

Annual Monitoring Report - Part 2 (Policy Analysis) 2021/22

Huntingdonshire District Council Local Plan | Annual Monitoring Report - Part 2 (Policy Analysis) 2021/22

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Contact details

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1 Executive Summary

1 Executive Summary

The Local Plan to 2036

- 1.1 The Local Plan was adopted at Full Council on 15 May 2019.
- 1.2 During the monitoring year, a revised [Landscape and Townscape Supplementary Planning Document](#) was adopted on 17 March 2022. Upon adoption, it replaced the Huntingdonshire Landscape and Townscape Assessment SPD (2007). The revised SPD supports the delivery of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 by guiding the preparation and consideration of planning applications to enhance the quality of new development within Huntingdonshire and providing a methodology for neighbourhood planning groups to produce their own landscape and townscape assessments to support policies within neighbourhood plans.

Neighbourhood Plans

- 1.3 During the AMR period, five parish councils made progress with their Neighbourhood Plans. During this period the Neighbourhood Area for Brington and Molesworth was designated.
- 1.4 Referendums on the Buckden and Bury Neighbourhood Development Plans took place on 6 May 2021 in line with the Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) Regulations 2020 passed in response to the Covid-19 health emergency. Both Buckden and Bury Neighbourhood Plans passed their referendums with 91.8% and 92.4% in favour respectively, and were subsequently made at Full Council on 19 May 2021 and now form part of the Development Plan for Huntingdonshire.
- 1.5 A referendum also took place on the 27 January 2022 on the Grafham and Ellington Neighbourhood Plan which was approved at cabinet on 18 November 2021. 95.7% of those who voted were in favour of the

Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan was taken to Full Council on 23 February 2022 where it was made and now forms part of the Development Plan for Huntingdonshire.

Duty to Co-operate

- 1.6 The Council has co-operated with other local planning authorities, Cambridgeshire County Council and prescribed bodies during the period covered by this monitoring report on issues such as transport, water and other infrastructure, housing (including Gypsies and Travellers) and jobs targets and economic growth.

CIL

- 1.7 Details of CIL receipts for 2021/22 will be published in the Infrastructure Funding Report.

Analysis of policy performance and effects

- 1.8 The Annual Monitoring Report includes 55 indicators, linked to Sustainability Appraisal objectives, to measure the performance of the Council's adopted planning policies and to assess the wider effects on the District. Some headline results are included below. Full results for each indicator are reported in Chapter 8.

Housing Development and Supply

- 1.9 The 2021 housing trajectory predicted completions of **905** dwellings in 2020/21. The actual number of net completions was in fact **1,055**. The majority of new dwellings were built in The Stukeleys (175), Ramsey (150), Brampton (123), St Neots (115), Godmanchester (97) and Buckden (70). The Parish of the Stukeleys saw 175 completions, it must be noted that 168 of these are from the Alconbury Weald development, which will form its own distinct settlement.
- 1.10 As at 31 March 2022, 1,261 dwellings were under construction. Completions in 2022/23 are anticipated to be 1,055 dwellings.

- 1.11** A housing trajectory has been prepared presenting the situation as at 31 March 2022 to reflect the formal monitoring period for this AMR. This is detailed in [Part 1 - Housing Supply](#) of the AMR 2022, published in October. This indicates a five year housing land supply of **5,184** dwellings compared to a target of **4,508** which includes making up the shortfall in delivery since 2011 in full and allowing for a 5% buffer in accordance with paragraph 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021. This equates to **5.75** years. The Council can therefore demonstrate a 5 year supply of housing land. Predicted completions over the next 5 years will exceed the target and fully make up the current shortfall. Therefore, the policies for the supply of housing should be considered to be up-to-date.
- 1.12** **42.31%** of gross dwellings completed in the monitoring year were on previously-developed land (PDL).
- 1.13** The availability of housing that is affordable is a major issue in the District, with a growing gap between average earnings and housing costs. In 2021/22 **255** new affordable homes were completed, amounting to **23.61%** of all new dwellings completed, and **27.29%** of completions on qualifying sites (i.e. those that meet the affordable housing policy criteria). **175** of these affordable completions were on proposed Local Plan allocations (**63.63%** of the affordable total). This is up by 5% from last year.
- 1.16** Net retail completions were down on last year, due to the completion of large developments in Huntingdon, St Ives and St Neots in previous monitoring years.
- 1.17** There were decreases in 'other use' classes such as A4, C1 and Sui Generis. However, increases were seen in A3, A5, C2 and D1 uses with net gains in A3, A5, C1, C2, D1 and Sui Generis.

Business, Retail and Leisure Development

- 1.14** The total percentage of employment floorspace (B uses) completed on previously developed land was **64.52%** in 2021/22, a considerable increase from last year.
- 1.15** Total net completions of employment floorspace (B uses) was **-715.53m²**. This is a significant increase on last year. There were 28,994.35m² gross completions in 2021/22. 7,856.35m² gross new floorspace were in Spatial Planning Areas, while 20,946.5m² was in the countryside which can be attributed to the delivery of Established Employment Areas.

2 Introduction

Background to the Annual Monitoring Report

- 2.1** Regulation 34 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 requires local planning authorities to produce a monitoring report. The Regulations have removed the requirement to make this an annual report submitted to the Secretary of State. Instead the Regulations require the monitoring report to contain information on the progress made in the production of documents specified in the Local Development Scheme (LDS), and the extent to which policies set out in adopted documents are being achieved and targets being met, including policies which are not being implemented. Local authorities must publish this information at least annually and must also report on activity relating to the duty to cooperate. The report can also include other information such as up to date information on Neighbourhood Plans and Community Infrastructure Levy payments, but these can also be published separately if the Authority wishes to do so.
- 2.2** The Council has made the decision to carry on with the production of an annual monitoring report, as it is felt that this effectively fulfills the purpose of sharing the performance and achievements of the planning service with the local community, as well as showing historic trends through the framework of existing indicators. The start date of this report is 1 April 2021.

2022 AMR

- 2.3** This is the 18th Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) to be produced by Huntingdonshire District Council and covers the reporting period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. It has been decided to split the AMR into two parts.
- 2.4** This is **Part 2 (Policy Analysis)** of the 2022 AMR and covers the following:
- Local Development Scheme (LDS) progress
 - Analysis of performance of adopted policies as at 31 March 2022
 - Detail of actions the Council has taken under its 'Duty to Co-operate'
 - Note on Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
 - Update on the progress of Neighbourhood Plans
 - Update on custom and self-build register and brownfield register
- 2.5** **Part 1 (Housing Supply)** was published in October 2022 and covered the following:
- Commentary on housing provision in this period
 - Housing trajectory showing past performance and estimating future performance in terms of housing delivery, and demonstrating a 5 year supply of housing land
 - The Housing Delivery Test
 - Parish and settlement completions

Monitoring in Huntingdonshire

- 2.6** Monitoring of development for the Cambridgeshire district councils is carried out in collaboration with the Business Intelligence (Research) Team at Cambridgeshire County Council. Monitoring conducted by the Business Intelligence (Research) Team includes housing, employment, retail, leisure and some renewable energy proposals.
- 2.7** The Business Intelligence (Research) Team at the County Council manages an annual development survey which takes place in April each year, and involves officers from the County and District Councils inspecting sites with extant planning permission to ascertain whether development is completed, is under construction, or yet to be started.
- 2.8** From the data collected, the Business Intelligence (Research) Team produces annual topic reports with full details of completions and outstanding commitments for each type of development. The district data is then extracted from these reports to provide results for the indicators in the AMR. These reports are made available, typically with a year's delay, on [Cambridgeshire Insight](#) the County Council's shared knowledge base for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Area. Huntingdonshire District Council works closely with the County Council and colleagues at Cambridgeshire's other districts to ensure that systems are constantly being reviewed, and improved where possible to reflect any changes to requirements.
- 2.9** The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is now monitored through the Infrastructure Funding Statement which is published annually and can be found on the Council's [CIL Annual Reporting webpage](#).
- 2.10** Other data required for the AMR is obtained from other divisions of the County Council, District Council, and statutory bodies such as the Environment Agency. The Council also contacts house builders, agents and developers to obtain data required for the housing trajectory.

3 Planning Policy Position

3 Planning Policy Position

- 3.1** The planning policy context for Huntingdonshire through the monitoring year from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 was as follows:
- Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036;
 - Made neighbourhood plans for St Neots, Godmanchester, Houghton and Wyton, Huntingdon, Bury, Buckden and Grafham and Ellington; and
 - Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan (adopted July 2021)
- 3.2** The Development Plan is supported by a series of other planning policy documents which can be found on the Huntingdonshire District Council [website](#).

