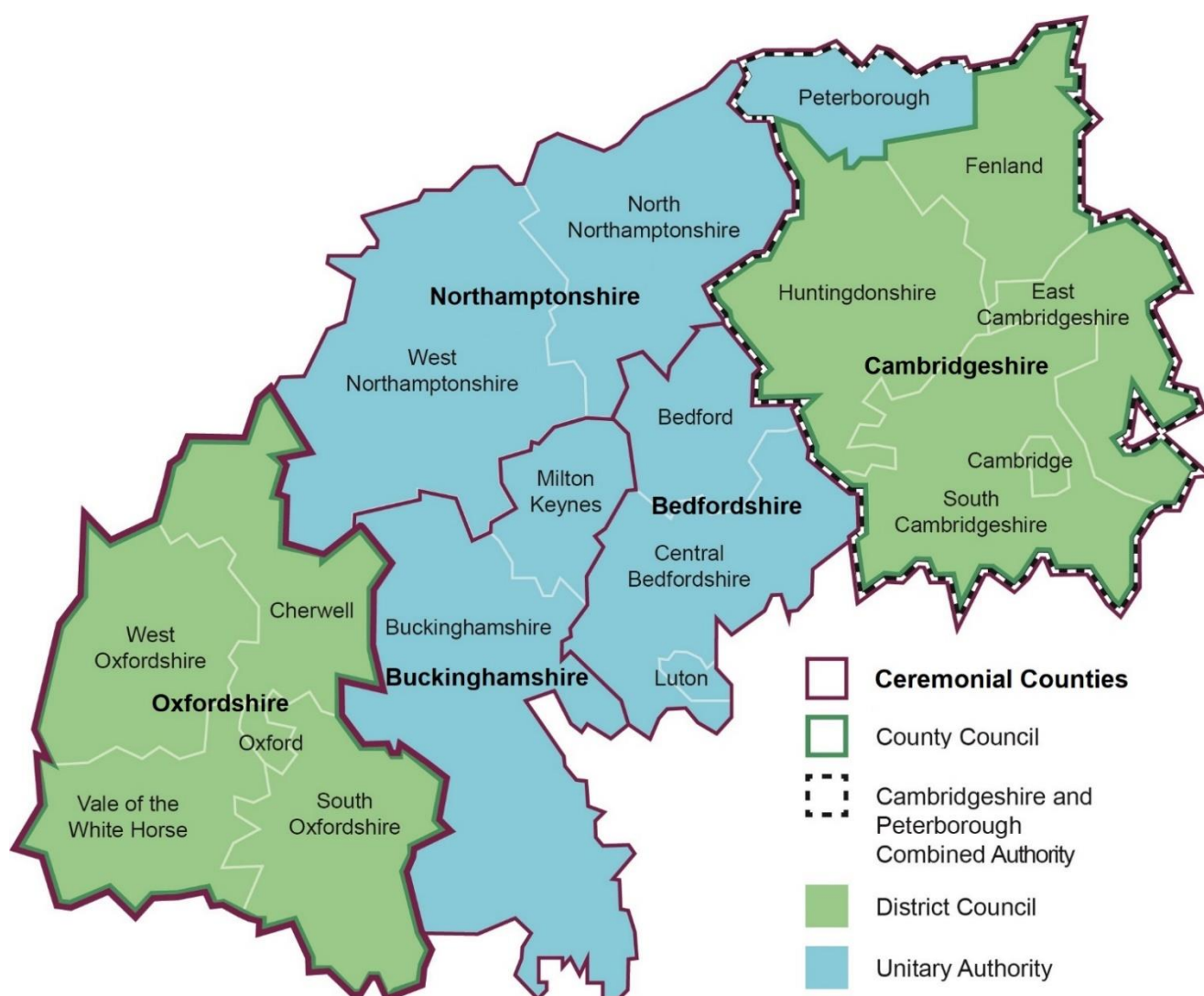


Figure 1.1 – The Oxford-Cambridge Arc

³ See the policy paper on the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, published from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government in February 2021, available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/oxford-cambridge-arc/oxford-cambridge-arc>

The government is developing a Spatial Framework to help deliver on that ambition

1.2 The government wants to support sustainable economic growth in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, so we are developing a Spatial Framework to plan for that growth – to 2050 and beyond³. The Spatial Framework will set national planning policy and national transport policy for the area set out in Figure 1.1, which covers the ceremonial counties of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire. At a strategic scale, this will coordinate and focus investment in the area and shape future local planning decisions on:

- how land is used;
- how the environment is protected and enhanced;
- where and what type of new development happens; and
- what infrastructure is provided.

1.3 We are developing a long-term Spatial Framework for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc so that we can plan for growth in a more sustainable and strategic way. We believe that the Spatial Framework will allow us to plan for growth in a way that:

- makes the area a better place to live and work for all;
- leaves a long-term legacy by protecting and enhancing the Arc's built and natural environment and beautiful places; and
- helps combat and build resilience to climate change.

1.4 The government will lead the development of the Spatial Framework, and we will work closely with communities and local stakeholders at each step. We want to hear anyone interested in the local area, including people and organisations in all parts of the Arc as we start to set priorities and gather evidence. This will help identify how we can best meet our ambition for the area. This consultation is the first of three that we will undertake as we develop the Spatial Framework over the next two years.

What is the Spatial Framework, and what could it do?

1.5 We think a joined-up, long-term approach to planning for growth is the best way to realise our ambitions for economy and sustainability in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.

1.6 The Spatial Framework will be a long-term strategic plan for the area, developed by the government, and informed by engagement with local communities and

stakeholders. It will have sustainability at its core and guide planning decisions and investment under four policy ‘pillars’:

- the environment;
- the economy;
- connectivity and infrastructure; and
- place-making.

1.7 The Spatial Framework will provide a national planning policy framework for the area of the Arc. This will help to better coordinate and provide a strategic direction for:

- **Development Plans including Local Plans, produced by local planning authorities – such as district councils.** Local Plans set the policies that guide the development and use of land in its area. For example, Local Plans designate land uses, and set an overall strategy to deliver enough housing (including affordable housing), infrastructure, community facilities (such as schools and health centres) and to protect, enhance and recover the natural, built and historic environment. There are 18 local planning authorities in the Arc (including new authorities that have replaced joint planning areas in Northamptonshire);
- **Local Transport Plans, which are produced by strategic authorities such as county councils.** These plans set out objectives for transport and identify priority projects and funding requirements for them. In the Arc, there are eight transport planning authorities; and
- **Local Enterprise Partnerships,** who have developed Local Industrial Strategies to identify local economic strengths, challenges and opportunities, the action needed to boost productivity, earning powers and competitiveness in the area for example by identifying investment opportunities to unlock economic potential.

1.8 We believe that this approach will allow us to better plan for economic growth supported by new homes and infrastructure and more sustainable results. The Spatial Framework will form national planning and transport policy for the Arc, and inform Development Plans including Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans; Local Transport Plans; and Local Industrial Strategies within the area and local decision-making. Local planning authorities must have regard to such national policies when preparing local plans, and take them into account, where relevant, when making decisions on planning applications. Decisions on planning applications need, as a matter of law, to be made in accordance with such local plans unless material considerations (including national policy) indicate otherwise. National transport policy (and/ or guidance) is intended to guide the content of local transport plans in the Arc, as local transport

authorities must have regard to it and/ or take it into account under current legal framework.



Figure 1.2 – Status of the OxCam Arc Spatial Framework within the planning system

1.9 We will also make sure that sustainability is at the heart of the Spatial Framework by undertaking a fully integrated Sustainability Appraisal. This will be a rigorous process that will ensure full consideration is given to environmental, economic and social sustainability in the policy development and decision-making process, and across each of the four ‘pillars’ of our approach.

Why we are consulting you now

1.10 We believe that for the Spatial Framework to work best as a national planning policy for the Arc, it should be shaped by those who live, work and have an interest in the area. We want you to help us create a vision for the area to 2050 and help set the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal. Whether you live, work, learn, invest, visit or just have an interest in the Arc, all views matter to us. We are particularly keen to hear from those people who normally do not engage in planning consultations and decisions. This is part of our commitment⁴ to developing the Spatial Framework in a way that is open, collaborative, inclusive, digital, and evidence-based.

⁴ You can find more information on our commitment here: <https://www.gov.uk/Government/publications/planning-for-sustainable-growth-in-the-oxford-cambridge-arc-spatial-framework/planning-for-sustainable-growth-in-the-oxford-cambridge-arc-an-introduction-to-the-spatial-framework#what-the-spatial-framework-will-do>

- 1.11 The purpose of the Spatial Framework is to support the delivery of government’s ambitions for the OxCam Arc in the most sustainable way⁵.** The aim of this consultation is to seek your views on the Spatial Framework’s vision for the Arc and the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal, and set the direction of travel for future policies and growth.
- 1.12 Creating a vision is an important first step in the preparation of the Spatial Framework and development of its policies.** The vision will form the core of the Spatial Framework. Its aim is to clearly and simply bring to life and illustrate the kind of place that the OxCam Arc will be in the future, as a result of the policies working together.
- 1.13 We think the vision for the Spatial Framework should be ambitious and aspirational, unique to the Arc and reflect its people and places.** We think it is important to also look at potential opportunities for transformation. The world will be a very different place by 2050, and we want to ensure that the vision helps make the area an even better place to live, work, travel in and enjoy for existing and future communities alike. The vision will need to be realistic too, reflecting the strategic planning role and remit of the Spatial Framework. And above all, we want to create a shared vision, one that has been developed through working with as wide and representative audience as possible.
- 1.14** There are lots of ways you can develop a vision. You can ask people to picture the kind of place it will be in the future. Some like to think about it in the current context, by considering what currently works well and what could be improved. Others like to approach it by thinking about what the vision will do and seek to achieve. Asking people what their priorities are for the future can cut across all three of these methods. We tested these approaches with different audiences earlier this year and through their feedback concluded that the best way to engage our diverse audience was to use a mix of all of these approaches. The design of this consultation, including our questions, reflects this.

What you have told us so far

- 1.15** We want to take an open, collaborative and inclusive approach to developing the Spatial Framework.
- 1.16** When we launched the Spatial Framework in February 2021¹, we committed to carrying out some initial engagement with people in the Arc so that we could get the most out of this consultation – by starting to understand key priorities, helping to identify what questions we could ask in this consultation, and testing how we could engage with different people across the area.
- 1.17** Then, in March 2021, we held a short series of initial workshops and conversations with a small sample of local residents, young people, academic experts, businesses, charities, campaign groups and local councils that allowed us to test our approach to engagement in advance of this consultation. We hope to publish a summary of the feedback from this

⁵ See paragraphs 1.1 to 1.9 in ‘Planning for sustainable growth in the Oxford- Cambridge Arc: An introduction to the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Spatial Framework’, published from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government in February 2021, available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/Government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/962455/Spatial_framework_policy_paper.pdf

early engagement in the near future for your information. All feedback received will be further considered in combination with this public consultation.

1.18 On how we should engage different people, we heard that:

- people across the Arc really care about their local areas, and want to have an opportunity at the beginning of this process to tell us what they like, and what could be better;
- people want to see the data and evidence we have on the Arc, where available; and
- people really want to be engaged in this process, although not necessarily in the same way.

1.19 We also learned how we can communicate best with a wide audience. People told us how much they care about the area and want to influence how it develops for the better through this planning process. However, many found the language and terminology used, such as planning policy, a barrier. We have taken this feedback on board and reflected it in the approach and design of this consultation. We have kept the language and content as simple and short as possible. The aim is to reach as wide and diverse an audience as possible through this consultation, in particular those people who do not normally engage in planning.

1.20 We heard a lot of different views on what our focus and priorities for the future of the Arc and the Spatial Framework should be, but there were some common themes. You can see more about what people told us in the sections that follow on each pillar or policy theme. In summary:

- the four policy ‘pillars’ or themes – the environment, the economy, connectivity and infrastructure, and place-making – reflected much of what the people we spoke to value and what they are worried about in their area;
- people strongly supported environmental sustainability and connectivity as priorities – for example, people told us they want to see environmental improvement and more space for nature, and would like to see local transport options improved;
- younger people in particular saw an opportunity to support more education and job opportunities, but they also wanted growth to be environmentally sustainable; and
- there was a lot of worry about rising house prices and the cost of living, as well as acceptance that new homes were needed, but focus upon the character of places, health, well-being, the environment, climate change and improving local infrastructure, such as walking and cycling paths, green space, and healthcare facilities.

1.21 We have used this to help:

- inform the types of questions we are asking in this consultation;
- guide the data and evidence we have provided alongside it, and how we have presented this; and
- shape how we are engaging, including through this digital platform.

1.22 For this consultation and for our future work on the Spatial Framework, we will continue to develop our approach based on feedback we receive and the evidence base that we are preparing.

1.23 You can find out more about how we are planning to engage in Chapter 6.

Next steps

1.24 This consultation will run for 12 weeks, closing on 12 October 2021. We hope this will give anyone interested an opportunity to have their say.

1.25 We will consider all comments received to this consultation which, alongside other considerations, will help create the Spatial Framework's vision for the Arc to 2050 and inform the development of the Sustainability Appraisal. In spring 2022, we expect to publish the vision as well as a public consultation on options for the policies in the Spatial Framework. We will also publish a summary of comments received and our response as part of this consultation, so you can see how views have been taken into account.

1.26 The development of the Spatial Framework will be supported by two further public consultations:

- **Towards a Spatial Framework** – using the vision as a foundation, we will develop options for delivering its objectives. The options will be based on feedback from engagement, initial evidence gathering and analysis. We hope to publish this, including a Sustainable Appraisal 'Issues and Options' Report, for public consultation in spring 2022 to give everyone a chance to have their say; and
- **Draft Spatial Framework** – to finalise the Spatial Framework, we will consider responses to the previous consultation, and undertake further spatial analysis, option testing, impact assessments and engagement. We hope to publish the draft Spatial Framework with its Sustainability Appraisal Environmental Report, for consultation in autumn 2022, with implementation of the final framework shortly after.

What do you think?

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

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

- 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
- Other – please specify

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

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

We are preparing the OxCam Arc Spatial Framework to make the most of the area's unique potential for economic growth to 2050 and beyond.

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:

- 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.

2. The Environment

Our ambition for the Arc's environment

- 2.1 The government wants to support growth in the Arc in a way that is sustainable – by improving the natural environment and making sure it is protected, and can recover from harm. This will help us to meet our commitment to combat and build resilience to climate change.** We think there is an opportunity for the Arc to become a world-leader for environmental sustainability over the coming decades.

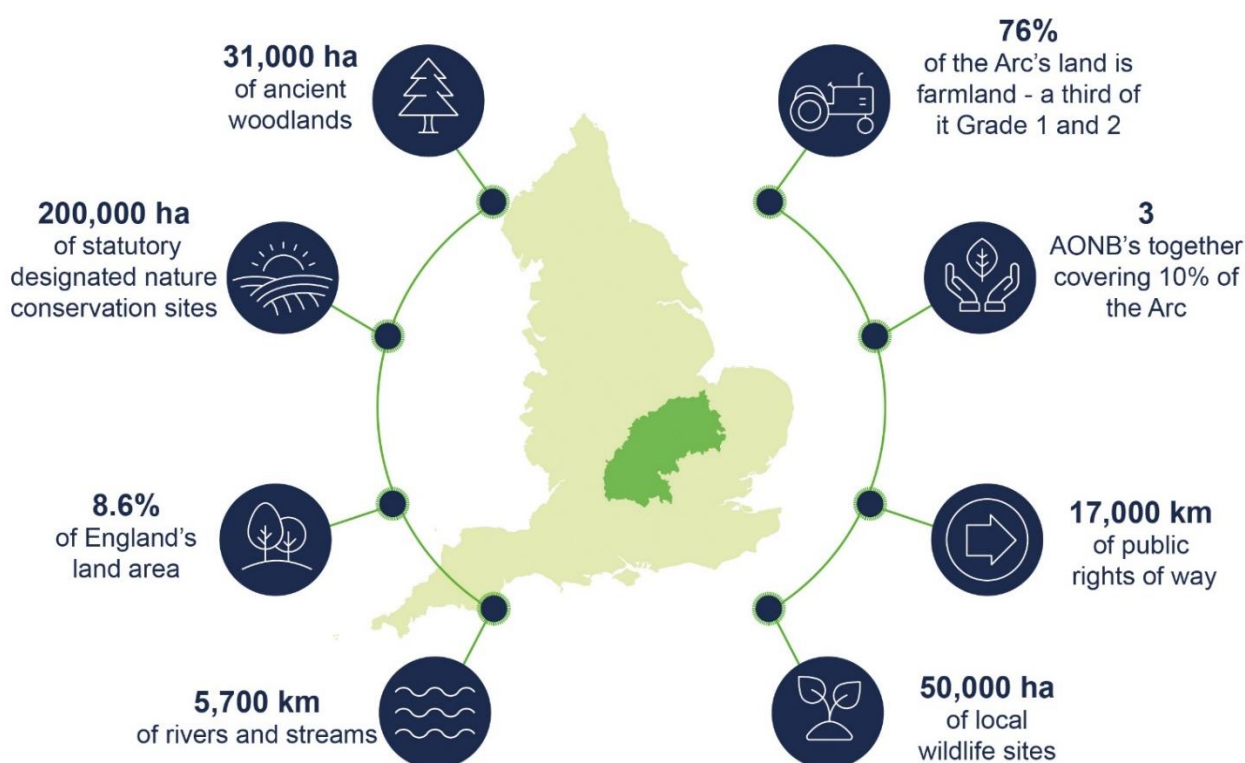
The Arc's environment today

- 2.2 The Oxford-Cambridge Arc is already home to precious habitats and biodiversity, green spaces which are highly valued and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).** For example⁶:

- the landscapes of its Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the Chilterns, the North Wessex and Downs and the Cotswolds;
- biodiverse woodlands and grasslands, with over 200,000 ha of statutory designated nature conservation sites;
- the areas of wildflower-rich meadows and species-rich fenland in Cambridgeshire;
- around 31,000 ha of ancient woodlands, from Wychwood in Oxfordshire to the Whittlewood Forest in Northamptonshire;
- there are over 5,700 km of rivers and streams across the Arc; and
- the 6,000 acres⁷ of green public space in Milton Keynes.

⁶ You can find more information in the Scoping Report for the Spatial Framework's Sustainability Appraisal, available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/creating-a-vision-for-the-oxford-cambridge-arc>

⁷ Taken from the 'Facts and Figures' webpage of the Milton Keynes Parks Trust. Available at: <https://www.theparkstrust.com/our-work/about-us/facts-and-figures/>



Source: [OxCam Local Natural Capital Plan](#), SA Scoping Report

Figure 2.1 – Key facts on the Arc's environment today

2.3 However, there are real challenges⁶. Air quality is poor in many parts of the Arc, caused in part by high rates of car use, and this is harming the environment and the health of local residents. Flood risk is high and growing, particularly around the floodplains of the Arc's major rivers. The Arc's natural environment has declined in quality, and become less connected over the last 40 years, and we know that people's access to open areas of nature rich countryside can be limited. The Arc is also one of the most water stressed areas of the country; which means that sustainable abstraction and water resilience is key to future planning. Finally, the impact of COVID-19 has shown the importance of natural green space to healthy lifestyles – but many existing sites of value for nature are already heavily used for a range of recreational activities, which is having a negative impact.

2.4 If you would like to know more about the Arc's environment and the social and economic context of the area today, you can read more in the Scoping Report for the Spatial Framework's Sustainability Appraisal⁶, which is part of this consultation, including questions related the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal in Chapter 8.

How the Spatial Framework could help us to realise our ambition

2.5 The Spatial Framework offers a unique opportunity to preserve and enhance a green Arc and support nature recovery, improve air quality, reduce flood risk and improve access to nature and green space across the area. We have committed to support this, including by:

- developing policy to take a more coordinated approach to the environment, by:
 - making sure that the environment is at the centre of economic, transport and housing and planning decisions;
 - taking an integrated approach to water management and flood risk, cleaner air, sustainable land management, nature recovery, climate change mitigation and adaptation, in line with the government's 25 Year Environment Plan⁸, Net Zero ambitions⁹ and Clean Growth Strategy¹⁰;
 - making sure natural capital forms a key part of planning and decision-making, understanding what nature provides us and the value that brings so that we can invest and improve it (including by using the environmental baseline identified in the government led Local Natural Capital Plan¹¹ that has been developed for the Arc);
 - using Local Nature Recovery Strategies¹² to inform priorities.
- setting policy to:
 - support retention of, and investment in, key existing and potential new habitats;
 - improve access to nature and green space for all whilst ensuring nature conservation;
 - set high standards for new development, including on carbon emissions, active travel, water management, green space, different types of green infrastructure, and biodiversity;
 - support an integrated approach to water management, taking into account sustainable water abstraction and drought resilience, water quality, reducing risk and building resilience to flooding and how and where new infrastructure should be developed;
 - support clean air outcomes, with clear links to housing and transport policies;
 - improve natural capital across the Arc.

⁸ You can find more information on the government's 25 Year Environment Plan here: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/Government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf

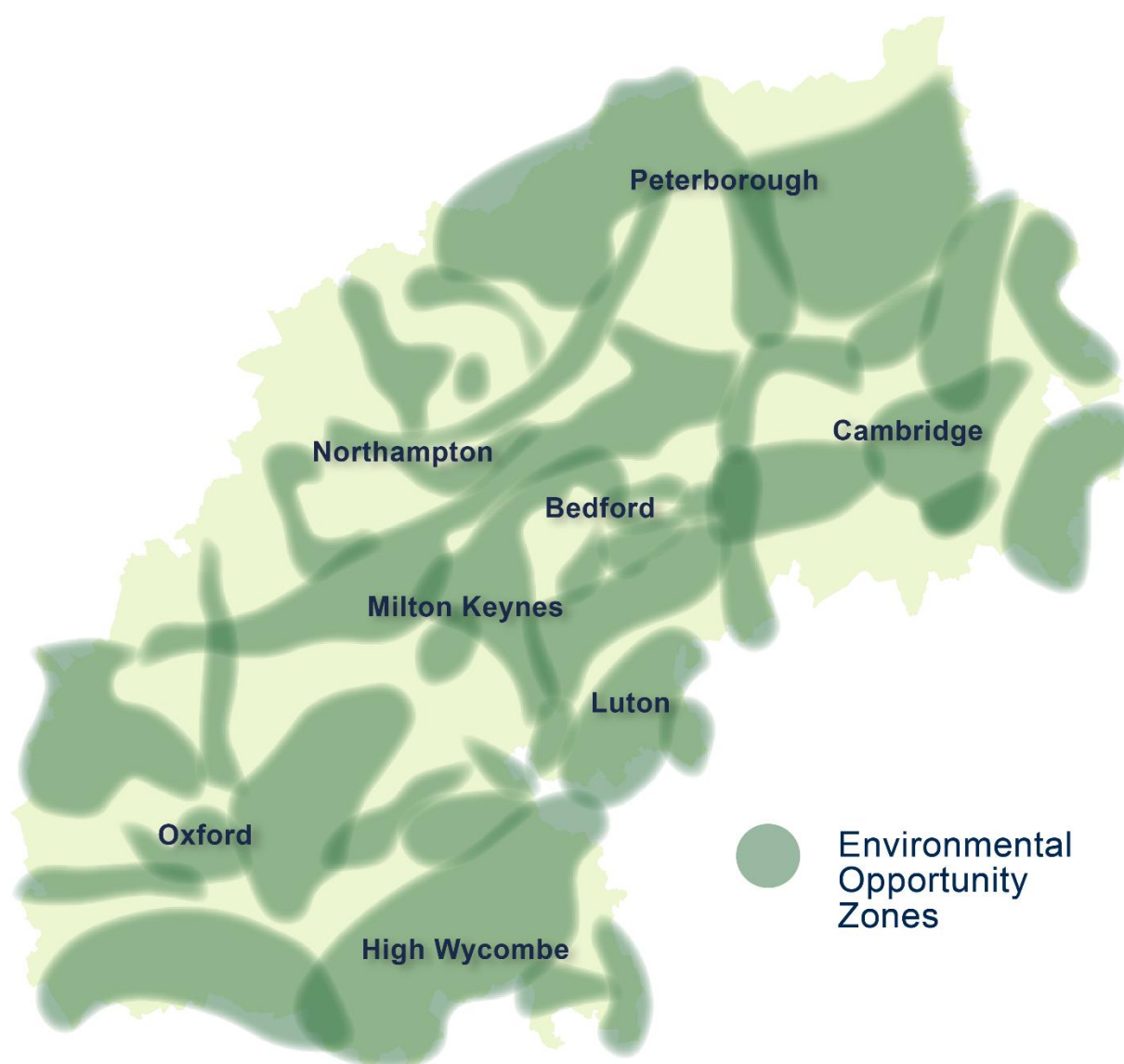
⁹ See the Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended). You can find more information on some of the government's proposals for Net Zero here: <https://www.gov.uk/Government/publications/energy-white-paper-powering-our-net-zero-future/energy-white-paper-powering-our-net-zero-future-accessible-html-version>

¹⁰ You can find more information on the government's Clean Growth Strategy here: <https://www.gov.uk/Government/publications/clean-growth-strategy>

¹¹ See Local Natural Capital Plan for the Oxford to Cambridge Arc, developed by the Environment Agency. Available at: <https://www.oxcamlncp.org/>

¹² You can find more information on Local Nature Recovery Strategies here: <https://www.gov.uk/Government/publications/environment-bill-2020/10-march-2020-nature-and-conservation-covenants-parts-6-and-7>

- 2.6** We have also committed to identifying environmental Opportunity Areas, including for water infrastructure, which use nature-based solutions, supporting nature recovery, biodiversity net gain and carbon sinks, where these can bring the most benefits for environmental sustainability.



Source: [Local Nature Partnerships' Strategic-Scale Environmental Opportunity Mapping: Doubling Nature in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc](#)

Figure 2.2 – Strategic-scale environmental opportunity zones¹³

- 2.7 To ensure sustainability is embedded in the Spatial Framework we are producing a Sustainability Appraisal.** The aim is to address environmental issues alongside social and economic issues as the Spatial Framework and its policies develop. This will inform decision-making and help achieve improved sustainability outcomes. A Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report⁶ has been prepared as part of this consultation. This provides

¹³ For more information about each of these zones, please refer to the Local Nature Partnerships' Strategic-Scale Environmental Opportunity Mapping: Doubling Nature in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, available at: <https://bucks.mknep.co.uk/download/2469/>

more information on our approach and more detailed information on the Arc's environmental assets; social and economic context and changing climate.

- 2.8** We will also build on the evidence baseline identified in the government led Local Natural Capital Plan¹¹ that has been developed for the Arc. The government has invested in this project with local partners to understand the Arc's environment, its unique features, pressures and identifying opportunities to develop and invest in nature.

What you have told us so far

- 2.9** We want to understand different views about the Arc's environment to help us form our vision. The first part of this was initial conversations in March - including with some local residents, community and campaign groups, local authorities, and businesses. What we were told helped us to develop our approach to engagement and understand some of the key issues and questions for this consultation. The following summarises some of the themes that came from these discussions.

- 2.10** People seem to agree on some of the good things about the Arc's environment:

- accessible green space is highly valued by communities across the Arc and is seen as key to well-being and quality of life; and
- environmental sustainability is a priority for all groups we have spoken to so far.

- 2.11** And there are some common concerns:

- the risk of flooding is a major worry for many people; and
- there are concerns about the impact of development on the environment, particularly the loss of green space.

- 2.12** Meanwhile, some are unsure about the future, but have views about what the Spatial Framework could do to support prosperity for everyone and in all parts of the Arc:

- many people told us that the Spatial Framework could be an opportunity to make future development much more sustainable; and
- there is some doubt about whether high environmental ambitions can be delivered.

2.13 This has given us a sense of some of the issues and questions we should cover in this consultation. Now we want to hear from you to help us create a vision for the Arc's environment.

What do you think?

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?

Climate change resilience 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?

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?

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?

3. The Economy

Our ambition for the Arc's economy

3.1 The government's priority for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc is sustainable economic growth. We are putting sustainable economic growth first because we think that the Arc can be one of the most productive places in the world by creating new jobs, improving the standard of living and the quality of life for local communities. We want to support economic growth that is sustainable – economically, socially and environmentally. Taking this step will also help national prosperity as we build back better from the impacts of COVID-19.

The Arc's economy today

3.2 The Oxford-Cambridge Arc is already home to a booming and varied economy that contributes to national prosperity. Over the last 20 years, it has grown faster than any region outside London, and employment and wages are above the national average. It is home to some strong and innovative sectors, world-leading companies, internationally recognised research and development centres and research universities – for example:

- **the life sciences cluster in Cambridge**, which is the most productive in Europe – with 400 companies based there and contributing £2.9 billion to the UK economy, while also playing a critical role in developing a vaccine for COVID-19¹⁴;
- **the largest space cluster in Europe** is located in an area spanning Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire;
- **the nationally leading energy cluster is in Oxfordshire, focusing on activities to decarbonise energy production, distribution and consumption;**
- **the digital innovation boom in Milton Keynes**, with new cutting-edge developments in Artificial Intelligence and machine learning;
- **Cambridge is a leading UK and global hub of innovation**, its rate of patent applications, a key indicator of innovation, is the highest in the UK outside of London and over 12 times the national average; and
- **the Arc's 11 major higher education institutions**, including the world-leading centres of learning in Oxford and Cambridge; Cranfield University, a leader in automotive and aerospace engineering; and the Open University.