Local Plan to 2036

- 3.3** Changes in the national planning policy position, as well as changes in local circumstances, accelerated the need for the Council to pro-actively reconsider its local planning policy position.
- 3.4** Of major significance locally, part of Alconbury Airfield was designated an Enterprise Zone in August 2011, which triggered a requirement to consider undertaking a review all of the Council's Local Development Documents. The Enterprise Zone, covering 150ha, was designated to help deliver the economic growth aspirations of the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) by encouraging new investment and creating around 8,000 high-quality jobs. The owners of Alconbury Airfield (Urban and Civic) submitted an outline planning application in September 2012 for a major high quality mixed use development, including up to 5000 dwellings, as well as the Enterprise Zone (1201158OUT) which was approved in October 2014. Subsequent Reserved Matters have been approved for residential, business, community and leisure uses, and development is well underway, with many new homes

and business units already occupied and a primary school in use. Up to date information on progress at Alconbury Weald can be found on its [website](#).

- 3.5** The new Local Plan to 2036 is a comprehensive plan incorporating both new local planning policies and identifying development allocations. It was submitted on 29 March 2018 for examination by an independent Inspector. Public examination hearings were held between 17-20 July and 10-27 September 2018, after which the Inspector declared that the Council complied with its duty to co-operate and that the Plan could be made sound through main modifications. An outline of proposed main modifications from the Inspector was published on 14 November 2018 and consultation on these ran between 10 December 2018 and 29 January 2019. All representations relating to the proposed main modifications and associated sustainability appraisal were passed on to the Planning Inspector for consideration.
- 3.6** Following the receipt of the final Inspector's Report on 29 April 2019, the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 went to Full Council on 15 May 2019 where it was formally adopted. This meant that it has superseded all previous development plans apart from any made neighbourhood plans and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plans.

Neighbourhood Plans

- 3.7** Huntingdonshire has currently seven made neighbourhood plans: St Neots (2016), Godmanchester (2017), Houghton and Wyton (2018), Huntingdon (2019), Buckden (2021), Bury (2021) and Grafham and Ellington (2022). Progress on neighbourhood planning in the District is kept on the District Council's [website](#) and is monitored in chapter 5 of this report.

National Planning Policy Framework

- 3.8** A revised NPPF was published in July 2018, however, further changes were made in February 2019 following the Government's Technical consultation on updates to national planning policy and guidance. The consultation document covered topics such as local housing need, housing

land supply, the definition of deliverable and development requiring a Habitats Regulations Assessment. Following the Living with Beauty report of the Building Better, Building Beautiful Commission and the 2021 NPPF and National Model Design Codes consultation, the latest update to the NPPF was published in July 2021, emphasising sustainable development, conservation and enhancement of the environment, and well-designed places.

Planning Practice Guidance

- 3.9** In March 2014, the government introduced online Planning Practice Guidance (PPG). This is updated on an intermittent basis throughout the year.

4 Local Development Scheme

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4 Local Development Scheme

- 4.1** This chapter reviews progress against the [Local Development Scheme \(LDS\)](#) which outlines the programme for preparing and reviewing development plan documents, and reports on whether key stages in their production are being achieved.
- 4.2** The LDS was last prepared in December 2017 and then set out the proposed programme for the production of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036. The purpose of the Local Plan is to set out the strategy for development in the whole of Huntingdonshire, policies for managing development and site-specific proposals for different forms of development. The LDS programme included key milestones to inform people about opportunities to get involved in the plan-making process.
- 4.3** The Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 was considered at Full Council on 15 May 2019 where it was approved that the Local Plan be adopted as the statutory development plan for Huntingdonshire. On adoption, the Local Plan to 2036 superseded the Local Plan 1995, the Local Plan Alteration 2002, the Core Strategy 2009 and the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan 2011.
- 4.4** A replacement Local Development Scheme will be published to set out the timetable for an update to the Huntingdonshire's Local Plan when a decision is made to bring this forward.

LDS Progress

4.5 The Local Development Scheme December 2017 sets out the proposed timetable for the production of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 and includes key milestones. Completed stages of Plan production were identified as follows:

Timetable: Key stages	Dates completed
Sustainability appraisal scoping report	February - March 2012
Issues and options consultation	May - June 2012
Strategy and Policy consultation	August - November 2012
Full draft Local Plan (stage 3) consultation	May - July 2013
Additional sites consultation	November - December 2013
(Long Term Transport Strategy preparation led by Cambridgeshire County Council)	May - November 2014
Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036: Targeted Consultation 2015	January - March 2015
Updating of evidence base – including Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment	August 2015 - April 2017
Strategic Transport Study in collaboration with Cambridgeshire County Council	January 2016 - April 2017
Full public consultation on Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036: Consultation Draft 2017	July - August 2017
Additional sites HELAA consultation	October - November 2017
Finalisation of evidence base - including Objectively Assessed Housing Need, Strategic Transport Study, Viability Assessment, Infrastructure Delivery Plan, Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment	September - November 2017

4 Local Development Scheme

- 4.6 The LDS 2017 also identified future stages to be completed to progress towards the adoption of the Local Plan to 2036. The table below illustrates the progress that the Council has made towards these stages and demonstrates that the Council was ahead of target by adopting the Local Plan to 2036 before September 2019.

Timetable: Key stages identified for completions in the LDS 2017	Estimated Timescale Estimated timescale	Progress
Statutory consultation on proposed submission Local Plan to 2036 (Reg. 19)	December 2017 - January 2018	Completed - consultation undertaken between 18 December 2017 to 5 February 2018.
Submission to Secretary of State (Reg. 22)	March 2018	Completed - Proposed Submission submitted to the Secretary of State on 29 March 2019.
Estimated examination (1)	March 2018 - June 2019	Completed - Public examination hearings were held between 17th-20th July and 10th-27th September 2018; further information regarding the hearing sessions can be found on the Council's Hearing Sessions webpage.
Receipt of Inspector's report	July 2019	Completed - The Inspector declared that the Council complied with its duty to co-operate and that the Plan can be made sound through main modifications. An outline of proposed main modifications from the Inspector was published on 14 November 2018. Consultation on these proposed main modifications to the Local Plan started on 10 December 2018 and ran for 7 weeks, closing on 29 January 2019. After the close of the consultation period, all representations relating to the proposed main modifications and associated sustainability appraisal were passed on to the Planning Inspector for consideration. They can be viewed on the Local Plan Document Library page under documents EXAM/46 to EXAM/50. The Inspector considered all comments received before presenting his final conclusions on the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 in his Inspector's Report which was received 29 April 2019.
Date of Adoption	September 2019	Completed - Following receipt of the final Inspector's Report, the Council took a final version of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 to full Council for consideration. The Local Plan was approved on 15 May 2019 and was formally adopted as the statutory development plan for Huntingdonshire.

- Once the Local Plan to 2036 is submitted for examination the timetable is managed by the Planning Inspector appointed to examine it.

4.7 The following documents have been produced since 1 April 2017 to assist in the production of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036:

- [Proposed Main Modifications 2018 Consultation Document](#) (consultation on this document ran from 10 December 2018 to 29 January 2019) and [Appendix 1: Policies Map Extracts](#) (for reference only). Published 10 December 2018.
- [Proposed Main Modifications 2018 Sustainability Appraisal](#) (consultation on this document ran from 10 December 2018 to 29 January 2019). Published 10 December 2018.
- [Equalities Impact Assessment of Proposed Main Modifications 2018](#). Published 10 December 2018.
- [Proposed Main Modifications 2018 Habitats Regulations Assessment](#) (consultation on this document ran from 10 December 2018 to 29 January 2019). Published 10 December 2018.
- [Documents](#) produced to support the Local Plan Examination, some of which were produced by Huntingdonshire District Council. These were published between July 2018 and October 2018.
- Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 Matter Statements in response to the Inspectors Matters and Issues (all Council documents begin with the prefix HDC). Submitted on 15 June 2018 (Matters 1 to 5), 6 July 2018 (Matters 6 to 11 and 14 to 15) and 13 July 2018 for Matter 12.
- [Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 Proposed Submission](#), published 22 March 2018. Accompanied by a Habitats Regulations Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal and a suite of [supporting documents](#).
- [Duty to Cooperate Statement](#), this document sets out how the Council has complied the Duty to Cooperate in the preparation of the Local Plan. Published December 2017.
- [Strategic Transport Study](#) - The purpose of the study is to recommend the most sustainable development scenario in transport terms for delivering the homes required in the district to 2036. The LDS indicated this would be carried out in collaboration with Cambridgeshire County Council from January 2016 to April 2017. A report was published in May 2017, and an [Addendum](#) reflecting the Proposed Submission Local Plan was published in December 2017.
- [Local Plan Viability Study](#) - Considers the implications for each Local Plan policy for the viability of delivering development. A report was published in June 2017, and an [Addendum](#) reflecting the Proposed Submission Local Plan was published in December 2017.
- [Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment \(HELAA\)](#) - A full version of the HELAA was subsequently prepared to accompany the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036: Consultation Draft 2017, including consideration of all appropriate sites put forward up to 31 May 2017, and a consultation exercise took place between July 2017 and August 2017. Further consultation on additional sites submitted to the Council during the Call for Sites which also accompanied the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036: Consultation Draft 2017 was carried out between October and November 2017 and a [final version](#) published in December 2017.
- [Huntingdonshire Accessible and Specialist Housing Evidence Paper](#). Published December 2017. The paper identifies the need for accessible and specialist housing in Huntingdonshire, informing the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036.
- [Infrastructure Delivery Plan](#), published July 2017 and Infrastructure Delivery Plan Report [Addendum](#) published December 2017.
- [Habitats Regulations Assessment](#) - A report was published in May 2017, and an [Addendum](#) reflecting the Proposed Submission Local Plan was published in November 2017.
- [Growth and Infrastructure Investment and Delivery Plan](#) - This study aims firstly to assess the quality and capacity of infrastructure available and its ability to accommodate anticipated growth, and then to determine the additional infrastructure investment required to support the level of growth anticipated in the Local Plan to 2036, and was published in July 2017

4 Local Development Scheme

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- **[Strategic Flood Risk Assessment](#)**- There were initial delays to the Environment Agency completing its Lower Great Ouse flood model, necessary to produce updated flood risk zones, without which more detailed assessment of sites in zones at greater risk of flooding cannot be undertaken. The Environment Agency also issued updated guidance in February 2016 on consideration of climate change allowances to support the NPPF. The final report was published in June 2017.
- **[Objectively Assessed Need \(OAN\)](#)** - an update of the OAN figure for Huntingdonshire was commissioned from Cambridgeshire County Council's Research Group and published in April 2017. This identifies an objectively assessed need for a total of 20,100 homes, of which some 7,900 would need to be affordable.

5 Neighbourhood Plans and Duty to Co-operate

Neighbourhood Development Orders / Plans

- 5.1** The Localism Act 2011 introduced the concept of Neighbourhood Planning. The Act allows for greater planning and development powers to be devolved to neighbourhoods, which in Huntingdonshire are currently defined as the Town and Parish Councils.
- 5.2** The aim of Neighbourhood Planning is to allow local communities more opportunity to shape new, additional development within their areas. It is not the Government's intention that Neighbourhood Plans should be used as mechanisms to prevent new development.
- 5.3** The Act introduced three new Neighbourhood Planning mechanisms:
- Neighbourhood Plans
 - Neighbourhood Development Orders
 - Community Right to Build
- 5.4** Neighbourhood Plans must conform with the strategic policies of the Development Plan. The 2012 Regulations (as amended) require local authorities to give details of Neighbourhood Development Orders and Plans in their monitoring reports.
- 5.5** During the AMR period, five parish councils - Brington and Molesworth, Buckden, Bury, Grafham and Ellington and Great Gransden - made progress with their Neighbourhood Plans, while five parish councils - Alconbury Weston, Catworth, Glatton, Great Gransden and The Stukeleys - have made progress since the end of the monitoring period (Table 5.1).
- 5.6** The coronavirus pandemic resulted in the government amending National Planning Practice Guidance for neighbourhood planning to combat the spread of the virus. Additionally, the Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 came into force on 7 April 2020 and postponed all elections and referendums until 6 May 2021. This meant that the referenda for the Buckden and Bury Neighbourhood Plans took place on 6 May 2021.
- 5.7** The Council has a dedicated Neighbourhood Planning webpage [link](#). On that webpage several links and resources can be found to assist town/parish councils in producing a neighbourhood plan, such as our Neighbourhood and Community Planning Guide [link](#), aimed at town and parish councils, which sets out: the range of community planning tools available, the council's support for town or parish councils wishing to prepare a neighbourhood plan and signposts to the wide range of advice and guidance currently available.
- 5.8** The following map illustrates where neighbourhood areas have been designated in the District. Full details of neighbourhood planning progress in Huntingdonshire can be found in this [document](#).

5 Neighbourhood Plans and Duty to Co-operate

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Table 5.1 Progress with Neighbourhood Plans

Alconbury Weston	Alconbury Weston Parish Council's application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area relating to the whole of the parish was approved on 9 August 2022.
Brington and Molesworth	Brington and Molesworth Parish Council's application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area relating to the whole of the parish was approved on 28 July 2021.
Buckden	A referendum on the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan took place on 6 May 2021 in line with the Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) Regulations 2020 passed in response to the Covid-19 health emergency. The referendum returned a majority 'yes' vote (91.8%). The Neighbourhood Plan was taken to Full Council on 19 May 2021 where it was made and now forms part of the Development Plan for Huntingdonshire.
Bury	A referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan was scheduled for the 26 March 2020, but was postponed until until 6 May 2021 in line with the Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) Regulations 2020 passed in response to the Covid-19 health emergency. The referendum took place on 6 May 2021 where a majority 'yes' vote was returned (92.4%). The Neighbourhood Plan was taken to Full Council on 19 May 2021 where it was made and now forms part of the Development Plan for Huntingdonshire.
Catworth	Catworth Parish Council's application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area relating to the whole of the parish was approved on 25 October 2022.
Glatton	Glatton Parish Council's application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area relating to the whole of the parish was approved on 5 September 2022.
Grafham and Ellington	Regulation 14 consultation on the draft Grafham and Ellington Grafham and Ellington Neighbourhood Plan took place between 15 March and 30 April 2021. Submission (Regulation 16) consultation on the neighbourhood plan commenced on 12 July and closed on 27 August 2021. The examination of the plan commenced on 6 September and concluded when the Examiner's report was received on 4 October 2021. The Examiner recommended that the Plan proceed to referendum with modifications. The Neighbourhood Plan was presented at the Council's Overview and Scrutiny (Performance and Growth) on 3 November 2021 followed by Cabinet on 18 November 2021 where Councillors approved the Plan proceed to referendum. The referendum took place on the 27 January 2022. 95.7% of those who voted were in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan was taken to Full Council on 23 February 2022 where it was made and now forms part of the Development Plan for Huntingdonshire.
Great Gransden	A draft neighbourhood plan was available to comment between 1 March and 12 April 2022. Great Gransden Parish Council have submitted their neighbourhood plan to Huntingdonshire District Council. The plan was available for comment between 25 August and 7 October 2022.

5 Neighbourhood Plans and Duty to Co-operate

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	Examination of the neighbourhood plan concluded on 30 November 2022 when the Examiner's report was received which recommended that the Plan proceed to referendum with modifications. The Neighbourhood Plan will now be presented at the Council's Overview and Scrutiny (Performance and Growth) on 4 January 2023 followed by Cabinet on 24 January 2023 where Councillors will be asked to proceed the Plan to referendum.
The Stukeleys	A draft neighbourhood plan was available to comment between 8 May and 19 June 2022. The Stukeleys Parish Council has submitted its neighbourhood plan to Huntingdonshire District Council. The plan was available for comment between 28 September 2022 and 10 November 2022. The plan was submitted for independent examination on 18 November 2022.

Duty to Cooperate

- 5.9** In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2021, public bodies have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries, particularly those which relate to the strategic priorities set out in paragraph 24. The government expects joint working on areas of common interest to be diligently undertaken for the mutual benefit of neighbouring authorities.
- 5.10** The 2012 Regulations require local planning authorities to give details of what action they have taken to cooperate with another local planning authority, county council or a body prescribed under section 33A of the Act.
- 5.11** In March 2018, the Council published a Statement of Compliance with the duty to Cooperate on its [website](#) to accompany the submission of the Local Plan to 2036 for examination. This set out how requirements and outcomes concerning the duty to cooperate have been met with regard to the preparation of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036.

6 Custom & Self-build Register and Brownfield Land Register

Custom and Self-build Register

6.1 As required through section 1 of the Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015 (as amended by the Housing and Planning Act 2016) the Council keeps a custom and self-build homes register, details of which are publicised on its [website](#). The register provides valuable information on the demand for custom and self-build homes in Huntingdonshire and forms a key part of the Council's evidence base of demand for this type of housing. The register holds information on individuals and associations of individuals who are seeking to acquire serviced plots of land in the district. The NPPG encourages Local Planning Authorities to publish headline data in their AMR on the demand for self-build or custom housebuilding revealed by the register and other sources. As of 31 October 2016 new regulations dealing with custom and self build homes registers came into force ([Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Regulations 2016 and the Self-build and Custom Housebuilding \(Time for Compliance and Fees\) Regulations 2016](#))

6.2 The register is split into two parts through the Local Connections Test:

- Part One keeps track of local demand for self-build and custom housebuilding. People/organisations that appear in Part One of the register must meet the Local Connections Test.
- Part Two keeps track of general demand for self-build and custom build. People/organisations that appear in Part Two of the register do not need to meet the Local Connections Test.