¹⁴ Taken from The Oxford-Cambridge Arc Economic Prospectus, published by the Arc Leadership in October 2020 - available at: https://www.oxfordshirelep.com/sites/default/files/uploads/Oxford-CambridgeArcProspectus_Approved_1.pdf



Source: Internal analysis using ONS data

Figure 3.1 – The Arc’s economy (based on 2018 prices) compared to other areas in England

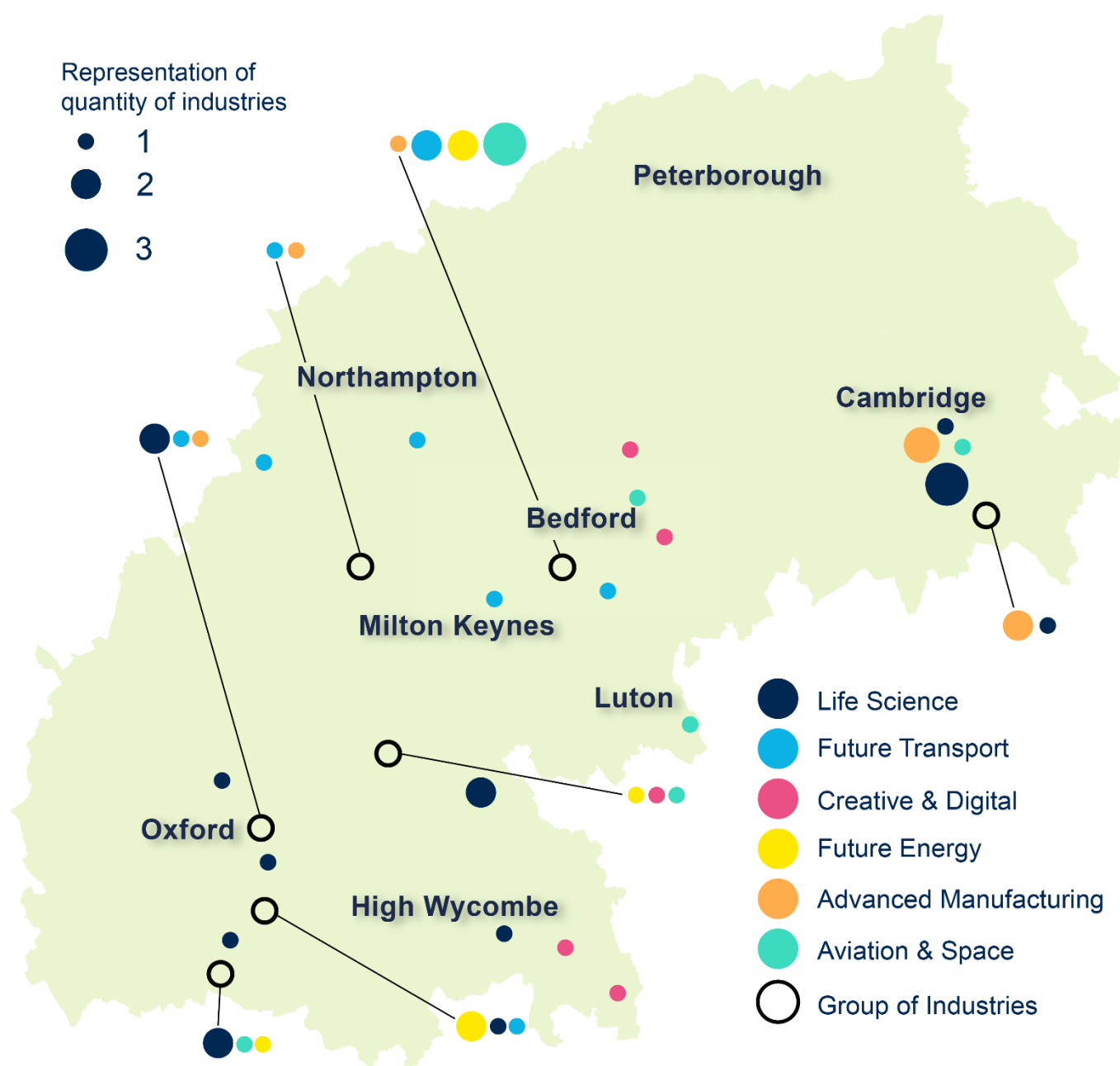
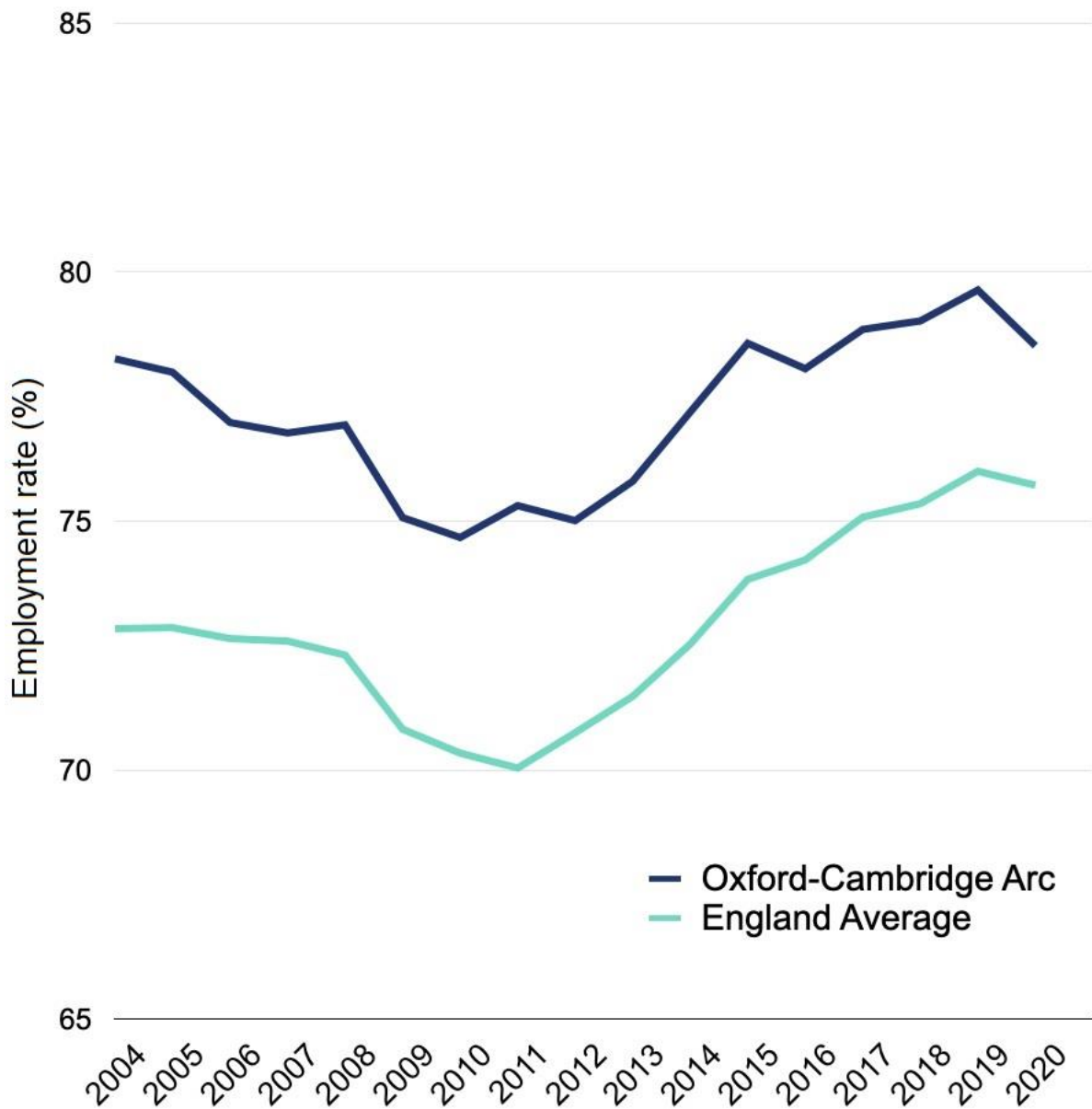


Figure 3.2 – Economic clusters in the Arc

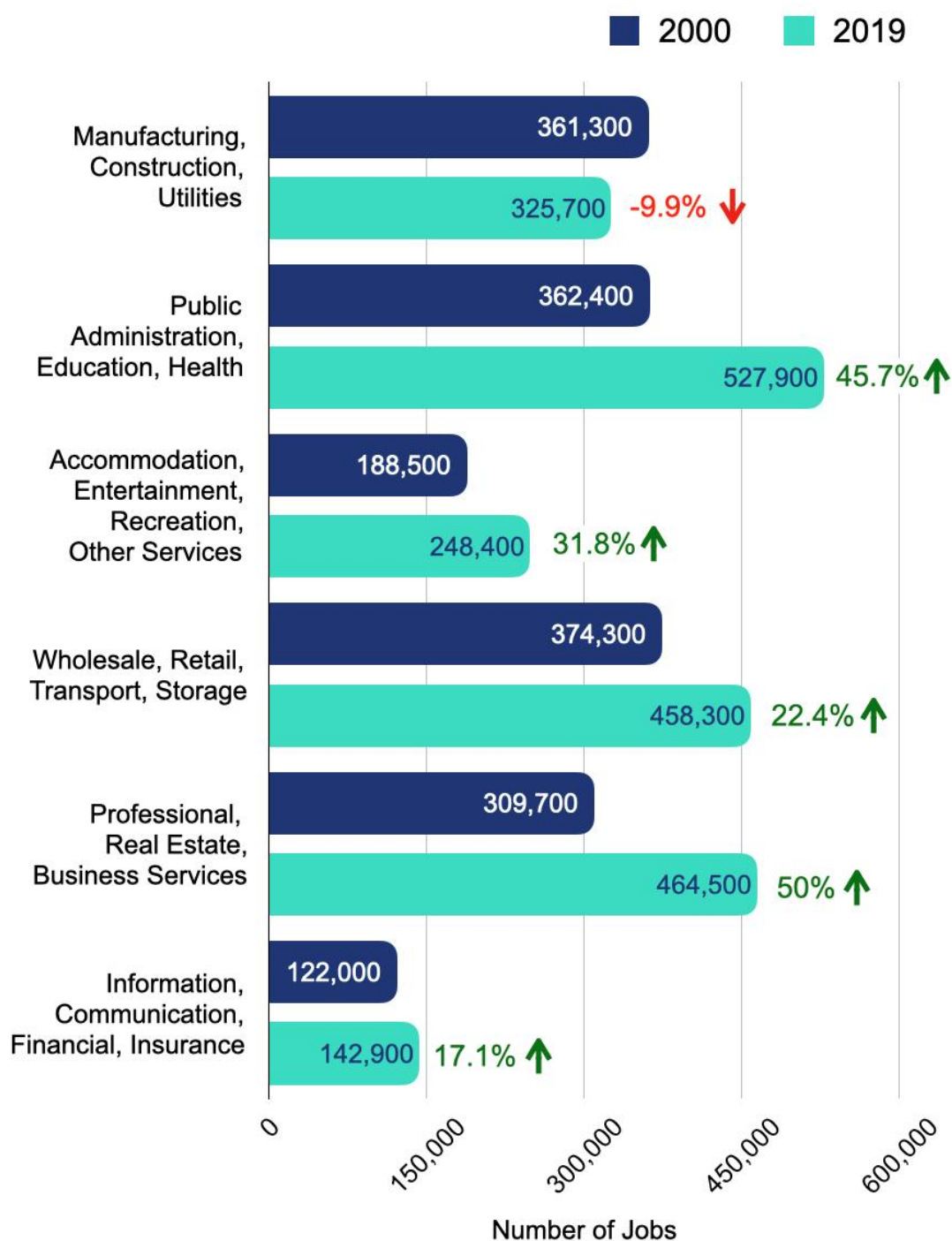
3.3 This growth has brought benefits to places and communities across the area, but we know these have not been felt by all, and communities are worried for the future. For example, places like Oxford, Cambridge and Milton Keynes have seen significant economic and wage growth¹⁵; however, this has not been spread evenly across these centres or in other towns and rural areas. The cost of homes has grown a lot over the years, particularly in these areas. Local communities are worried that people and businesses do not have access to the right infrastructure that they need such as better transport connections and digital services.

¹⁵ Internal analysis using ONS data.



Source: Internal analysis using ONS data

Figure 3.3 – Employment growth in the Arc



Source: Internal analysis using ONS data

Figure 3.4 – Employment by sector in the Arc¹⁶

¹⁶ Culture and tourism services are included in the 'Accommodation, entertainment, recreation and other services' class

How the Spatial Framework could help us to deliver our ambition

3.4 We want to use the Spatial Framework to help tackle these problems. We want to make the most of the economic potential of the Arc by planning for sustainable growth and making the Arc an even more attractive place for all to live, work and do business. We have committed to doing this by:

- developing an Economic Strategy, supported by strong economic evidence, to identify the policies, locations and investment needed to deliver the Arc’s potential for sustainable and green economic growth;
- setting policies to make sure growth is felt by all communities and the Arc becomes a better place to live and work for all, such as by providing more housing in the right places, making sure people can move around by public transport and other infrastructure, and enhancing the Arc’s natural capital¹¹;
- setting policies which help local planning authorities to plan for new business and employment space, support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and places for global companies; and
- setting policies to meet the needs of different sectors and businesses – from large firms to start-ups and promoting the green economy, industry, innovation and technology.

3.5 Together, these will help businesses find the space they need for new jobs and help local communities. The government is also considering setting up a new Arc Growth Body¹⁷ that would be a clear economic leadership voice to help businesses and innovation within the Arc. It would also help boost the area’s potential as a global innovation powerhouse by promoting the Arc internationally.

What you have told us so far

3.6 We want to understand different views about the Arc’s economy to help us form our vision. The first part of this was initial conversations in March - including with some local residents, community and campaign groups, local authorities, and businesses. What we were told helped us to develop our approach to engagement and understand some of the key issues and questions for this consultation. The following summarises some of the themes that came from these discussions.

3.7 People seem to agree on some of the good things about the Arc’s economy:

¹⁷ See press release from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on the intention to establish the Arc Growth Body, available at: <https://www.gov.uk/Government/news/Government-plan-to-transform-oxford-cambridge-arc-into-uk-s-fastest-growing-economic-region>

- residents and businesses were excited by the potential for jobs growth and innovation in the Arc;
- younger people really value employment and education in many parts of the Arc; and
- people want to see their local high streets and local retail and leisure businesses grow.

3.8 And there are some common concerns:

- some residents are worried about the loss of retail that they have seen on some high streets;
- that the benefits of economic growth, such as greater investment and more jobs, may not be felt in all places, leading to greater inequality; and
- there is also doubt about whether growth could be sustained for the long-term.

3.9 Meanwhile, some are unsure about the future, but have views about what the Spatial Framework could do to help all parts of the Arc:

- some wonder who will be the winners and losers of growth;
- we need to understand the needs of different sectors, industries and types of job in the Arc; and
- the Spatial Framework should be ambitious and should focus on the strategic national importance of the region.

3.10 This has given us a sense of some of the issues and questions we should cover in this consultation. Now we want to hear from you to help us create a vision for economy in the Arc.

What do you think?

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?

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?

4. Connectivity and Infrastructure

Our ambition for connectivity and infrastructure in the Arc

- 4.1 We want the Oxford-Cambridge Arc to be a great place to live and work – now and in the future.** That means it will need to be better connected – by making it easier for walking, cycling, and public transport to become first choice for everyone in the Arc. It will also mean making places that reduce the need to travel in the first place. And it means improving communities' access to the services they need – like a good quality, sustainable water supply and broadband, schools, cycle lanes and healthcare, as part of a great approach to place-making.