Details of the Local Connections Test can be found on the [website](#) .

6.3 The Council has not set any fees for joining or staying on the register. There are no financial checks completed at this stage to indicate whether or not people registering can realistically fund the property they are indicating they would like.

6.4 Local authorities are required to give suitable development permission to enough suitable serviced plots of land to meet the demand for self-build and custom housebuilding in their area. The level of demand is established by reference to the number of entries added to an authority's register during a base period.

6.5 The first base period began on the day on which the register (which meets the requirement of the 2015 Act) was established and ended on 30 October 2016. Each subsequent base period is the period of 12 months beginning immediately after the end of the previous base period. Subsequent base periods will therefore run from 31 October to 30 October each year (i.e. not concurrent with the monitoring period for the AMR).

6.6 At the end of each base period relevant authorities have 3 years in which to permission an equivalent number of plots of land which are suitable for self-build and custom housebuilding as there are entries for that base period.

6.7 There were 341 eligible people registered on Custom and Self-Build register as at 30 October 2022. Table 6.1 provides a summary of registrations, CIL exemptions and commencements for each base period. The register is a live register and people are able to join or leave as they wish and are not under the obligation to inform the council if they wish to remain on the council's register or not. Additionally, people are able to register on more than one council's custom and self-build register; of 156 people who respond to the question 'Have you already, or do you intend to register on other Custom and Self Build Housing Registers?' 83 responded 'yes'. For these reasons the council annually contacts all those on the register to establish if they wish to continue or be removed from the register. Subsequently the number of entries in a base year may vary from previous reports.

6.8 Since figures were reported in the previous AMR (2021) there has also been a number of changes to the figures regarding CIL exemptions, specifically in the reporting periods 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21. These changes are explained below:

- The number of CIL exemptions in the fourth base period has reduced from 57 to 55. This is due to application 19/00529/FUL being

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superseded by 20/01606/FUL (This application is now accounted for in base period 7) and 17/00867/FUL being superseded by 18/00139/FUL (This application is already accounted for in base period 4) ;

- CIL exemptions in the fifth base period are now 50 instead of 51. This is due to application 18/00732/PMBPA being superseded by 20/0977/FUL (This application was already included in base period 6 in the 2020/21 AMR);
- CIL exemptions in the sixth base period now total 49 instead of 50. This is due to application 20/01331/FUL being superseded by 21/00766/FUL (This application was already included in base period 6 in the 2020/21 AMR)

6.9 Responses to the questions on the register's application form are set out in Table 6.2. It should be noted that for many questions people completing the registration process can submit multiple answers.

6.10 The Council can demonstrate it has met its demand for self-build plots arising from the first and second base periods as it is legally required to do so. Applications to the register increased significantly during base periods of 31 October 2017 to 30 October 2018 and 31 October 2018 to 30 October 2019, before falling significantly in period 31 October 2019 to 30 October 2020, and increasing again during 31 October 2020 to 30 October 2021. There has been a significant decrease in the number of applications to the register in the latest period 31 October 2021 to 30 October 2022. The Council will continue to monitor registrations and CIL exemptions and seek to take appropriate action to ensure sufficient suitable development permissions are granted to meet the level of need indicated by the register.

6.11 To assist in meeting the needs of people on the register and to encourage developers and landowners to provide land for custom and self-build homes, policies LP25 (Housing Mix) and LP28 (Rural Exceptions Housing) have been included in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036. Neighbourhood plans can also promote custom and self-build, with [Bury](#) and [Houghton and Wyton](#) parishes including policies supportive of Custom and Self-Build in their plans.

6.12 It is worth noting that within the previous period (31 October 2020 - 30 October 2021), an application for 38 custom and self-build dwellings (18/00958/FUL) was approved in March 2021.

Table 6.1 Summary of self-build registrations, CIL exemptions and commencements across the seven base periods

	First base period 1 April 2016 - 30 October 2016	Second base period 31 October 2016 - 30 October 2017	Third base period 31 October 2017 - 30 October 2018	Fourth base period 31 October 2018 - 30 October 2019	Fifth base period 31 October 2019 - 30 October 2020	Sixth Base Period 31 October 2020 - 30 October 2021	Seventh Base Period 31 October 2021 - 30 October 2022	Total
Eligible registrations	12	25	70	79	44	63	48	341
Self-build CIL exemptions granted (having completed a CIL exemption Form 7 - Part 1)	18	39	55	55	50	49	46	312
Self-Build units under construction during base period	6	29	34	26	25	23	35	178

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Table 6.2 Responses to custom and self-build questionnaire

Reasons for interest*		
Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
I want a property with a higher environmental performance than is generally available	31.11%	33.43%
I want to move to a larger property	15.56%	14.79%
I want to move to a smaller property	2.22%	2.96%
I am interested in improving or learning building and construction skills	11.11%	9.76%
Other - please state	2.22%	7.10%
I am retired and want to build a property suitable for my long term needs	17.78%	8.88%
I would like to move closer to family but cannot afford a similar property to mine in the area	2.22%	4.73%
I am moving to the area to work but cannot afford a similar property to mine in the area	4.44%	2.96%
I have had previous experience of a custom/ self build project	4.44%	5.33%
I am interested in being part of a community-led project	6.67%	7.10%
I want a property that has been purposely designed for my disability needs	2.22%	2.96%
What type of build project are you interested in?*		
Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)

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Self build one-off home	54.17%	66.28%
Contractor built one-off home	16.67%	46.63%
Kit home	25.00%	45.75%
Independent community collaboration	10.41%	13.78%
Supported community self build group	6.25%	10.26%
Community self build	8.33%	15.54%
Custom build home	20.83%	57.18%
Other	0.00%	1.17%
Not sure yet	2.08%	4.39%

How quickly do you think you would be able to progress if a site became available?

Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
Under 6 months	31.25%	43.40%
Between 6 months and 1 year	35.42%	36.36%
Between 1 and 2 years	2.08%	12.02%
More than 2 years	0.00%	2.05%
No response	31.25%	6.16%

Please identify any links you have with Huntingdonshire*

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Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
I live in Huntingdonshire	25.00%	41.94%
I work in Huntingdonshire	8.33%	24.05%
I have family living in Huntingdonshire	16.67%	32.55%
I am, or have been in the armed forces of the crown	2.08%	2.05%
Other links	14.58%	9.68%
No response	33.33%	24.93%
Are you interested in plots located:*		
Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
Anywhere in Huntingdonshire	41.67%	56.59%
In Huntingdon	20.83%	31.09%
In St Neots	16.67%	31.09%
In St Ives	18.75%	27.27%
In Ramsey	8.33%	9.38%
In a settlement other than the four market towns above	6.25%	7.33%
In the countryside (not in any settlement)	4.17%	4.11%
Other	0.00%	0.00%

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What type of plot are you interested in?*		
Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
A single plot	81.25%	81.82%
An individual plot within a larger site	68.75%	68.91%
A plot as part of a group project	37.50%	36.36%
Not sure yet	8.33%	12.32%
Other type of plot	2.08%	1.17%
No response	8.33%	3.23%
What size of plot are you interested in?*		
Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
Under 150sqm	4.17%	4.11%
More than 150sqm but less than 200sqm	8.33%	12.90%
More than 200sqm but less than 250sqm	18.75%	14.37%
More than 250sqm but less than 300sqm	20.83%	17.30%
More than 300sqm but less than 400sqm	18.75%	18.77%
More than 400sqm but less than 500sqm	16.67%	16.72%
More than 500sqm	27.08%	27.27%
Not sure yet	45.83%	45.74%

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Other size - please state	2.08%	3.23%
No response	0.00%	1.17%
What type of property are you interested in?*		
Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
Detached house	83.33%	92.96%
Semi-detached house	0.00%	5.87%
Terraced house	0.00%	1.47%
Detached bungalow	14.58%	25.81%
Semi-detached bungalow	0.00%	2.35%
Terraced bungalow	0.00%	1.47%
Apartment/ flat	0.00%	0.88%
Other	0.00%	1.47%
Not sure yet	0.00%	2.05%
No response	14.48%	2.35%
How many bedrooms do you require?		
Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
1 bedroom	0.00%	0.00%

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2 bedrooms	4.17%	3.23%
3 bedrooms	14.58%	26.69%
4 bedrooms	52.08%	53.08%
5+ bedrooms	8.33%	13.19%
no response	20.83%	3.81%
What would be the maximum anticipated amount you could afford for the complete build project - including all land purchase build, legal and design costs etc?		
Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
Up to £150,000	2.08%	2.35%
Between £150,000 and £200,000	2.08%	2.35%
Between £200,000 and £250,000	0.00%	3.23%
Between £250,000 and £300,000	4.17%	5.57%
Between £300,000 and £400,000	8.33%	17.59%
Between £400,000 and £500,000	12.50%	24.63%
Between £500,000 and £750,000	41.67%	28.74%
More than £750,000	27.08%	13.78%
No response	2.08%	1.76%
What is the likely method for financing your custom build?		

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Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
Owned outright by you without a mortgage	33.33%	31.38%
Owned by you with a mortgage	62.50%	67.16%
Part owned with a body such as a Housing Association to share the cost of the project	0.00%	0.00%
No response	4.17%	1.47%
If you are a home owner, would you have to sell the property in order to proceed with custom build?		
Answer	% total Oct - Oct 21 - Oct 22 (Seventh Base)	Total (First Base to Seventh Base)
Yes	54.17%	53.37%
No	35.42%	39.88%
No response	10.42%	6.74%

*Multiple responses permitted

Brownfield Land Register

- 6.13** [Regulation 17 of the Town and Country Planning \(Brownfield Land Register\) Regulations 2017](#) requires local planning authorities to update the information relating to existing entries in their registers at least once a year and that it may consist of two parts:
- Part 1 - all sites which are 'suitable', 'available', and 'achievable' for residential development which could be delivered within 15 years; and
 - Part 2 - any sites which are given 'permission in principle'. Inclusion on part 2 would grant permission in principle for residential development (the scale to be determined by the Council) and the land owner/developer would have to apply for 'technical details consent' before any development could commence.
- 6.14** Brownfield sites that meet the relevant criteria must be entered in Part 1 of the Register. There are currently no sites classified as Part 2 on the register.
- 6.15** The Register can be found on the Council's [website](#).

7 Community Infrastructure Levy

7 Community Infrastructure Levy

- 7.1** The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a mechanism to allow local planning authorities to seek to raise funds from new development, in the form of a levy, in order to contribute to the cost of infrastructure projects that are, or will be, needed to support new development.
- 7.2** Huntingdonshire District Council approved the implementation of its Community Infrastructure Levy from the 1 May 2012.
- 7.3** The Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule 2012 sets out the charge per square metre that will apply to each category of development that is liable. The standard charge of £85 per sq m (plus indexation) applies to all liable developments unless a different rate is set out in the schedule.
- 7.4** The CIL is intended to be used to help provide infrastructure to support the development of an area rather than making an individual planning application acceptable in planning terms (which is the purpose of Section 106 Agreements). CIL does not fully replace Section 106 Agreements.
- 7.5** On particular developments site specific mitigation requirements may still need to be provided through a Section 106 Agreement in addition to CIL. Section 106 Agreements and planning conditions will continue to be used for local infrastructure requirements on development sites, such as site specific local provision of open space, connection to utility services (as required by legislation), habitat protection, access roads and archaeology. The principle is that all eligible developments must pay towards CIL as well as any development specific requirement to be secured through Section 106 Agreements. Details on this can be found in the HDC [Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document](#).
- 7.6** Large scale major developments (over 200 residential units) usually also necessitate the provision of development specific infrastructure, such as schools. These are dealt with more suitably through a Section 106 agreement, in addition to the CIL charge. It is important that the CIL Charging Schedule differentiates between these infrastructure projects.
- 7.7** The provision of affordable housing lies outside of the remit of CIL and continues to be secured through Section 106 Agreements.
- 7.8** The CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) require a 'meaningful proportion' of CIL receipts to be passed to the local town or parish council for the area where the development takes place. The meaningful proportion to be passed to the local council is set at 15% of the relevant CIL receipts with a maximum cap of £100 per Council tax dwelling in the parish. Where a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) is in place the 'meaningful proportion' will rise to 25% with no maximum cap specified.
- 7.9** In Huntingdonshire, there were seven Neighbourhood Development Plans in place during the period of this annual monitoring report (1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022) St Neots (made 24 February 2016), Godmanchester (made 13 December 2017), Houghton and Wyton (made 26 March 2018), Huntingdon (made 9 October 2019), Buckden (made 19 May 2021), Bury (made 19 May 2021) and Grafham and Ellington (made 23 February 2022).
- 7.10** A Charging Authority is required under Regulation 62 of the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 (as amended) to prepare a report for any financial year in which it collects CIL.
- 7.11** The [Infrastructure Funding Statement](#) contains information on CIL in 2021/22.

8 Analysis of Policy Performance and Effects

- 8.1 This section of the AMR includes the results of monitoring indicators and polices against which the council's performance is being assessed.
- 8.2 Changes in Use Classes were brought in in September 2020, however, we have maintained the previous Use Classes for this report, and indicated where applicable if a new use class has come through, so as to avoid overloading the tables and help with comparing previous results. As the new use classes become more prevalent these will replace the old use classes in the tables below.
- 8.3 The different indicators for each policy have been split into 5 subsections based on the chapters in the Local Plan to 2036:
- Section B: the Development Strategy
 - Section C: Requiring Good Design
 - Section C: Building a Strong Competitive Economy
 - Section C: Strengthening Communities
 - Section C: Conserving and Enhancing the Environment
- 8.4 For **Section D: Allocations** a full breakdown on the progress on developing these sites can be found in [Appendix 2 Housing Trajectory of the Annual Monitoring Report - Part 1 \(Housing Supply\)](#).

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SECTION B: THE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

8.5 Results for the *S106 monitoring* and the *Annual CIL receipts/ expenditure monitoring* indicators, policies LP2 and LP4, will be available in the [Infrastructure Funding Statement](#).

8.6 Concerning the *Rolling update of GIIDP* indicator, policy LP4, contact has been made with infrastructure providers for any significant areas of change.

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Settlement Type	Result		Direction of Change	Data Source
Amount (in m ²) and % of employment development by settlement type	LP1, LP2, LP7, LP8, LP9	1, 9, 11, 15, 17, 20, 21, 23, 25	1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21	Maximise the amount of floorspace developed for employment	Spatial Planning Areas	Total gross: 7,856.35 (27.09%)	Total net: -16,828.03	Down*	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
					Key Service Centres	Total gross: 16,153 (55.71%)	Total net: 16,099	Up*	
					Small Settlements	Total gross: 4,985 (17.19%)	Total net: 13.5	Up*	
					Total	Gross: 28,994.35	Net: -715.53	Up*	

The majority of gross completions are in the Key Service Centres as Established Employment areas in Key Service Centres continue to provide development opportunities. In 2021/22, the Eagle Business Park in Yaxley contributed 4,580.5m², Fenstanton contributed 6,218.1m² and Sawtry contributed 5,108m². Established Employment Areas have a key role in contributing to the balance between residential, employment and other uses which is essential in the promotion of sustainable communities. The Council is committed to promoting sustainable economic growth and is supportive of measures and proposals that enable employment areas to provide land and premises for businesses.

Gross completions in Spatial Planning Areas decreased in 2021/22 compared to 8,865.1m² in 2020/21 with majority of these completions in the Huntingdon Spatial Planning Area. The large net loss in Spatial Planning Areas is attributed to the demolition of buildings on SI1 (St Ives West) as part of the redevelopment of the site for residential development. However, delivery of employment floorspace within Spatial Planning Areas are expected to rise over the coming years through the delivery of the Strategic Expansion Locations at Alconbury Weald and St Neots East. Both sites have outline permission with several detailed reserved matters coming through.

Significant recent developments in Small Settlements include a storage and distribution of generators facility (B8 3,300m²) in Ellington.

*Direction of change is measured against net totals. In the 2020/21 AMR the gross numbers were: SPAs 8,865.1m²; KSCs 8,669m² and; Small Settlements 3,319m². As such, there were gross increases in Key Services Centres, Small Settlements and gross total. There was a gross decrease in SPAs.