Connectivity and infrastructure in the Arc today

- 4.2 The government is already investing in a major new rail link to connect Oxford to Cambridge via Milton Keynes and Bedford – the East West Rail project¹⁸.** This would create a new east-west connection¹⁹ across the Arc to link some of its major towns and cities – making it easier, more accessible and more sustainable to travel across the area and better connect with the Arc's businesses and research institutions.
- 4.3** The Arc is also home to businesses and universities that are leading the way in developing new technology which will shape the way we live in the future, including for vehicles that will make travel more sustainable – such as electric cars and robotic delivery vehicles.

¹⁸ You can find more information about the East West Rail project at: <https://eastwestrail.co.uk/>

¹⁹ This was a major theme of the National Infrastructure Commission's analysis of the Arc. See the NIC's final report, Partnering for Prosperity (2017), available at: <https://nic.org.uk/app/uploads//Partnering-for-Prosperity.pdf>

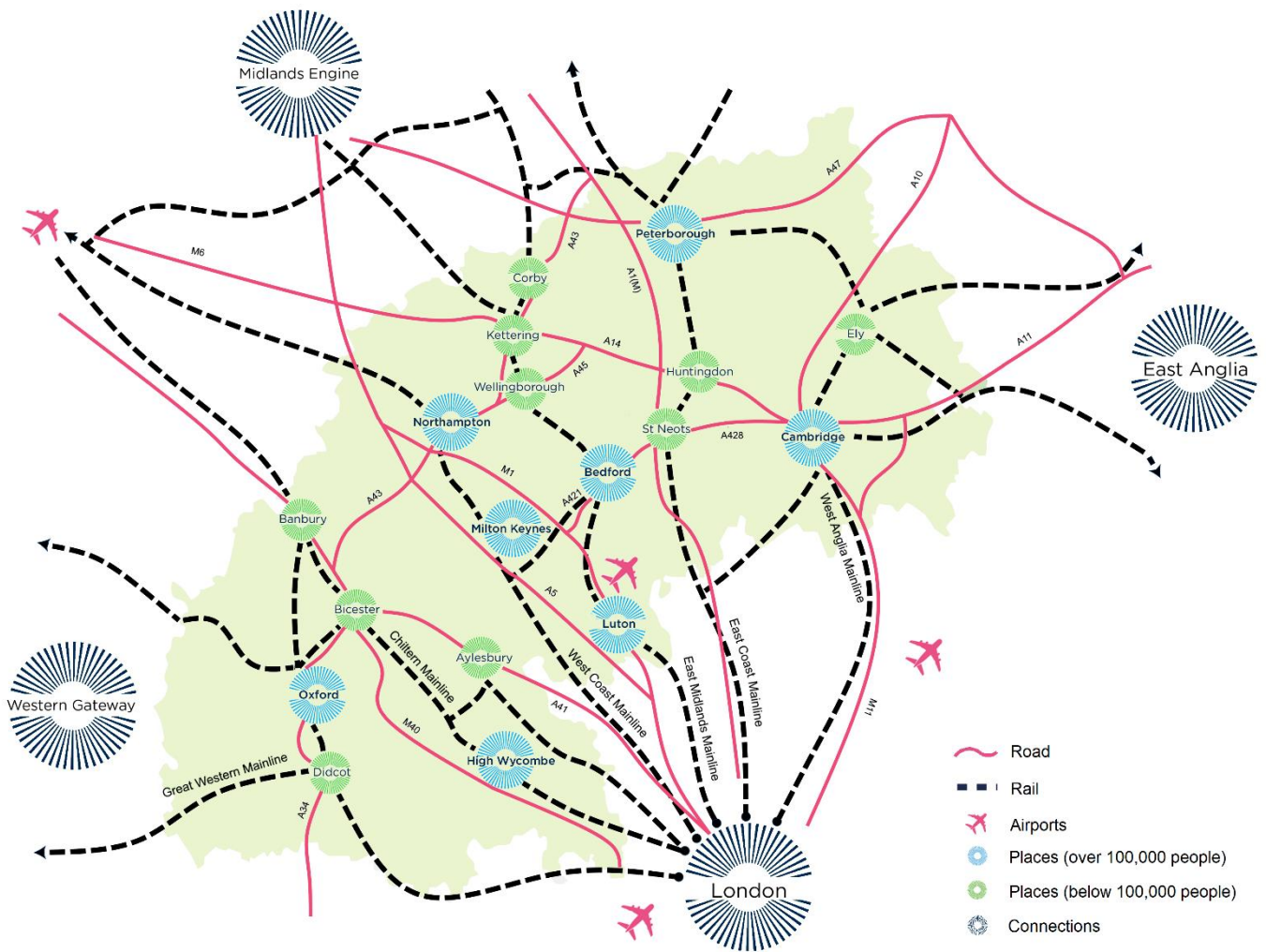
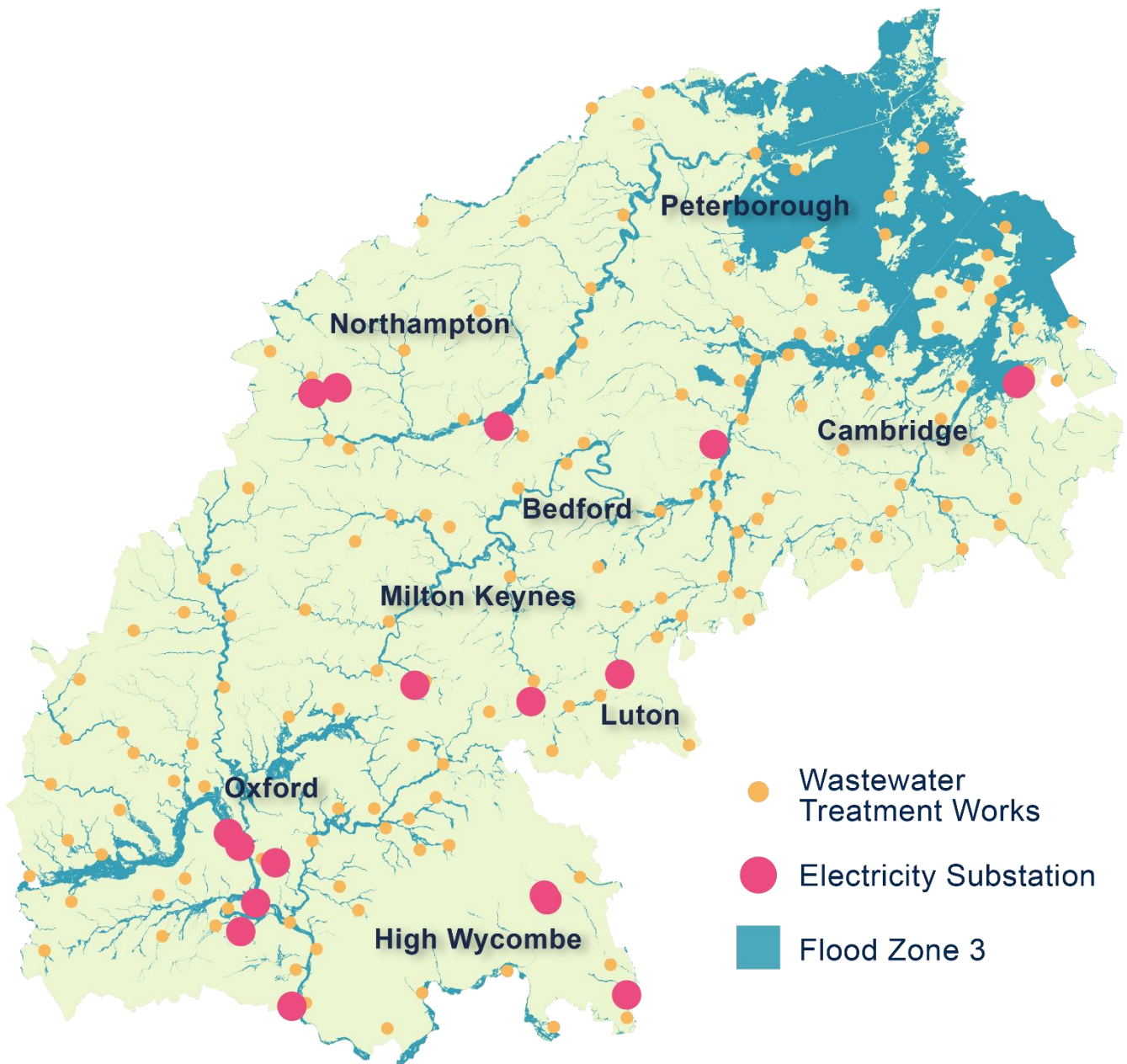


Figure 4.1 – Major transport links in the Arc today



Source: [Flood map for planning](#), data summarised from published Water Cycle Studies and Water Quality Assessments for Local Planning Authorities across the Arc, National Grid

Figure 4.2 – Flooding and selected utilities infrastructure in the Arc today

4.4 We know we need to do more. Studies tell us that a lack of transport and utilities infrastructure in different towns and cities in the Arc can hold back the area's growth and sustainability:

- **we know that many people rely on private cars, and that to tackle climate change and improve air quality we will need to encourage them to travel by bike, foot or public transport instead.** 67% of people travelling to work – pre-COVID-19 – go by car, compared with 60% nationally. Carbon emissions from transport are higher in the area at 47%– compared with 37% nationally²⁰;
- **there are long-standing concerns about utility supplies** – including water, flooding, digital, clean energy and waste recycling – to meet the growing needs of the Arc's communities and businesses, and the challenges of climate change; and
- **the Arc's population is likely to grow, age and become more diverse over the coming decades²¹,** which will bring new demands for social infrastructure such as healthcare, but also risks of increasing existing inequalities – including health inequality – that we know exist today.

How the Spatial Framework could help to deliver our ambition

4.5 We have a unique opportunity to address these challenges by planning for sustainable infrastructure in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc through the Spatial Framework. We will be able to set national planning and transport policy for the area, and prioritise projects that should be considered for investment. We have committed to:

²⁰ These figures are for the area including Hertfordshire and Swindon. See England's Economic Heartland (2020) Transport Strategy, available at: https://eeh-prod-media.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/Connecting_People_Transforming_Journeys_av.pdf

²¹ Internal analysis based on ONS population data, available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/nationalpopulationprojections/2018based>

- identifying and mapping the existing transport, health, education, accessible natural green spaces, utilities, green (land) and blue (water) infrastructure and other infrastructure at an Arc-wide scale;
- identifying the long-term need for new infrastructure and the investment across the Arc to 2050, taking into account climate change, and gaps in existing provision;
- using this work to create an infrastructure plan to support future growth and place-making, such as:
 - delivering sustainable and public transport;
 - protecting and enhancing the environment;
 - giving communities access to the public services they need – including education and health;
 - making sure our waste is minimised, recycled or disposed of sustainably where this is the only option;
 - providing the water, digital and utilities infrastructure needed to support growth;
- setting strategic policies for local transport authorities and local planning authorities, building on the England’s Economic Heartland transport strategy²² and evidence base, including the four key principles for transport connectivity in the area:
 - aiming for net zero carbon emissions from transport by 2040, but no later than 2050;
 - improving quality of life and wellbeing through a safe and inclusive transport system for all;
 - connecting people and businesses to markets and opportunities;
 - making sure people and goods can move more efficiently through the area and to/from international gateways, in a way which reduces the environmental impact;
- setting strategic climate resilience and air quality policies based on air quality modelling; and
- setting strategic policies to support investment in new water, digital, utilities, green and blue infrastructure alongside new development.

²² See England’s Economic Heartland (2020) Transport Strategy, available at: https://eeh-prod-media.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/Connecting_People_Transforming_Journeys_av.pdf

What you have told us so far

4.6 We want to understand different views about the Arc's economy to help us form our vision. The first part of this was initial conversations in March - including with some local residents, community and campaign groups, local authorities, and businesses. What we were told helped us to develop our approach to engagement and understand some of the key issues and questions for this consultation. The following summarises some of the themes that came from these discussions.

4.7 People seem to agree on some of the priorities for the future:

- transport should be more environmentally sustainable; and
- it should be easier to walk and cycle within towns and cities.

4.8 And there are some common concerns:

- that growth will put pressure on existing infrastructure, such as roads and transport capacity; and
- about transport options in rural communities in particular, but also across the Arc.

4.9 We also heard a range of views about what how the Spatial Framework can help connectivity and infrastructure in all parts of the Arc, including that:

- it should create specific plans for new transport and infrastructure;
- it should support a shift away from cars towards walking, cycling, rail and bus travel;
- it should support more investment in homes and infrastructure in towns and villages across the area; and
- it should ensure that new developments are better designed to support walking and cycling.

4.10 This has given us a sense of some of the issues and questions we should cover in this consultation. Now we want to hear from you to help us create a vision for infrastructure and connectivity in the Arc.

What do you think?

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?

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?

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?

5. Place-making

Our ambition for place-making in the Arc

- 5.1 Place-making is the process of designing and creating great places to live, work, play and learn in. We think there is an opportunity for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc to be a world-leader in sustainable place-making and community living.**
- 5.2** We know that, as the Arc grows, new homes and places will be needed. Our ambition is to help ensure those new homes and places are great places to live by being more sustainable, beautiful and green, and have better access to the services and infrastructure they need. And we want to improve existing places and learn from those that are most valued by local communities as we think about the places of the future.

Place-making in the Arc today

- 5.3 The Oxford-Cambridge Arc is already home to great places – old and new. For example:**

- the medieval centres of Oxford and Cambridge;
- historic market towns such as Bedford, Aylesbury and Wellingborough;
- Milton Keynes, a leading example of a post-war ‘new town’, with 6,000 acres⁷ of protected green space for public use;
- the beautiful villages and rural areas that characterise many parts of the Arc;
- the new self-build development at Graven Hill in Bicester, Oxfordshire, a great example of how new development can create opportunities for more people to design and build their own homes; and
- the new University-led Eddington development in North West Cambridge, which demonstrates best practice and award-winning design.

- 5.4** We want to make the most of opportunities to enhance existing places and learn from those that are most valued by local communities as we think about the places of the future. We know that the Arc has the potential for more sustainable growth and places to meet current and further needs.
- 5.5 We are concerned about the affordability and availability of housing in the Arc, and what this will mean for the Arc’s communities, economy and environment.** Development of new homes is already happening in the Arc, but in the main centres this has not kept up with need. We also know people are being priced out of the area, increasing the need to make more polluting journeys for work and leisure, and making

home ownership less likely for many. And we have heard concerns about the quality and sustainability of new development.

How the Spatial Framework could help us to deliver our ambition

5.6 We want to use the Spatial Framework to make sure that we build places that the Arc needs to support sustainable growth, and that communities will enjoy for decades and centuries to come. We know that local authorities and local communities through Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans are already working to plan for a better future for their areas, and we want to work closely with them in this process. We have committed to doing this by using the Spatial Framework, supported by the Sustainability Appraisal, to identify:

- the most sustainable locations for new homes, including identifying Opportunity Areas, to support local planning authorities to plan for this growth;
- the infrastructure – such as transport, health and education facilities, utilities and digital – needed to support sustainable growth in those locations, and the key locations for strategic infrastructure; and
- locations to protect and improve the environmental as part of sustainable growth and development.

5.7 We will also seek to set policies to enable:

- new development to come forward at the scale and speed needed, in sustainable locations, with a focus on brownfield redevelopment;
- new development to support the recovery of nature, new green space that can be accessed by all, resilience to climate change, and protection of highly valued existing green space; and
- housing needs to be met in full, including much-needed affordable housing.