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Target	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Amount and % of employment floorspace developed on PDL (gross internal floorspace in m ²)	LP2	1, 9, 11, 15, 17, 20, 23, 25	1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 21	Maximise the % of completed employment floorspace on PDL	B1 unspecified: 0(0%)	Down	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
					B1a: 479.6 (1.84%)	Down	
					B1b: 0 (0%)	No Change	
					B1c: 531.75 (2.04%)	Up	
					B2: 2,777.75 (10.68%)	Down	
					B8: 14,916.75 (57.34%)	Up	
					Total: 18,705.85 (64.52%)	Up	
<p>The development strategy has been shaped by fundamental principles of sustainability aiming to achieve a balance between social, economic and environmental priorities. Social and economic priorities have influenced the development strategy through concentrating new growth in areas accessible to services, facilities and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Included here are completions on previously developed land as a result of changes of use, extensions to, and replacement of existing business units. The total percentage of employment floorspace completed on previously developed land is up on last year from 61.63%. This increase is largely as a result of a self-storage yard in Fenstanton accounting for 4,800m² of B8 use, a self-storage facility in Huntingdon for 4212 m² of B8 use and a storage and distribution of generators facility in Ellington for 3,300m² of B8 use.</p>							

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intent	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Amount and type of employment land available (net in ha)	LP2	1, 9, 11, 15, 17, 20, 23, 25	1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 21	Ensure sufficient provision of employment land	B1/E(c)(iii) unspecified: 6.34	Down	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence Research)
					B1a/E(g)(i)/E(c)(iii): 294.85	Down	
					B1b/E(g)(ii): 37.48	Down	
					B1c/E(g)(iii): 39.97	Down	
					B2: 43.17	Down	
					B8: 17.57	Down	
					Total: 439.39	Down	

To support continued economic growth, sufficient land of a suitable quality needs to be identified in the right locations to meet expected needs for industrial and commercial development needs. In this indicator, "land available" includes i) sites allocated for employment use and ii) sites for which planning permission has been granted for employment use but is not included in i).

The total amount of employment land available is 439.39ha (net) which is made up of 431.39ha of land with extant planning permission, and 8ha of land allocated for employment without planning permission.

Significant decrease are in all classes with a decrease in total employment land available (down from 537.81ha). Committed land totals decreased in part due to increase in employment completions in 2021/22 in sites such as Eagle Business Park in Yaxley and the Lakes Business Park in Fenstanton. In addition, a large commitment of land on Bearscroft farm available for office space has now been permitted for residential use. This accounts for a proportion of the decrease.

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Settlement Type	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number and % of housing completions by settlement type (net)	LP7, LP8, LP9, LP16	9, 14, 20, 21	1, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21	Maintain a good supply of suitable land for growth in Spatial Planning Areas	Spatial Planning Areas	743 (70.42%)	Up	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
					Key Service Centres	162 (15.35%)	Down	
					Small Settlements	150 (14.21%)	Down	
					Total	1,055	Up	

The majority of C3 completions were in one of the four SPAs, and in particular the Huntingdon SPA where there were a total of 411 completions including 168 in Alconbury Weald. There was a higher number of completions in SPAs compared to the previous year (640) in part due to an increase in completions in St Neots and Ramsey due to large sites completing or nearing completion in 2021/22.

Of the Key Service Centres, Buckden saw the most completions (70) followed by Sawtry (37). There was a decrease in completions in Key Service Areas compared to the previous year (262) in part due sites completing or nearing completions in 2020/21.

The percentage of completions in SPAs is up from 58.60% in 2020/21 to 70.42% but for Key Services Areas, this is down from 25.17% in 2020/21 to 15.35% this is nonetheless reflecting the Council's strategy towards development.

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Settlement Type	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number and % of housing completions by settlement and tenure type (gross)	LP1, LP2	1, 9, 11, 15, 17, 20, 23, 25	1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21	Achieve affordable housing requirements	Spatial Planning Areas	Market: 583 (70.67%)	Up	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
						Affordable: 169 (66.27%)	Up	
					Key Service Centres	Market: 116 (14.06%)	Down	
						Affordable: 49 (19.22%)	Down	
					Small Settlements	Market: 126 (15.27%)	Down	
						Affordable: 37 (14.51%)	Up	
					Total	Market: 825 (76.39%)	Up	
						Affordable: 255 (23.61%)	Up	

It has become increasingly difficult for local people on low to modest incomes to gain access to suitable housing. A growing gap between average earnings and housing costs, a limited supply of new affordable properties and the loss of existing social housing through 'right to buy' / 'right to acquire' provisions have all contributed to the problem. The planning system has a key role to play in making more affordable properties available, through securing contributions from market housing schemes and by enabling rural 'exceptions' sites to come forward.

The Local Plan to 2036 acknowledges the need for 20,100 new homes including 7,900 (39%) affordable homes by the end of the plan period.

Percentages for settlement types are calculated from total tenure type, while total percentage is calculated from total gross completions for each tenure. There was a total of 1,080 gross completions in 2021/22 including 4 Gypsy and Traveller sites, these were under Market with all in the countryside.

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The majority of affordable dwellings are expected to be built in the SPAs or Key Service Centres as the 40% affordable housing provision set out in the Local Plan to 2036 is for proposals of 11 homes or 1,001m² floorspace or more. However, the Council is supportive of affordable homes within Small Settlements as demonstrated through LP28 Rural Exceptions Housing. There were 37 affordable completions within Small Settlements in 2021/22 compared with 36 in the previous year. 8 out of the 37 affordable completions was on a rural exception site in Ramsey and the rest were on non-rural exception sites. There was a minimal increase in affordable housing built in the district from 253 in 2020/21 to 255 in 2021/22. This is in part due to a different affordable housing target arrangements in place for major developments in Alconbury Weald.

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Target	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Gross number and % new dwellings on previously developed land	LP2	1, 9, 11, 15, 17, 20, 23, 25	1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 21	Maximise re-use of PDL	457	Down	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence Research)
					42.31%	Down	

42.31% of gross housing completions were on previously developed land, which is a decrease from last year's result of 49.48%. There were 1,080 gross completions of which 457 were on previously developed land, 611 on greenfield land and 12 on garden land. The largest number of PDL completions can be found at Alconbury Weald (168). There were 25 completions on PDL in Huntingdon, 32 in St Neots, 13 in St Ives, 68 in Brampton and 90 in Ramsey, primarily on the former RAF Clinic site. In the Key Service Centres, there were 22 completions on PDL with the highest completions in Yaxley (14).

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of planning permissions granted on unallocated sites on grade 1 & 2 agricultural land	LP10	21	1	Protect high grade agricultural land	75	Up	Cambridgeshire District Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
<p>Agricultural land is a valuable asset in itself as it contributes to the local and national economy and assists with food security. Huntingdonshire's agricultural land is almost entirely of good quality: 98% is classed as grades 1, 2 or 3. 15% is grade 1 (excellent quality) which is concentrated in the north east of the district, mainly in the Fens with a few pockets along the Ouse Valley. A proposal involving built development on agricultural land should demonstrate that it is located on the lowest grade agricultural land suitable and available within the vicinity which is also compatible with other sustainability objectives. Development should avoid use of grade one agricultural land.</p> <p>There were 75 applications granted on unallocated land within the monitoring year on either grade 1 or 2 agricultural land, this is an increase from 45 in 2020/21. 8 of these were on grade 1 and 67 were on grade 2. 4 of the permissions granted on grade 1 agricultural land were permitted in Ramsey, 2 were in Holme and one in Warboys. This included 21/00562/REM in Ramsey for 6 Market dwellings.</p> <p>Of those granted on grade 2, the majority were for minor development proposals or extensions to or change of uses within Established Employment Areas or established businesses. The largest residential developments on grade 2 agricultural land were 19/00552/OUT for residential development of up to 100 dwellings in Ramsey and 19/00038/OUT for residential development of up to 30 dwellings and a care home of up to 70 beds.</p>							

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intent	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of planning permissions granted contrary to advice of Environment Agency on flooding or water quality grounds	LP5, LP6, LP15 and LP38	2, 19, 24	2, 3, 5, 10, 14	Protect water resources (both quality and quantity) as well as manage and minimise all forms of flood risk	Flooding: 1	Up	Environment Agency
					Water Quality: 0	No change	
<p>The eastern region is vulnerable to flooding, drought and pressure on water resources. Flooding can cause major disruption, damage to property and, in extreme cases, loss of life. The predicted effects of climate change will accentuate these vulnerabilities; episodes of heavy rain are forecast to increase, adding to the risk of flash flooding which can occur almost anywhere, especially in built-up areas where there is a high proportion of impermeable surfaces.</p> <p>During the monitoring year 1 planning permission was granted contrary to advice of the Environment Agency, this is up from last year (0). The Environment Agency recommended refusal as no Flood Risk Assessment was submitted. However, the officer's report explained there was no requirement for the submission of a Flood Risk Assessment as the application is part of an extant approval, it is not considered that any further information is required in this regard.</p>							

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Completion of A14 trunk road upgrade	LP4	12, 15, 16, 20	12, 13, 14, 17, 20, 21	Delivery of transport infrastructure	Opened to traffic on 5 May 2020 - overall works ongoing	Up	Highways England
Completion of A428 trunk road upgrade between Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet junctions					Development Consent Order Stage	No Change	
<p>During the AMR period, improvements to the A14 were drawing to an end with the main new carriageway section having opened in May 2020 and the previous route being reclassified as the A1307. Mill Common Link Road now provides a connection between Pathfinder Link Road and the junction of Edison Bell Way near the railway station using the line of the old A14 but at lower grade. Preparation for demolition of the A14 viaduct across the East Coast mainline began in 2019 and the demolition was completed in 2022. The works that followed around Huntingdon railway station to improve the forecourt and improve connectivity between different travel modes has now been completed. The overall scheme was completed in June 2022.</p> <p>Consultations on the A428 scheme were carried out in 2019 and summer 2020, and as a result of the feedback changes were made to the proposal. The Development Consent Order application was submitted in February 2021. Since 31 March 2021 the scheme has entered the examination stage of its DCO. The Secretary of State for Transport granted the scheme its Development Consent Order on 18 August 2022, a Judicial Review has been launched.</p>							

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Indicator	Policy	Related Spatial Objectives	Related SA Objectives	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Provision of additional capacity at Huntingdon, Oldhurst, Ramsey, Somersham and St Neots Waste Water Treatment Works	LP4	12, 15, 16, 20	12, 13, 14, 17, 20, 21	Provide adequate infrastructure to meet economic, social and environmental needs	Huntingdon: 0	No change	Anglian Water
					Oldhurst: 0	No change	
					Ramsey: 0	No change	
					Somersham: 0	No change	
					St Neots: 0	No change	
<p>The Water Recycling Long-Term Plan was produced by Anglian Water in September 2018. There have been no works to increase capacity at any of the above Waste Water Treatment Works in the monitoring year, however the document does note that increased capacity works are scheduled for Huntingdon and Oldhurst in the Asset Management Plan (AMP) 7 2020-2025 period.</p>							

SECTION C: REQUIRING GOOD DESIGN

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
% of dwellings completed at specified densities (dph = dwellings per hectare) (NB: on sites of 9+ dwellings only.)	LP12	2, 4, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23	6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 16	To promote high quality, well designed, locally distinctive sustainable development.	< 30 dph: 61.7%	Up	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence Research)
					30-50 dph: 36.2%	Down	
					> 50 dph: 2.1%	Down	
<p>Appropriate densities for housing development will vary according to the type and character of the settlement and the specific characteristics of the proposed site including its immediate context, constraints, and the necessity to deliver an appropriate mix of housing types and sizes to meet needs.</p> <p>This year the majority of completions fell within the less than 30 dph category, this includes dwellings on completed sites in Buckden, Great Gransden, Yaxley, Alconbury Weald, Warboys and Bluntisham. The fall in percentage of completions >50 from the previous year (9.9%) is due in part to lower flat completions in 2021/22.</p>							

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Target	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Average household water consumption (in litres per head per day)	LP12	2, 4, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23	6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 16	Reduce per capita water consumption	Anglian Water area: Metered and Unmetered (no breakdown available): 138.7	Up	Anglian Water, Cambridge Water
					Cambridge Water Area: Metered: 132.31 Unmetered: 163.32	Down Down	

The East of England is one of the driest areas in the country for much of the year, and this could be exacerbated by climate change, which will have implications for the use of water in new and existing developments. Measures, including rain water collection and grey water systems as well as efficient fixtures and fittings, such as dual flush WCs, water efficient showers and flow regulators on taps, can assist in minimising the use of water resources.

The figures quoted are for all Anglian Water (AW) and Cambridge Water (CW) domestic customers, not only those within Huntingdonshire. Neither company is currently able to provide a breakdown just for households in the district.

There is therefore a slight increase in 2021/22 for Anglian Water compared to 138.1 in 2020/21. This increase can be explained through the consequences of a greater number of people choosing the hybrid working approach but spending more time working from home. The numbers for 2020/21 and 2021/22 Anglian water were taken from the following Anglian Water [link](#)

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of new homes permitted with no off-street parking	LP17	2	16	Ensure new development provides sufficient space and parking provision	48	Up	Huntingdonshire District Council
<p>The level of car ownership in Huntingdonshire is high compared with the national average as the area is both relatively prosperous and predominantly rural. Many of Huntingdonshire's villages and countryside areas have no, or very limited, public transport services. Even in the market towns public transport outside of weekday business hours can be limited. Therefore, reliance on private cars as the main mode of travel is likely to continue through the plan period; provision of parking in new development needs to reflect this reality while also promoting the national aim of a shift towards travel by sustainable modes.</p> <p>A total of 48 permitted new dwellings, from 18 planning applications, had no off-street parking in 2021/22, this is up from last year (28). These were located in or near town centres, shopping areas and established employment areas where there is readily available parking, and services are accessible through car-free travel. Outline and permission in principle applications were not taken into account as parking layout and arrangements are typically confirmed at a later stage though either reserved matters or technical details consent applications.</p>							

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number and % of planning permissions granted for major development supported by a Transport Assessment, Transport Statement and/or Travel Plan	LP16	14, 20	21	Ensure developers fully consider how the opportunities and impacts of the range of travel and transport modes are addressed in their proposals	26 (70.27%)	Up	Huntingdonshire District Council
<p>Huntingdonshire's rural nature means that a significant proportion of journeys are made by car. However, more than a quarter of all journeys to work in Huntingdonshire are less than 5km (3.1 miles) in length. For many people, walking or cycling are a feasible alternative to using the car for journeys such as these. Even for longer trips there is the opportunity to make part of the journey by walking or cycling. Chapter 4 'The Development Strategy' seeks to reduce the need to travel long distances by directing development to locations which have, or have the potential to provide, the greatest access to services and facilities and where sustainable travel modes and public transport are well provided for. This should enable a greater proportion of trips to be made by foot or bicycle.</p> <p>The need for a Transport Assessment, Transport Statement, or Travel Plan will be determined on a case by case basis.</p> <p>Major development is defined as being above 10 or more homes for a residential development.</p> <p>A total of 37 Major Developments were permitted in 2021/22, 26 of which were supported by a Transport Assessment, Transport Statement and/or Travel Plan. This is an increase in Major Developments permitted with a Transport Assessment, Statement or Travel Plan from last year 19 (79.17%).</p>							

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number and % of planning permissions for new main town centre uses of over 600m ² net internal floorspace achieving at least one cycle space for every 25m ² of net internal floorspace	LP17	2	16	Ensure new developments provide sufficient parking provision to meet the needs of users and residents	3 (100%)	No change	Huntingdonshire District Council
<p>In order to promote a shift in priority away from motorists and towards pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users, new development should also provide cycle parking and encourage travel by sustainable modes.</p> <p>Main town centre uses over 600m² net internal floorspace are considered to have sufficiently common characteristics in terms of their location and likely numbers of staff and visitors to justify a requirement for at least one cycle space for every 25m² of net internal floorspace. Other non-residential uses have much more varied characteristics, and will therefore be required to justify the level of cycle parking proposed.</p> <p>There were 3 planning permissions permitted for main town centre uses over 600m² in Fenstanton, Hemingford Abbots and The Stukeleys. All 3 had sufficient cycle spaces for employees and visitors in the interest of promoting sustainable modes of transport.</p>							

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of applications refused where grounds of refusal included detriment to neighbouring properties	LP14	24	10, 16	Ensure physical environment created by development protects and promotes a standard of amenity	37	Up	Huntingdonshire District Council
<p>Careful design, layout and orientation are essential to ensure proposals do not adversely affect others. To ensure the wellbeing of occupiers it is important to ensure that new developments do not materially alter light levels outside the development and/ or have the potential to adversely affect the use or enjoyment of nearby buildings or open spaces. Aspects that will need careful consideration include whether the proposal will block daylight or affect the privacy of neighbouring buildings, particularly in the habitable rooms of a property.</p> <p>In 2021/22 there were a total of 175 refusals of which 37 were detrimental to neighbouring properties. This is up from the previous year of 21 refusals.</p>							

SECTION C: BUILDING A STRONG COMPETITIVE ECONOMY

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result		Direction of Change	Data Source
Amount and % of completed retail, office and leisure development (gross and net internal floorspace in m ²) in the local Authority Area.	LP22	15, 16, 20	17, 18, 19, 20	Maintain the sustainability, vitality and viability of settlements	A1/E(a)/E(c)(ii)/F2(a) gross: 764.6 (20.50%)	A1/E(a)/E(c)(ii)/F2(a) net: -449.5	Down	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence Research)
					A2 gross: 144 (3.86%)	A2 net: -465	Up	
					B1a/E(g)(i) gross: 1244.6 (33.37%)	B1a/E(g)(i) net: -967.9	Down	
					D2/E(d) gross: 1,576 (42.26%)	D2/E(d) net: 949	Up	
Total amount of completed retail, office and leisure development	LP21	5, 9	6, 7, 19	Maintain the sustainability, vitality and viability of settlements	Total gross: 3,729.2	Total net: -933.4	Down	

Achieving sustainable economic growth in Huntingdonshire depends on creating new employment opportunities, protecting and enhancing existing sources of employment, promoting the vitality and viability of town centres and Key Service Centres, and facilitating the diversification of the rural economy. Local shops and other services play a vital role in promoting sustainable communities by helping to meet everyday needs and reduce the need to travel. Village and neighbourhood pubs and halls can act as a focus for many groups, contributing to active, socially inclusive communities.