5.8 In parallel to the development of the Spatial Framework, the government is also exploring options to speed up new housing and infrastructure development in the Arc to help meet its ambitions, where evidence supports it. This includes examining (and where appropriate, developing) the case for new and/or expanded settlements in the Arc, including options informed by possible East West Rail stations between Bedford and Cambridge and growth options at Cambridge itself. The government will undertake additional Arc consultations on any specific proposals for such options as appropriate. The Spatial Framework will guide the future growth of the Arc to 2050, including on the question of new housing and infrastructure and will, as part of its development, take into

consideration any significant new housing and infrastructure coming forward to meet the Arc's ambition.

What have you told us so far

5.9 We want to understand different views about place-making in the Arc to help us form our vision. The first part of this was initial conversations in March, including with some local residents, community and campaign groups, local authorities, and businesses. What we were told helped us to develop our approach to engagement and understand some of the key issues and questions for this consultation. The following summarises some of the themes that came from these discussions.

5.10 People seem to agree on some of the good things about the Arc's places today:

- green space, and play and sports facilities are highly valued;
- historic and beautiful buildings are highly valued by local residents; and
- some people welcome new homes and investment in their towns and villages.

5.11 And there are some common concerns:

- there are worries about a lack of affordable housing and rising house prices;
- some residents are concerned about pressures from housing developments on existing infrastructure, particularly in rural areas;
- there is some concern about how new development would connect with existing places; and
- some expressed concerns that towns and cities would receive most of the development focus with rural areas being left behind.

5.12 Meanwhile, we heard a range of views about what the Spatial Framework could do to support place-making in all parts of the Arc, including that:

- well-being, health and quality of life should be addressed in the Spatial Framework;
- sustainability and community living are highly valued; and
- we should take a joined-up approach to place-making and planning.

5.13 This has given us a sense of some of the issues and questions we should cover in this consultation. Now we want to hear from you to help us create a vision for place-making in the Arc.

What do you think?

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?

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?

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?

6. Our commitment to engaging communities

Why do we want to engage?

- 6.1 We want to ensure the Spatial Framework is built on a vision shared with communities it will serve.** We intend to undertake effective, innovative and people-focused consultation with those that live and work in the Arc, so that everyone – particularly those who are normally under-represented in consultations of this kind – has a chance to have their say about the Spatial Framework.
- 6.2 We aim to conduct wide and meaningful engagement throughout this process to give as many people as possible the opportunity to influence how the Spatial Framework develops.** To achieve this, we will need to work closely with stakeholders including local authorities, businesses, social enterprises, Local Enterprise Partnerships, sub-national transport bodies and academia to reach and capture the widest possible range of views possible.

Our commitment to you

- 6.3 We want to deliver an exemplary programme of engagement throughout this two-year process.** We are committed to doing this in a way that is:

- **collaborative** – we will work with stakeholders, including local councils, businesses and universities to build on local relationships and foster meaningful engagement;
- **adaptable** – we will adopt an engagement strategy which is clear and consistent yet retains sufficient flexibility to meet our delivery milestones;
- **integrated** – we will adopt a multi-method engagement approach so that we can reach the right people in the right way throughout the process;
- **inclusive** – our engagement approach will prioritise inclusivity. We strive to go beyond traditional channels of engagement and take individual needs into account; and
- **digital-first** – we will make better use of digital tools to support better, more accessible policy engagement.

What have we done so far?

6.4 At each stage of our work so far, we have been informed by local partners:

- **in 2019, we published a joint declaration²³ between government and local partners²⁴**, where we agreed to work collaboratively in realising the Arc's potential and exploring options for long-term planning in the Arc. These relationships mean that we are not starting from scratch and have an opportunity to build on existing knowledge and evidence. Continued engagement with this now evolved original group of local partners, many of whom are represented on the Arc Leaders Group, is important to ensuring the Spatial Framework supports long-term sustainable growth for the Arc, and is as effective as possible;
- **in February 2021, we formally launched the process to develop the Spatial Framework¹**. We made a commitment to consulting and engaging three times during that process, and to do so in a way that is open, collaborative, digital and inclusive; and
- **in early 2021, to prepare for this consultation, we held some initial conversations** with around 120 residents and representatives of businesses, local authorities, charities and campaign groups. We used these sessions to test our approach to consultation, including by hearing initial views on priorities for the future, and gathering views on effective ways to engage with different groups. We hope to publish a summary of the feedback from this early engagement in the near future for your information. All the feedback received will be further considered in combination with this public consultation.

6.5 The government has also invested in the development of a Local Natural Capital Plan¹¹ for the Arc. Over the last 18 months, we have worked with local partners to understand the area's environment, which has identified the unique features, pressures and opportunities to develop and invest in nature.

²³ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, The Oxford-Cambridge Arc: Government ambition and joint declaration between Government and local partners, March 2019. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/Government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/799993/OxCam_Arc_Ambition.pdf

²⁴ This joint declaration has been agreed between the Government, local authorities across the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, the Arc's four Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), and England's Economic Heartland.

How will our engagement be structured?

6.6 This consultation is the first phase of formal public consultation taking place in summer 2021. Two further phases of consultation will follow on the Spatial Framework, that will be supported by ongoing engagement with local partners. The precise timing of phases on the Spatial Framework will be subject to the outcome of the Sustainability Appraisal process, but are intended to be as per the following indicative phasing:

- **Vision: 12-week public consultation to develop a vision for the Arc.**
- **Towards a Spatial Framework: publication of an interim document setting out options for policy and launch of second public consultation.** Using the vision as a foundation, we will develop options for delivering its objectives. The options will be based on feedback from engagement, initial evidence gathering and analysis. It is highly likely that these options will consider strategic growth locations and distribution of growth. We hope to publish this, including a Sustainable Appraisal 'Issues and Options' Report, for public consultation in spring 2022 to give everyone a chance to have their say.
- **Draft Spatial Framework: publication of the draft Spatial Framework alongside third public consultation.** To finalise the Spatial Framework, we will consider responses to the previous consultation, and undertake further spatial analysis, option testing, impact assessments and engagement. We hope to publish the draft Spatial Framework with its Sustainability Appraisal Environmental Report, for consultation in autumn 2022, with implementation of the final framework shortly after.

Engagement roadmap

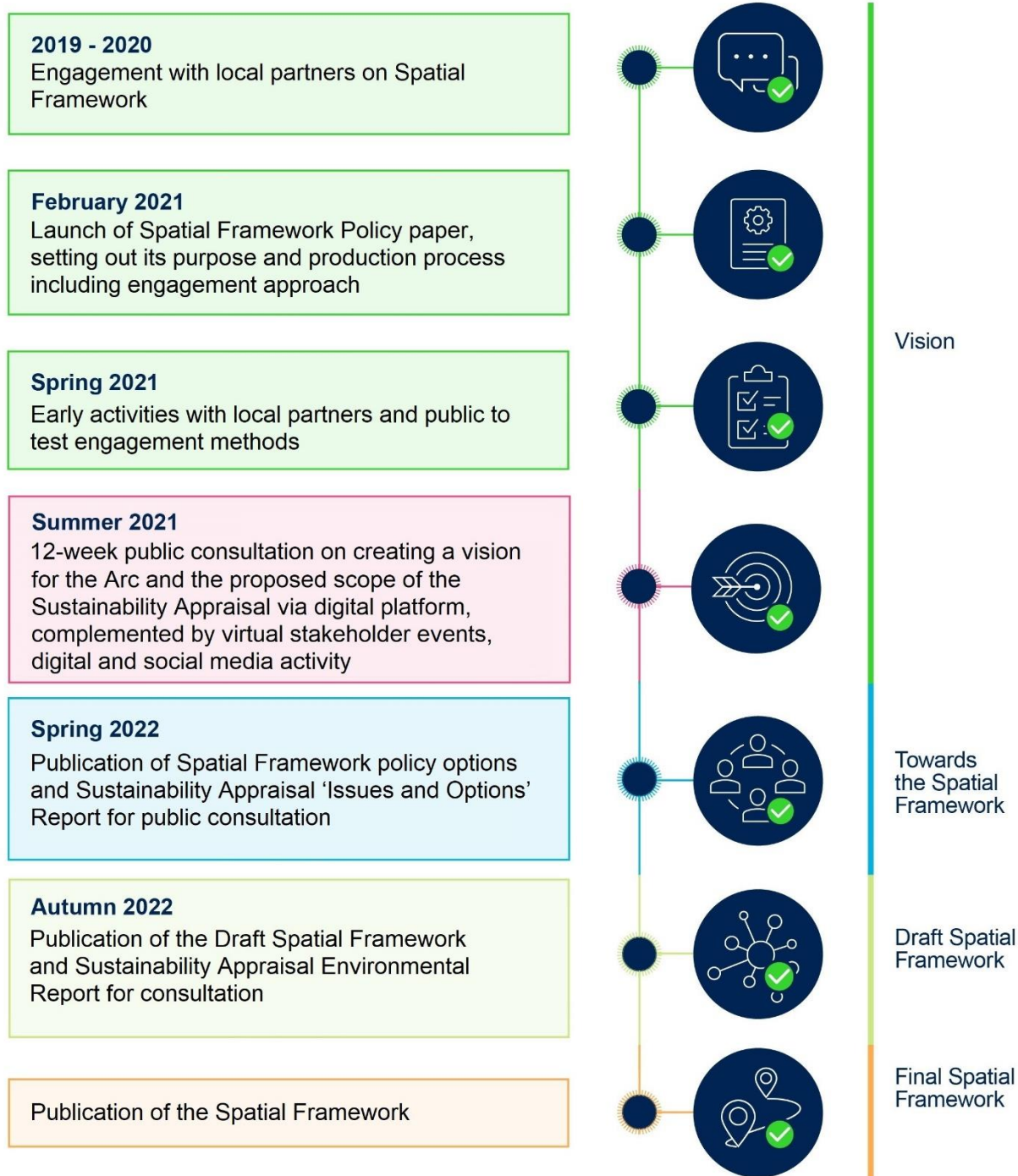


Figure 6.1 – Indicative timeline for developing the Spatial Framework

Have your say

- 6.7** The development of the Spatial Framework will be informed through, and will benefit from, consultation with who live, work and have an interest in the Arc. In this consultation we are inviting the public to help us create a vision for the area to 2050 and help set the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal. This consultation is open to everyone and all views are important to us. There will be further opportunities for people to have their say. This is the first of three planned consultations on the Spatial Framework. If you would like to be kept updated on the progress of the Spatial Framework and other government-led Arc proposals, you can sign up to the mailing list at the [GOV.UK policy webpage](#).

What do you think?

1. How can government engage the public better?

[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?

7. Our commitment to data, evidence and digital tools

Introduction

- 7.1 We are building an evidence base so that the Spatial Framework can be based on the latest and most reliable data and analysis available.** This will help us to support sustainable growth, as it will allow us to fully understand and assess the possible environmental, economic and social impact of different policies and spatial options. This will not happen overnight – we will need to work to develop our evidence base over the course of creating the Spatial Framework. We also want to leave a positive legacy of data and evidence for future planning and policy-making in the Arc.
- 7.2 We want everyone to have access to our evidence base, and we will use the latest digital technology to make this possible.** We believe that this will give us an opportunity to create a lasting resource for communities, local authorities and businesses in the Arc, so that everyone has greater access to better data and evidence. There are 18 local planning authorities, eight transport planning authorities, four Local Enterprise Partnerships and one sub-national transport body in the Arc – this is a rare opportunity to improve the way data and evidence is collected and used within and between public and private sector organisations over a wide area.
- 7.3 We want your views on our approach to using evidence and data to support the development of the Spatial Framework,** so that we can create digital tools that can genuinely support better access and use of data and evidence across the Arc and government’s Arc-related work, as we set out in the [‘Planning for the Future’](#) consultation.

Our commitment

- 7.4** We are committed to creating a robust evidence base that is easily accessible because:

- **the planning system could make better use of interactive digital services and tools.** We need to go further to realise our ambition for use of data and digital tools in the Arc. By making processes more reliant on data rather than documents, engagement with planning could become easier;
- **at the moment, evidence can vary and be difficult to access, limiting its use and the impact that it can have;** and
- **the best way to build good services is to understand the needs of everyone that will have access to them.** We will start small with samples and improve them over the course of developing the Spatial Framework, so that we can leave a positive legacy for communities and stakeholders in the Arc.

7.5 Our approach will be based on the following principles:

- **open access** - we will promote open data, open standards and open source models, while remaining consistent with the principles of data security;
- **quality** - we will underpin evidence with high-quality, verifiable and reliable data, use the best analytical methods and ensure high quality of presentation of outputs;
- **transparency** - we will use transparent approaches to handling data and evidence to make the options, benefits and impacts of the Framework more clear;
- **accessibility** - we will ensure access to evidence and data that supports the Framework and promote user-friendly data visualisations available to all;
- **collaboration** - we will work across central government departments, local government and organisations to break down barriers and align work in the Arc; and
- **add value** - we will start with end-users' needs by making sure that data can be easily found, interpreted, and reused.

7.6 Our commitment is to:

- **develop a reliable and complete evidence base** to support the Framework and provide the basis for strategic cross-boundary planning in the Arc;
- **use the latest digital technology and data analytics to develop the evidence base** for the Spatial Framework. We will undertake reliable spatial analysis, option testing and assessment of impacts to inform policy set by the Framework;
- **support development of an open source, digital platform for data and evidence to support collaboration between government, businesses, local councils and communities in decision-making.** We will work with local partners to create an accessible digital platform for data used to support the Spatial Framework, and easy-to-use tools so that people – including the public and businesses – can engage meaningfully in the process; and
- **create a visual, interactive and map-based Spatial Framework for public engagement.** The Framework will be carefully designed with the user in mind and to ensure that it is available in different formats, on different devices, and can be accessed and understood by all.

Evidence base

- 7.7** The Framework will be based on a reliable, consistent and complete evidence base, which we will make publicly available through a digital platform that we intend to create. This will include a summary of responses (anonymised where appropriate as to individuals) to at least the three planned consultations, including this one. This is going to be a process that develops over the course of the Spatial Framework to ensure that our evidence base is appropriate to inform policy-making.
- 7.8** We recognise and appreciate the significant work that has already been undertaken by our local partners in the Arc to develop an evidence base to support planning. In order to avoid duplication, we will review the evidence base that has been developed to date and seek to build on and use the most relevant, appropriate, up-to-date and reliable existing analysis, which could be used to inform how the Spatial Framework is developed and delivered.

What do you think?

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?

8. How we will monitor and deliver the Framework

Delivery and funding

Introduction

8.1 The Spatial Framework will set the direction for sustainable growth in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc to 2050.

8.2 This is why we will work across government and with local partners to create plans to deliver the identified investment needs set out in the Spatial Framework. To do this we will develop:

- **a Spatial Framework delivery plan** that will identify priority investments needed for sustainable economic growth in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc;
- **an infrastructure delivery plan** that will set out the Arc's long-term infrastructure needs, phasing and costs; and
- **strategies and action plans across the Spatial Framework's thematic pillars**, which will focus on practical measures government, local authorities and partners can take to improve delivery in the Arc.

8.3 We want your views on how the Spatial Framework can be delivered. In this section, we set out:

- our approach to delivery and funding; and
- questions on how you think we should deliver the Spatial Framework.

Our approach to delivery and funding

8.4 The Spatial Framework will be supported by evidence across our four thematic pillars to achieve sustainable long-term growth for the Arc. The Spatial Framework will enable a coordinated cross-boundary approach to support its delivery and investment across the Arc.

8.5 Therefore, we intend to:

- assess the viability of any proposed policies in the Spatial Framework, to make sure that these costs do not risk its deliverability;
- identify when and where the demand for infrastructure arises within the Arc, based on future options for sustainable growth;
- identify priority schemes at a strategic level across transport, utilities, social infrastructure, environment and housing in the Arc beyond those already committed to, which are required to support the Arc's long-term ambition for economic growth;
- propose potential investment opportunities, with indicative timescales and an understanding of how these will interact with already committed schemes and phasing;
- identify potential delivery mechanisms for the investment priorities within the Spatial Framework. For example, the government is considering setting up a new Arc Growth Body¹⁷. This provides an opportunity to also consider the role the body could potentially play in driving forward the Arc's investment priorities identified in the Spatial Framework; and
- work with stakeholders to understand how the existing regulatory framework can accommodate the Spatial Framework's ambition for energy and water infrastructure, which currently sits outside the remit of government spending.

What do you think?

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?

Monitoring and evaluation

Introduction

8.6 We want the Spatial Framework to support lasting improvements to places across the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.

8.7 We will develop a strong evidence base, and assess the cumulative effects of policies, to help deliver better outcomes for communities and places across the Arc. We know we will see significant economic, environmental and social change in the

area over the coming years and decades. As those changes take place, they will have different impacts on different communities and places. We also know that policies may not have the impact we had originally intended.

8.8 As we try to drive more sustainable outcomes and support economic growth in the Arc, it is vital that we know what impact our policies are having.

8.9 We will make sure that policies in the Spatial Framework are fit for purpose by monitoring and evaluating their impacts. We will make sure we make better use of data and digital tools to do this, and to do it in an open and transparent way so that communities, local authorities and employers can see what is happening. We also want this approach to help local planning authorities to deliver their Local Plans, and to support investment and growth. In this section, we want your views on how we can do this most effectively.

Our commitment to monitoring and evaluation

8.10 We believe that:

- setting up a robust monitoring and evaluation framework is important for assessing the effectiveness of the Spatial Framework and its policies, and the significant effects identified through the Sustainability Appraisal;
- monitoring and evaluation are crucial to keeping the Spatial Framework under review, identifying areas where objectives aren't being met, unforeseen adverse effects and enabling changes to policy, development management and/or other appropriate action where required; and
- the monitoring and evaluation process should be an effective way to gather evidence for future policy related to the Spatial Framework, support development management decisions and help stakeholders understand the purpose of planning in the area.

8.11 Our commitment is to ensure arrangements are in place to:

- publish regular monitoring and evaluation reports to provide a clear picture of the Spatial Framework's effectiveness. We will look to:
 - set up a performance framework to monitor and evaluate progress towards the delivery of the Spatial Framework's policies;
 - monitor and evaluate the environmental, social and economic impacts of the Spatial Framework's policies such as significant effects and unforeseen adverse effects identified through the Sustainability Appraisal, planning performance, and infrastructure delivery; and
 - create an interactive and accessible dashboard on the digital platform to monitor policy effectiveness against the Framework's objectives.

What do you think?

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?

GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
8 SEPTEMBER 2021	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Director of Law and Governance	
Contact Officer(s):	David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 01733 384628

MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM: Director of Law and Governance	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Considers the responses from Cabinet Members and Officers to recommendations made at previous meetings as attached in Appendix 1 to the report and provides feedback including whether further monitoring of each recommendation is required. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee agreed at a meeting held on 28 June 2017 that a report be provided at each meeting to note the outcome of any recommendations made at the previous meeting held thereby providing an opportunity for the Committee to request further monitoring of the recommendation should this be required.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The report enables the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee to monitor and track progress of recommendations made to the Executive or Officers at previous meetings.

2.2 This report is for the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. *Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph 3.3:*

The Scrutiny Committees will:

- (a) *Review and scrutinise the Executive, Committee and officer decisions and performance in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;*
- (b) *Review and scrutinise the Council's performance in meeting the aims of its policies and performance targets and/or particular service areas;*
- (c) *Question Members of the Executive, Committees and senior officers about their decisions and performance of the Council, both generally and in relation to particular decisions or projects;*
- (d) *Make recommendations to the Executive and the Council as a result of the scrutiny process.*

3. **TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. **BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Appendix 1 of the report sets out the recommendations made to Cabinet Members or Officers at previous meetings of the Scrutiny Committee. It also contains summaries of any action taken by Cabinet Members or Officers in response to the recommendations.
- 4.2 The progress status for each recommendation is indicated and if the Scrutiny Committee confirms acceptance of the items marked as completed they will be removed from the list. In cases where action on the recommendation is outstanding or the Committee does not accept the matter has been adequately completed it will be kept on the list and reported back to the next meeting of the Committee. It will remain on the list until such time as the Committee accepts the recommendation as completed.

5. **ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

- 5.1 Timelier monitoring of recommendations made will assist the Scrutiny Committee in assessing the impact and consequence of the recommendations.

6. **REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 6.1 To assist the Committee in assessing the impact and consequence of recommendations made at previous meetings.

7. **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 7.1 Minutes of the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny meeting held on 7 July 2021.
- 7.2 Minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 11 November 2020.

8. **APPENDICES**

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Recommendation Monitoring Report

RECOMMENDATION MONITORING REPORT 2021/22

107

Meeting date Recommendations Made	Portfolio Holder / Directorate Responsible	Agenda Item Title	Recommendation Made	Action Taken	Progress Status
7 JULY 2021	Climate Change Working Group / Place and Economy	TO INFORM STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INTIAL REPORT	To consider the capacity of Peterborough City Council to play its full part in developing and implementing an area wide action plan with a view to making recommendations regarding officers' skills and availability.	Due to be considered by a meeting of the Climate Change Working Group in October 2021, in line with the publication of the final report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate.	Ongoing
7 JULY 2021	Climate Change Working Group / Place and Economy	TO INFORM STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INTIAL REPORT	Alongside a Carbon Management action plan, the City will need an emergency resilience and adaptation plan which considers in detail and addresses the impact of climate change our community and considers the impact on our most vulnerable communities.	Due to be considered by a meeting of the Climate Change Working Group in October 2021, in line with the publication of the final report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate.	Ongoing
7 JULY 2021	Climate Change Working Group / Place and Economy	TO INFORM STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INTIAL REPORT	Recommend engagement with tenant farmers and partner landowners at an early stage, e.g., to encourage non-traditional use of land.	Due to be considered by a meeting of the Climate Change Working Group in October 2021, in line with the publication of the final report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate.	Ongoing
7 JULY 2021	Climate Change	TO INFORM	Recommend that Peterborough	Due to be considered by	Ongoing

	Working Group / Place and Economy	STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INTIAL REPORT	City Council works with the Combined Authority to transform the road network to favour pedestrians and cyclists.	a meeting of the Climate Change Working Group in October 2021, in line with the publication of the final report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate.	
7 JULY 2021	Councillor Simons, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment	TO INFORM STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INTIAL REPORT	Review any decisions that might discourage the use of Brown Bins in Peterborough.	Recommendation accepted by the Cabinet Member. Response: "We are currently seeing sign-ups to the garden waste service increase steadily with the new service going live WC / the 2nd of August, sign- ups are currently at 1934 compared to 21271 at the end of last years scheme. We tend to see subscriptions continue throughout the season so would hope to be on par with last year"	Ongoing
7 JULY 2021	Councillor Simons, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment	TO INFORM STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT	Considers the use of electric waste collection vehicles, as has been achieved in Oxford.	Recommendation accepted by the Cabinet Member. Response: "The electric vehicles that were used in Oxford	Ongoing

		COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INITIAL REPORT		have been trialed in Peterborough, unfortunately, you can not get an electric RCV that has a food pod on at present due to the batteries being placed where the pods go. We require vehicles with food pods to allow us to carry on delivering the weekly food waste service”	
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RECOMMENDATION MONITORING REPORT 2020/21

Meeting date Recommendations Made	Portfolio Holder / Directorate Responsible	Agenda Item Title	Recommendation Made	Action Taken	Progress Status
11 NOVEMBER 2020 - Joint Scrutiny of the Budget	Cllr Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment James Collingridge – Head of Environmental Partnerships Richard Pearn – Head of Waste, Resources and Energy	MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2021/22 TO 2023/24 PHASE ONE	The Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees RESOLVED to recommend that the proposals for the increase in fees for the brown bin waste collection be reviewed and a cost benefit analysis be completed with a view to removing the fees altogether, the outcome of which to be provided to the Committee.	Waste slide deck received on 4 December 2020 and sent out to Committee on 4 December by D Beauchamp	Ongoing

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GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
8 SEPTEMBER 2021	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Interim Director of Law and Governance		
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cabinet Member for Resources		
Contact Officer(s):	David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 01733 384628	

FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Considers the current Forward Plan of Executive Decisions and identifies any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme or request further information. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The report is presented to the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the Terms of Reference as set out in section 2.2 of the report.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 This is a regular report to the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee outlining the content of the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions.

2.2 This report is for the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph 3.3:

The Scrutiny Committees will:

(f) Hold the Executive to account for the discharge of functions in the following ways:

ii) By scrutinising Key Decisions which the Executive is planning to take, as set out in the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions;

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 The latest version of the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions is attached at Appendix 1. The

Forward Plan contains those Executive Decisions which the Leader of the Council believes that the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Member(s) can take and any new key decisions to be taken after 27 September 2021.

4.2 The information in the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions provides the Committee with the opportunity of considering whether it wishes to seek to influence any of these executive decisions, or to request further information.

4.3 If the Committee wished to examine any of the executive decisions, consideration would need to be given as to how this could be accommodated within the work programme.

4.4 As the Forward Plan is published fortnightly any version of the Forward Plan published after dispatch of this agenda will be tabled at the meeting.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 Details of any consultation on individual decisions are contained within the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 After consideration of the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions the Committee may request further information on any Executive Decision that falls within the remit of the Committee.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 The report presented allows the Committee to fulfil the requirement to scrutinise Key Decisions which the Executive is planning to take, as set out in the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions in accordance with their terms of reference as set out in Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph 3.3.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 N/A

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

9.1 N/A

Legal Implications

9.2 N/A

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 None

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 – Forward Plan of Executive Decisions

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

PUBLISHED: 27 AUGUST 2021

FORWARD PLAN

PART 1 – KEY DECISIONS

In the period commencing 28 clear days after the date of publication of this Plan, Peterborough City Council's Executive intends to take 'key decisions' on the issues set out below in **Part 1**. Key decisions relate to those executive decisions which are likely to result in the Council spending or saving money in excess of £500,000 and/or have a significant impact on two or more wards in Peterborough.

If the decision is to be taken by an individual Cabinet Member, the name of the Cabinet Member is shown against the decision, in addition to details of the Councillor's portfolio. If the decision is to be taken by the Cabinet, this too is shown against the decision and its members are as listed below:

Cllr Fitzgerald (Leader of the Council), Cllr Steve Allen (Deputy Leader); Cllr Ayres; Cllr Cereste; Cllr Hiller; Cllr Walsh; Cllr Coles and Cllr Simons.

This Plan should be seen as an outline of the proposed decisions for the forthcoming month and it will be updated on a fortnightly basis to reflect new key-decisions. Each new Plan supersedes the previous Plan and items may be carried over into forthcoming Plans. Any questions on specific issues included on the Plan should be included on the form which appears at the back of the Plan and submitted to philippa.turvey@peterborough.gov.uk, Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager, Legal and Governance Department, Town Hall, Bridge Street, PE1 1HG (fax 08702 388039). Alternatively, you can submit your views via e-mail to or by telephone on 01733 452460. For each decision a public report will be available from the Democratic Services Team one week before the decision is taken.

PART 2 – NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE DECISION IN PRIVATE

Whilst the majority of the Executive's business at the Cabinet meetings listed in this Plan will be open to the public and media organisations to attend, there will be some business to be considered that contains, for example, confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information. In these circumstances the meeting may be held in private, and on the rare occasion this applies, notice will be given within **Part 2** of this document, 'notice of intention to hold meeting in private'. A further formal notice of the intention to hold the meeting, or part of it, in private, will also be given 28 clear days in advance of any private meeting in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Council invites members of the public to attend any of the meetings at which these decisions will be discussed (unless a notice of intention to hold the meeting in private has been given).

PART 3 – NOTIFICATION OF NON-KEY DECISIONS

For complete transparency relating to the work of the Executive, this Plan also includes an overview of non-key decisions to be taken by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members, these decisions are listed at **Part 3** and will be updated on a weekly basis.

You are entitled to view any documents listed on the Plan, or obtain extracts from any documents listed or subsequently submitted to the decision maker prior to the decision being made, subject to any restrictions on disclosure. There is no charge for viewing the documents, although charges may be made for photocopying or postage. Documents listed on the notice and relevant documents subsequently being submitted can be requested from Philippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager, Legal and Governance Department, Town Hall, Bridge Street, PE1 1HG (fax 08702 388038), e-mail to philippa.turvey@peterborough.gov.uk or by telephone on 01733 452460.

All decisions will be posted on the Council's website: www.peterborough.gov.uk/executivedecisions. If you wish to make comments or representations regarding the 'key decisions' outlined in this Plan, please submit them to the Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager using the form attached. For your information, the contact details for the Council's various service departments are incorporated within this Plan.

PART 1 – FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

KEY DECISIONS FROM 27 SEPTEMBER 2021

<i>KEY DECISION REQUIRED</i>	<i>DECISION MAKER</i>	<i>DATE DECISION EXPECTED</i>	<i>RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</i>	<i>WARD</i>	<i>CONSULTATION</i>	<i>CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS</i>	<i>DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION</i>
None.							

PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED KEY DECISIONS

KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
<p>1. Disposal of freehold in Centre of the City - KEY/12JUN18/01 To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration to sell the property</p> <p>116</p>	<p>Councillor Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>Central</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p>	<p>Peter Carpenter, Acting Corporate Director, Resources Tel: 07920160122 Email: Peter.carpenter@pe terborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p> <p>The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</p>

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<p>2. Adoption of the “Dynamic Purchasing System” (DPS) procedure for Public Health contracts with Primary Care providers – KEY/10DEC18/01 To seek the approval to adopt the “Dynamic Purchasing System” (DPS) procedure for contracts with Primary Care providers for the duration of up to five years. The proposals have been approved by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Joint Commissioning Board.</p>	<p>Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health & Public Health</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Val Thomas, Consultant in Public Health Val.Thomas@cambridgeshire.gov.uk 01223 703264/ 07884 183374</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>

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<p>3. Vehicle removal for Parking contravention – KEY/15APR19/02 To ask the Cabinet Member to approve the policy to implement a scheme to remove vehicles of persistent offenders in breach of parking restrictions in the City and to appoint the Local Authority Trading Company to act as the authorised agent of the policy.</p>	<p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Details of any consultation to be decided.</p> <p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Adam Payton, PES Senior Officer, Parking Lead, 01733 452314 adam.payton@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>Prevention and Enforcement Service Vehicle Removal For Parking Contraventions Policy and Guidance</p>
<p>4. Contract for remedial works by PCC to the Stanground Bypass – KEY/2SEP19/02 To approve works to the Stanground bypass and authorise the associated package of work to be issued to Skanska Construction UK Limited under the Council's existing agreement with SKANSKA dated 18th September 2013 (the Highways Services Agreement).</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>Stanground South and Hargate and Hempsted</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p> <p>Standard consultation for highway schemes.</p>	<p>Charlotte Palmer, Group Manager – Transport and Environment, charlotte.palmer@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>To be determined.</p>

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119	<p>5. Approval of funding for the provision of accommodation to reduce homelessness KEY/14OCT19/01 – Following Cabinet Decision JAN18/CAB/18 this is a new project to increase the supply of housing and address the demand for accommodation resulting from the increase in homelessness.</p>	<p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p> <p>The issues associated with homelessness in Peterborough have been subject to significant discussion in various forums, including the Council's Adults and Communities Scrutiny, Cabinet and Full Council</p>	<p>Peter Carpenter, Acting Corporate Director of Resources Email: peter.carpenter@peterborough.gov.uk Tel: 01733 452520</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published. The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</p>
	<p>6. Disposal of land at 7-23 London Road, Peterborough - KEY/06JAN20/01 Approval to dispose of surplus land to a registered provider for redevelopment to social housing The disposal will be conditional on a successful planning consent; the application has yet to be made.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>Central</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Tristram Hill, Strategic Asset Manager, Tel: 07849 079787 Email: tristram.hill@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p> <p>There will be an exempt annex with details of the commercial transaction.</p>

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7.	<p>The disposal of former playing fields at Angus Court, Westown, Peterborough - KEY/06JAN20/02</p> <p>Approval to dispose of former playing fields and Angus Court</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>West</p>	<p>A number of consultation events for local residents have been held for both the proposed disposal of land at Angus Court and the creation of new facilities at Thorpe Lea Meadows. Planning approval was secured for the new facilities at Thorpe Lea Meadows. These works are now completed. Consultation and information events to discuss the Council's plans to dispose of land at Angus Court and the creation of a new public play area, were held at West Town Academy took place on 1 November 2018 and 7 March 2019</p>	<p>Tristram Hill, Strategic Asset Manager, Tel: 07849 079787 Email: tristram.hill@peteborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>

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<p>8. Re-implementation of the Millfield, New England, Eastfield and Embankment Public Space Protection Order – KEY/11MAY20/01 The current PSPO for Millfield, New England, Eastfield and Embankment expires in July 2020. Orders can be extended for a further 3 years provided that they are reviewed and extended prior to the order expiring. This decision request will consider the enforcement levels of the current order carried out in the last 3 years, current crime and anti-social behaviour levels for the order area and the outcomes of the consultation with the public and interested parties.</p>	<p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Communities Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>Central, North, Park and East Wards</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders. A consultation will be carried out with the Police & Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable, Ward Councillors, Key Interested Parties directly. A 28 day public consultation will be made available to the public and all other interested parties online on the council's website, with hard copies available on request.</p>	<p>Laura Kelsey, Senior Problem Solving Officer, T: 01733 453563 laura.kelsey@pet-erborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>

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9. Acquisition of a freehold commercial property in Peterborough City Centre – KEY/8JUN20/03 - Acquisition of a freehold property for a community hub.	Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments	August 2021	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.	Tristram Hill, Strategic Asset Manager, Tel: 07849 079787 Email: tristram.hill@peterborough.gov	The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
10. Joint Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council Transport Services DPS - KEY/7DEC20/01 - Joint Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council Transport Services DPS for all Education and social care transport procurement.	Councillor Lynne Ayres, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Education, Skills and University	August 2021	Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders. Agreed at RIT Board and Joint Commissioning Board	Bryony Wolstenholme - Passenger Transport Operations Tel: 01733 317453 Email: bryony.wolstenholme@peterborough.gov.uk	Joint Commissioning Board decisions 25.08.2020/ RIT Board 19.02.2020

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11.	<p>Variation to the Council's Operational Services Agreement (Peterborough Serco Strategic Partnership Contract): Modification to scope of the PSSP Contract - KEY/7DEC20/02 - Variation to the Council's Operational Services Agreement (Peterborough Serco Strategic Partnership Contract): Modification to scope of the PSSP Contract - Business Transformation & Strategic Improvement Service Support element</p>	<p>Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Christ Yates, Finance, 01733 452527, chris.yates@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>
12.	<p>Mechanism selected for the supply of agency workers – KEY/21DEC20/02 – Options appraisal being undertaken for the Council's future supply of agency workers beyond expiry of the current contracts. This decision recommends the option that should be taken forward in the long term.</p>	<p>Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Legal, procurement, market analysis.</p>	<p>Peter Carpenter, Acting Corporate Director, Resources Tel: 07920160122 Email: Peter.carpenter@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>

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<p>13. Procurement of 22 one bedroom flats for the accommodation of people who have previously been rough-sleepers – KEY/04JAN21/01 - The decision is to approve the use of £625K capital grant towards the purchase of 22 one bedroom flats. There is a further decision to approve borrowing of up to £1,675,000 from Public Works Loan Board towards the purchase of the 22 one bedroom flats.</p> <p>124</p>	<p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Consultation with MHCLG and Homes England</p>	<p>Mohamed Hussein Interim Director of Housing: Needs and Supply, Tel:07866 474953, Email: mohamed.hussein@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>

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14.	<p>Extension of the Delivery of Leisure and Cultural Services – KEY/15MAR21/02</p> <p>Extension of the delivery of Cultural Services by City Culture Peterborough, and Leisure Services by Peterborough Limited for three years to rationalise and reorganise service delivery in light of the effects of COVID-19. The 3-year extension will give time to properly reorganise, and allow time for the culture and leisure sectors to rebuild in time for future delivery options to be explored from 2024, including direct provision, working with partners, the establishment of a cooperative delivery model, or a public tender exercise..</p>	<p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Communities Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p>	<p>Pete Carpenter, Corporate Director Resources, 01733 452520, Peter.Carpenter@Peterborough.Gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published</p>

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<p>15. Bretton Court Redevelopment Scheme – KEY/15MAR21/04 1. Approve the surrender of the Council's lease for the ground floor retail units of Bretton Court dated 28th June 2019, subject to the conditions to set out below and to be formalised within the Deed of Surrender</p> <p>2. Approve the Council entering in to an Agreement for Lease for the ground floor retail units of the new development scheme at Bretton Court, subject to the terms set out below</p> <p>3. Subject to the terms of the above Agreement for Lease being satisfied, to approve the Council entering in to a New Lease or the ground floor retail units of the new development scheme at Bretton Court</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>Bretton</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p>	<p>Helen Harris, Senior Estates Surveyor, NPS Peterborough Email: helen.harris@nps.co.uk Tel: 01733 384534 Mobile: 07920 160181</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>

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16.	<p>Security Services Contract - KEY/29MAR21/01 Approval to enter into contract for the delivery of security services across the council estate</p>	<p>Councillor Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p>	<p>Stuart Macdonald Property Manager Tel: 07715 802 489 Email: stuart.macdonald@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>
17. 127	<p>Approval for application of Government funding for a heat network - KEY/29MAR21/02 The Peterborough Integrated Renewables Infrastructure (PIRI) is designing a low carbon heat network for Peterborough. In order to develop the designs an application for Government Grant funding will be required and this decision is to provide approval for that application.</p>	<p>Councillor Simons, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and Environment</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Consultation have been undertaken with the engaged advisors</p>	<p>Elliot Smith - Commercial Manager; Energy, Infrastructure and Regeneration. Tel: 07506536565 Email; elliott.smith@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published. The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</p>

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18.	<p>PCC Homecare Framework – KEY/12APR21/02</p> <p>The extension of the PCC Homecare Framework for 12 months, plus delegated approval. Contract states three years, plus up to seven years, in 12 months increments. Due to be extended in September 2021, for 12 months.</p>	<p>Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health & Public Health</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>West</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p>	<p>Ruth Miller, 07795046754, ruth.miller@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published</p>
19.	<p>64-68 Bridge Street, dilapidation works – KEY/26APR2021/02 –</p> <p>Approval to carry out dilapidations works at 64-68 Bridge Street, Peterborough.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>Central</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p>	<p>Tristram Hill Strategic Asset Manager Tel: 07849 079787 Email: tristram.hill@nps.co.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p> <p>The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</p>

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20.	Purchase of Home to School vehicles for Aragon Direct Services - KEY/26APR2021/07 - Purchase of Home to School vehicles for Aragon Direct Services including coaches and minibuses.	Councillor Simons, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and Environment	August 2021	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	James Collingridge, Head of Environmental Partnerships, Tel: 01733864736, Email: james.collingridge@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
21. 1/29	Fleet Procurement - KEY/26APR2021/08 - Formal tender for various Fleet vehicles for Aragon Direct Services including areas such as Street Cleansing and Property Maintenance	Councillor Simons, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and Environment	August 2021	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	James Collingridge, Head of Environmental Partnerships, Tel: 01733864736, Email: james.collingridge@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

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22.	<p>Peterborough City Council Housing Related Support Procurement / Commissioning - KEY/24MAY21/02 – To Procure / Commission Peterborough City Council Housing Related Support Services. Service redesign and change form annual Grant Agreements to longer term contracts.</p>	<p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Communities Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Soft market testing is underway. A Housing Related Support Commissioning Strategy has been agreed and has received all the relevant approvals.</p>	<p>Sharon Malia, Housing Programmes Manager Sharon Malia - Housing Programmes Manager, 01733 237771, Email: sharon.malia@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>To be submitted, Housing Related Support Commissioning Strategy for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough 2020 - 2022. Procurement / Commissioning information.</p>
23.	<p>Integrated Community Equipment Service contract award and Section 75 Agreement - KEY/24MAY21/03 - Award of contract following re-procurement of the Integrated Community Equipment Service and approval to enter into new Section 75 Agreement with C&PCCG. Contract start April 2022.</p>	<p>Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health & Public Health</p>	<p>September 2021</p>	<p>Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders. Attended all Healthwatch Partnership Boards in 2019 prior to preparation of service specification.</p>	<p>Diana Mackay, Commissioner (Adults - Early Intervention & Prevention), Tel: 07879 430819, Email: diana.mackay@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>
24.	<p>Approval to commit funding for a bespoke specialist placement for a four year period 2021-2025 – KEY/07JUN21/01 Approval to commit funding for a specialist regulated bespoke placement for a period of four years from 2021-2025.</p>	<p>Councillor Lynne Ayres, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Education, Skills and University</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Children and Education Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>Not yet known as property has yet to be located /decided upon.</p>	<p>Extensive consultation has taken place and is on going amongst all system stakeholders and interested parties.</p>	<p>Helene Carr - Head of Service Children's Commissioning.. Contact: 07904909039: email - helene.carr@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 2, Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.</p>

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25.	A1139 Safety Barrier - KEY/21JUN21/03 - To replace and upgrade the failing VRS along the central reservation and structures on the A1139.	Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments	August 2021	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Fletton, Stangr ound, Dogsth orpe and Hampt on	Social media and advanced warning signs	Leanne Bevilacqua Senior Engineer Email:leanne.bevilacqua@peterborough.gov.uk Tel: 07920 160 766	Budgets were added to the programme in 2019/20 via paper that went to CRG in December 2018 The Budget added was for 1.4m each year until 2023/24
26. 131	Community Alarm (Lifeline) Services: (i) delegation of function to Cambridgeshire County Council for new service users and; (ii) direct award for legacy service users – KEY/19JUL21/01 Community Alarm (Lifeline) Services: (i) delegation of function to Cambridgeshire County Council for new service users and; (ii) direct award for legacy service users.	Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health & Public Health	November 2021	Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Procurement, Finance, Legal, Cambridgeshire County Council	Diana Mackay, Commissioner (Early Intervention & Prevention) Adult Services, Tel: 01223 715966, Diana.Mackay@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

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132	<p>27. Additional capital funding for Localised Resurfacing – KEY/19JUL21/02</p> <p>We already have approval for 5 years for £700k per annum of capital funding for localised resurfacing in lieu of revenue budget reductions. As from April 2021 in the MTFS a further £150k reduction to revenue budget was implemented with an additional £150k of capital funding. To synchronise with the previous decision which only has 3 years remaining, this decision will be for an additional £150k of funding for localised resurfacing for 3 years (2021/22 - 2023/24).</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p>	<p>September 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>None required, part of MTFS</p>	<p>Kevin Ekins , 01733 453448, kevin.ekins@pete.rborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>
	<p>28. Culture Strategy - KEY/2AUG21/01 - To adopt the City's Culture Strategy - A culture board, steering group and smaller delivery groups will be set up to represent stakeholders from a variety of culture groups to scrutinise the actions and delivery from the strategy, its recommendations, visions and values and consultation processes.</p>	<p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities</p>	<p>December 2021</p>	<p>Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Consultation has been taking place for the past 6 months within the city, speaking with many cultural groups, faith groups, commercial organisations, culture and leisure operators, disability groups and voluntary groups.</p>	<p>Jamie Fenton - Partnership Manager, Culture, Sport and Leisure, Email: jamie.fenton@pete.rborough.gov.uk – Tel: 07976382756</p>	<p>Currently the documents are the visions and values paper and the emerging recommendations paper the consultant has produced, these will be shared with scrutiny on 05th July for an update to progress</p>

KEY DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER
133	<p>29. Active Lifestyle and Sports Strategy – Refresh – KEY/2AUG21/02 - A review of the Active Lifestyles and Sports Strategy following the impact of Covid-19 and services across the city. Since the strategy was adopted in 2018/19 there have been significant developments with the culture and leisure services being delivered by new operators, the demise of certain stakeholders and a stronger importance of working with public health so they are aligned with physical activity for residents health and wellbeing, both physically and mentally.</p>	<p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities</p>	<p>April 2022</p>	<p>Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Currently in early stages of the review, working with Cambridgeshires Active Partnership, Living Sport a outline plan of a steering group and consultation will be delivered. This will also align with Sport England’s new 10 year strategy which is being launched in 2021 along with a new funding framework.</p>	<p>Jamie Fenton - Partnership Manager, Culture, Sport and Leisure, Email: jamie.fenton@pet erborough.gov.uk – Tel: 07976382756</p>	<p>Current Strategy will be used as a good starting point, this will have statistics updated, a new steering group developed and a new way to evidence actions/outcomes by stakeholders</p>

KEY DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER
134	<p>30. Capita Revenue & Benefits Academy system migration to cloud – KEY/30AUG21/01 -</p> <p>To approve the award of contract for the procurement of ICT cloud-based services from Capita UK Limited</p> <p>through to a Framework Agreement for the period 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2026 for a value of £630,000</p>	<p>Councillor Marco Cereste, Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation</p>	<p>30 August</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Data has been gathered from the existing on premises system and been analysed by Capita to inform their proposal. Capita's proposal has been shared with internal stakeholders and Serco who process on behalf of the council. Feedback has been collated and sent back to Capita to allow them to amend their proposal and draft the contract</p>	<p>Jason Dalby, ICT Project Manager, Tel:07931 176848, Email: jason.dalby@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>Project Brief, Business Case, Specification of Requirements, Capita proposal, data protection and climate impact assessments</p>
	<p>31. Ox-Cam Arc Spatial Framework Consultation - KEY/30AUG21/03 -</p> <p>Peterborough's response to the recent consultations released for Vision for the Arc Spatial Framework and Environmental Principles</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p>	<p>October 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p>	<p>Richard Kay Head of Sustainable Growth Strategy Tel: 01733 863795 Email:Richard.kay@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published</p>

KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
<p>32. Anglia Ruskin University Peterborough - Next Steps-KEY/13SEP21/01 –</p> <p>1) Recommendation to Full Council to repurpose £1.9m PCC contribution to university enabling infrastructure in MTFS</p> <p>2) Enter the CPCA Getting Building Fund Grant agreement to provide a new surface car park supporting regional pool customer parking;</p> <p>3) In the event of LUF bid success, transfer LUF grant funding to PropCo1 and delegate authority to the Strategic Director for Place and Economy and the Corporate Director Resources and SC to complete the transfer on the receipt of funds</p> <p>4) In the event of LUF bid success, revise PCC's PropCo share allocation position up to reflect the Phase 3 LUF funding allocation</p> <p>5) In the event of LUF bid success, nominate the Corporate Director Resources as an additional PCC director to the PropCo Board with amended PCC voting rights</p> <p>6) In the event of LUF bid success, confirm PCC land transfer area for Phase 3 with accompanying independent valuation</p>	Cabinet	20 September 2021	Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	Central	CPCA and ARU have been consulted as university programme partners, otherwise internal stakeholders only	Emma Gee, Assistant Director, Growth & Regeneration, Tel: 07983 345184, Email: emma.gee@pet erborough.gov.u k	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

PART 2 – NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE DECISIONS IN PRIVATE

KEY DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN IN PRIVATE

<i>KEY DECISION REQUIRED</i>	<i>DECISION MAKER</i>	<i>DATE DECISION EXPECTED</i>	<i>RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</i>	<i>WARD</i>	<i>CONSULTATION</i>	<i>CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS</i>	<i>DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER</i>
None.							

PART 3 – NOTIFICATION OF NON-KEY DECISIONS

NON-KEY DECISIONS							
<i>DECISION REQUIRED</i>	<i>DECISION MAKER</i>	<i>DATE DECISION EXPECTED</i>	<i>RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</i>	<i>WARD</i>	<i>CONSULTATION</i>	<i>CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS</i>	<i>DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION</i>
None.							

PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED DECISIONS

<i>DECISION REQUIRED</i>		<i>DECISION MAKER</i>	<i>DATE DECISION EXPECTED</i>	<i>RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</i>	<i>WARD</i>	<i>CONSULTATION</i>	<i>CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS</i>	<i>DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION</i>
138	<p>1. Disposal of former Barnack Primary School caretaker house - Delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration to dispose of the property.</p>	<p>Councillor Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Stuart Macdonald, Property Manager. Tel: 07715 802 489. Email: stuart.macdonald@peterborough.gov.uk Bill Tilah (Bill.Tilah@nps.co.uk)</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p> <p>The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</p>

DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
139	<p>2. Approval of the leasehold disposal of a brownfield site to a care provider – A site has been found for a care home and the Council are currently looking into a leasehold disposal to a care provider who will build a care facility and then contract to provide services to the Council.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>Park Ward</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p> <p>A forum has been set up by the Combined Authority involving representatives from finance, legal, property and social care.</p>	<p>Tristram Hill - Strategic Asset Manager, 07849 079787, tristram.hill@nps.co.uk</p>	<p>The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</p>
	<p>3. Modern Slavery Statement To review and agree for publication an updated Statement in compliance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015.</p>	<p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Communities Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All wards</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Rob Hill, Assistant Director: Public Protection, rob.hill@peterborough.gov.uk</p> <p>Amy Brown, Senior Lawyer and Deputy Monitoring Officer, Amy.brown@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>

DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
4.	Leisure Facility Options Appraisal - Cabinet Member approval to proceed with the development of a business case to test the viability of a new leisure facility in the city	Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities	August 2021	Communities Scrutiny Committee	N/A	None at this stage	Emma Gee Email: emma.gee@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
<p>5. Variation to the delegation agreement between Peterborough City Council (PCC) and Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) regarding the delivery of the Healthy Child Programme (HCP) across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire</p> <p>This decision seeks authorisation to vary the Delegation and Partnering agreement to account for the increase in the value of PCC financial contributions to CCC in respect of the Agenda for Change pay increase. Agenda for Change is a nationally agreed UK-wide package of pay, terms and conditions for NHS staff. Under this deal, which came into effect in 2018, was the agreement for all NHS staff employed at the top pay points at bands 2-8c were to receive a 6.5% cumulative pay increase over a 3 year period.</p>	<p>Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health & Public Health</p>	<p>August 2021</p>	<p>Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p>	<p>Amy Hall, Children's Public Health Commissioning Manager, 07583040529</p>	<p>CMDN to authorise delegation of HCP commissioning functions from PCC to CCC - https://democracy.peterborough.gov.uk/mglssueHistoryHome.aspx?Id=22331&PlanId=395&RPID=0</p>

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6.	Selective Licensing of Private Rented Property - Approval to consult on Selective Licensing of Private Rented Property	Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Communities	August 2021	Communities Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Minimum of 10 week public consultation with persons likely to be affected by the designation and consider any representations made in accordance with the consultation	Kerry Leishman, Head of Operations for Environmental Health & Licensing Tel: 01733 453502 Email: kerry.leishman@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
7.	Joint PCC and CCC IT Service Management System To approve the procurement of a new joint Peterborough City Council [PCC] and Cambridgeshire County Council [CCC] IT Service Management [ITSM] system.	Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation	August 2021	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	N/A	Relevant internal and external stakeholders. G-Cloud Procurement Process	Damian Roberts, Project Manager. T: 07485 594522 E: damian.roberts@peterborough.gov.uk	CMDN and PID

DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
<p>8. Approval of the Peterborough Sufficiency Strategy Every top tier local authority is required to publish a sufficiency strategy. This must set out how we seek to avoid children coming into care through the provision of family support services, and identify steps that we are taking to ensure that we have sufficient placements for children in care in our area, so that as many children and young people in care can live locally, provided that this is in their best interests.</p>	<p>Councillor Lynne Ayres, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Education, Skills and University</p>	<p>October 2021</p>	<p>Children and Education Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>There has been widespread consultation including with children and young people in care.</p>	<p>Lou Williams: Director of Children's Services, 07920160141, lou.williams@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>Scrutiny Report</p>

DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
9.	<p>Commissioning of refuge accommodation for victims of domestic abuse</p> <p>Approval to commission refuge provision for victims of domestic abuse in Peterborough as part of a joint commissioning process with Cambridgeshire County Council including provision in Cambridgeshire. This is from April 2022.</p>	Cabinet	20 September 2021.	Communities Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	A safe accommodation needs assessment is currently taking place as part of the Local Authority's statutory duty to provide safe accommodation for victims of domestic abuse. This has involved partner agencies and services across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire.	Julia Cullum julia.cullum@camb ridgeshire.gov.uk 07789510672	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
10.	<p>Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy</p> <p>As part of the Domestic Abuse Act, Peterborough City Council is required by statute to submit a Safe Accommodation Strategy to MHCLG by 31st October 2021.</p>	Cabinet	20 September 2021	Communities Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	The strategy will be developed with key partners in housing and specialist domestic abuse services.	Vickie Crompton, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Partnership Manager, vickie.crompton@c ambridgeshire.gov. uk	The strategy will be informed by a Needs Assessment which is currently in draft

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11.	Adoption of a Refreshed Statement of Community Involvement - To approve the adoption of a Refreshed Statement of Community Involvement	Cabinet	15 November 2021	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.	Emma Naylor, Senior Strategic Planning Officer Tel: 863881 Email: emma.naylor@pet-erborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

PART 4 – NOTIFICATION OF KEY DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURES

<i>DECISION TAKEN</i>	<i>DECISION MAKER</i>	<i>DATE DECISION TAKEN</i>	<i>RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</i>	<i>WARD</i>	<i>CONSULTATION</i>	<i>CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS</i>	<i>DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION</i>
None.							

DIRECTORATE RESPONSIBILITIES

RESOURCES DEPARTMENT Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

City Services and Communications (Markets and Street Trading, City Centre Management including Events, Regulatory Services, Parking Services, Vivacity Contract, CCTV and Out of Hours Calls, Marketing and Communications, Tourism and Bus Station, Resilience)

Strategic Finance

Internal Audit

Schools Infrastructure (Assets and School Place Planning)

Waste and Energy

Strategic Client Services (Enterprise Peterborough / Vivacity / SERCO including Customer Services, ICT and Business Support)

Corporate Property

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Transformation and Programme Management Office, Business Intelligence, Commercial, Strategy and Policy, Shared Services

CUSTOMER AND DIGITAL SERVICES Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

IT, Customer Services – contact centres, walk-in customer service sites, reception services and web & digital services;

Communications;

Emergency Planning, Business Continuity and Health and Safety.

PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Adult Services and Communities (Adult Social Care Operations, Adult Social Care and Quality Assurance, Adult Social Care Commissioning, Early Help – Adults, Children and Families, Housing and Health Improvement, Community and Safety Services, Offender Services)

Children’s Services and Safeguarding (Children’s Social Care Operations, Children’s Social Care Quality Assurance, Safeguarding Boards – Adults and Children’s, Child Health, Clare Lodge (Operations), Access to Resources)

Education, People Resources and Corporate Property (Special Educational Needs and Inclusion, School Improvement, City College Peterborough, Pupil Referral Units, Schools Infrastructure)

Business Management and Commercial Operations (Commissioning, Recruitment and Retention, Clare Lodge (Commercial), Early Years and Quality Improvement)

Performance and Information (Performance Management, Systems Support Team)

LAW AND GOVERNANCE DEPARTMENT Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Democratic Services (Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG)

Electoral Services (Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG)

Human Resources (Business Relations, HR Policy and Rewards, Training and Development, Occupational Health and Workforce Development)

Information Governance, (Coroner's Office, Freedom of Information and Data Protection)

PLACE AND ECONOMY DEPARTMENT Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Development and Construction (Development Management, Planning Compliance, Building Control)

Sustainable Growth Strategy (Strategic Planning, Housing Strategy and Affordable Housing, Climate Change and Environment Capital, Natural and Built Environment)

Opportunity Peterborough

Peterborough Highway Services (Network Management, Highways Maintenance, Street Naming and Numbering, Street Lighting, Design and Adoption of Roads,

Drainage and Flood Risk Management, Transport Policy and Sustainable Transport, Public Transport)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Health Protection, Health Improvements, Healthcare Public Health.

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Draft Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2021/2022

Updated: 31 August 2021

Meeting Date	Item	Indicative Timings	Comments
<p>7 JULY 2021 <i>Draft Report 18 June 2021</i> <i>Final Report 25 June 2021</i></p>	<p>Co-opted Member Report To agree to the appointment of co-opted members to the committee for the municipal year 2021/2022</p> <p>Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer</p>		
	<p>To inform strategic direction in response to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate’s initial report The report asked the Committee to consider the recommendations from the initial report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate and recommend priorities for the city-wide carbon management action plan to the Climate Change Working Group.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Hannah Swinburne</p>		
	<p>Review Of 2020/2021 And Work Programme For 2021/2022 To review the work undertaken during 2020/21 and to consider the work programme of the Committee for 2021/2022</p> <p>Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer</p>		
	<p>Forward Plan of Executive Decisions That the Committee identifies any relevant items for</p>		

	<p>inclusion within their work programme which are relevant to the remit of this Committee.</p> <p>Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer</p>		
<p>8 SEPTEMBER 2021 <i>Draft Report 20 August 2021</i> <i>Final Report 27 August 2021</i></p>			
	<p>Review of Tree and Woodland Strategy, scoping for appropriate exceptions and opportunity for recommendations</p> <p>Contact Officer: Richard Kay</p>		
	<p>Ox-Cam Arc – Government Consultation Paper</p> <p>Contact Officer: Richard Kay</p>		
	<p>Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations To monitor progress made on recommendations made at the previous meeting.</p> <p>Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer</p>		
	<p>Forward Plan of Executive Decisions That the Committee identifies any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme which are relevant to the remit of this Committee.</p> <p>Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer</p>		

	<p>Work Programme 2021/2022 To consider the Work Programme for 2021/2022</p> <p>Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer</p>		
<p>10 NOVEMBER 2021 <i>Draft Report 22 October 2021</i> <i>Final Report 29 October 2021</i></p>	<p>Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan / Peterborough City Council's Long Term Approach to Encouraging Use of Sustainable Modes of Transport / Mass Transit Review</p> <p>Contact Officer: Charlotte Palmer</p>		
	<p>Portfolio Progress Report for the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments</p>		
	<p>Portfolio Progress Report for the Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment (inc. Brown bins)</p> <p>Deferred from September</p>		
	<p>Review of the outcomes of the Fly-tipping Task and Finish group (inc. Prosecution stats, community regeneration) / Review of New Bulky Waste Policy,</p> <p>Deferred from September</p> <p>Contact Officer: James Collingridge / Richard Pearn</p>		
	<p>Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations</p>		

	<p>To monitor progress made on recommendations made at the previous meeting.</p> <p>Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer</p>		
	<p>Forward Plan of Executive Decisions</p> <p>That the Committee identifies any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme which are relevant to the remit of this Committee.</p> <p>Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer</p>		
	<p>Work Programme 2021/2022</p> <p>To consider the Work Programme for 2021/2022</p> <p>Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer</p>		
<p>17 NOVEMBER 2021 Joint Scrutiny of the Budget Meeting</p>	<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 to 2024/25 -</p> <p>Contact Officer: Peter Carpenter</p>		
<p>6 JANUARY 2022 <i>Draft Report 10 December 2021</i> <i>Final Report 17 December 2021</i></p>	<p>Towns Fund</p> <p>Contact Officer: Emma Gee</p>		
	<p>City Centre Recovery</p>		

	Contact Officer: Emma Gee		
	Portfolio Progress Report for the Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation		
	Embankment Master Plan		
	Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations To monitor progress made on recommendations made at the previous meeting. Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer		
	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions That the Committee identifies any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme which are relevant to the remit of this Committee. Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer		
	Work Programme 2021/2022 To consider the Work Programme for 2021/2022 Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer		
9 FEBRUARY 2022 Joint Scrutiny of the Budget Meeting	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 to 2024/25 - Contact Officer: Peter Carpenter		

1 MARCH 2022 <i>Draft Report 10 February 2022</i> <i>Final Report 17 February 2022</i>	Portfolio Progress Report from the Cabinet Member for Finance		
	University(embedding in the City)		
	Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations To monitor progress made on recommendations made at the previous meeting. Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer		
	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions That the Committee identifies any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme which are relevant to the remit of this Committee. Contact Officer: David Beauchamp, Democratic Services Officer		
PENDING	Carbon Management Action Plan (outcomes of the working group)		