During the 2020/21 monitoring period new use classes were introduced on 1 September 2020. This has resulted in two use class systems being used in tandem during the monitoring period, as those applications that were permitted before 1 September 2020 were done so using the old use classes while those permitted on and after 1 September 2020 used the new use classes. For the purposes of comparison we have kept them grouped together under the old use classes (highlighted in bold) which will eventually be phased out.

There were no net gains in all use classes except D2 use in 2021/22. Overall gross Town Centre uses were down on 2020/21. The loss in D2 comes from the change to specialist SEN educational facility (F1 use) of the former St Ives Golf Course clubhouse (-455 sqm).

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There have been significant decrease in A1 use completions in 2021/22 compared to 2,144m² in 2020/21. This is in part due to completion of the development of the Abbey retail park along Harrisons Way (St Ives) , the Quora Retail Park (St Neots) and Chequers Court (Huntingdon) as part of a redevelopment of Huntingdon town centre in previous monitoring years.

Looking ahead, 21/01166/FUL has been permitted for 5,456.8 sqm of B1a floorspace within The Stukeleys (Alconbury Weald). The proposed building would complement the existing MMUK building at Alconbury Weald and would be part of a long-term goal to establish a hub for UK operations in Huntingdon where skills, facilities, and innovation can thrive.

Delivery of further A1, A2, B1a and D2 floorspace within Spatial Planning Areas are expected to rise over the coming years through the delivery of floorspace within these developments some of which within neighbourhood centres on the Strategic Expansion Locations at Alconbury Weald and St Neots East. Both sites have outline permission with several detailed reserved matters coming through.

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result		Direction of Change	Data Source
Amount and % of completed office, retail and leisure development in town centres	LP1, LP2, LP7 and LP21	1, 5, 9, 11, 15, 17, 20, 23, 25	1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20,21	Maximise the proportion of completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres.	A1/E(a)/E(c)(ii) gross: 23 (3.01%)	A1 net: -424.8	Down	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence Research)
					A2 gross: 144 (100%)	A2 net: -64	Up	
					B1a gross: 23 (1.85%)	B1a net: -882.9	Down	
					D2 gross: 0 (0%)	D2 net: 0	No Change	
					Total gross: 190 (5.09%)	Total net: -1,371.7	Down	

The NPPF requires local authorities to recognise town centres as the heart of their communities, and pursue policies to support their viability and vitality. Main town centre uses include retail, leisure, culture, entertainment and offices, all of which are typified by potential users benefiting from good accessibility by a choice of means of transport. Town centres act as the retail, social and service core of their communities and offer the most accessible destinations for those who choose to travel by public transport or to walk or cycle.

The four market town centres form the core of Huntingdonshire's retail and leisure offer, and their continued vitality and viability are critical to the success of the local economy. The provision of local shopping facilities is an integral element of promoting sustainable communities by reducing the need to travel to higher level centres such as Cambridge, Bedford and Peterborough.

During monitoring year there were net losses across three of the uses classes (A1, A2 and B1a), and there were no gains in the remaining use class (D2). However there were gross gains in A1, A2 and B1a.

Percentages are calculated from total in district for each Use Class, which can be found in the preceding table.

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result		Direction of Change	Data Source
Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type (gross and net in m ²) in the countryside	LP19	5, 10	19	Promote a vibrant rural economy within the district's extensive countryside	B1 unspecified/E(c)(iii) gross: 418	B1 unspecified/E(c)(iii) net: 418	Up	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence Research)
					B1a/E(g)(i) gross: 1030	B1a/E(g)(i) net: 747.5	Down	
					B1b gross: 0	B1b net: 0	Down	
					B1c/E(g)(iii) gross: 1,828	B1c/E(g)(iii) net: 1,828	Up	
					B2 gross: 7,242	B2 net: 7,242	Down	
					B8 gross: 10,428.5	B8 net: 5,955.5	Up	
					Total gross: 20,946.5	Total net: 16,191	Up	

Huntingdonshire's rural economy makes a significant contribution to the district's success. It encompasses a range of businesses particularly in industrial, agricultural, tourism and service sectors. The Council supports the principle of more varied employment opportunities in rural areas to help sustain the local economy. There are several Established Employment Areas which provide relatively low cost business accommodation and support a wide range of employment opportunities. The policy looks to ensure their continued success tempered with recognition that their location in the countryside is somewhat less sustainable than those within established settlements.

The increase in business floorspace in the countryside is largely attributed to the continued delivery of Established Employment Areas located outside of built up areas, such as the erection of industrial buildings in Sawtry (5,108m²), completion of a self storage yard in Fenstanton (4,800m²) as well as the completion of Phase 2 of the Eagle Business Park in Yaxley (4,580.5m²).

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source	
Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type in Established Employment Areas (in m ²)	LP18	5	18, 19	To safeguard and enhance existing areas of established employment uses across Huntingdonshire	B1 Unknown/E(c)(iii)	Gross: 418	Up	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Analysis (Research))
						Net: 418	Up	
					B1a/E(g)(i)	Gross: 867	Down	
						Net: 867	Down	
					B1b	Gross: 0	No change	
						Net: 0	No change	
					B1c/E(g)(iii)	Gross: 1,443.75	Down	
						Net: -26.71	Down	
					B2	Gross: 2,075.75	Down	
						Net: 296.39	Down	
B8	Gross: 11,979.25	Up						
	Net: 11,636.89	Up						
Total	Gross: 16,783.75	Down						
	Net: 13,191.57	Down						
Losses of employment floorspace in Established Employment Areas	LP18	5	18, 19	To safeguard and enhance existing areas of established employment uses	1,785.18	Up		

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to non-employment uses (in m ²)				across Huntingdonshire			
<p>The protection and enhancement of Established Employment Areas (EEA) supports the economic vitality and diversity of Huntingdonshire. They also have a key role in contributing to the balance between residential, employment and other uses which is essential in the promotion of sustainable communities. The Council is committed to promoting sustainable economic growth and is supportive of measures and proposals that enable employment areas to provide land and premises for business. A full list of Established Employment Areas can be found in the Local Plan to 2036 p.82.</p> <p>Eagle Business Park in Yaxley accounts for 4580.5m² of net employment floorspace, while Lakes Business Park in Fenstanton accounts for 4,800m².</p> <p>Proposals for uses other than employment (class 'B') within an EEA will only be supported where it demonstrates, it will be compatible with surrounding employment uses, will not adversely affect the role and continuing viability of the EEA, will not significantly reduce the range, availability and suitability of land and buildings for employment uses in the nearest Spatial Planning Area or Key Service Centre, and the sequential approach to site selection has been followed if the proposal includes main town centre uses.</p> <p>There was a total of 1,785.18 m² losses to other non-employment uses in 2021/22, this is an increase from 795m² in the previous year. This includes losses of B1c to D2, B1c/B2/B8 to Sui Generis, B1c to E and B8 to A1.</p>							

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Amount of completed floorspace for other use classes (net internal floorspace in m ²)	LP22	15, 16, 20	17, 18, 19, 20	Maintain the sustainability, vitality and viability of settlements	A3/E(b): 620.2	Up	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence Research)
					A4: -225.83	Down	
					A5: 22.7	Up	
					C1 (hotels only): 174.9	Down	
					C2 Bedrooms: 80	Up	
					D1/E(e): 1984.46	Up	
					Sui Generis: 637.76	Down	

Good local services and community facilities are an essential element of a successful and inclusive society as they help to meet local needs and can provide opportunities for social and cultural interaction. Community facilities can include, but are not limited to, community halls, local shops, public houses, theatres, cultural buildings, places of worship, schools, higher education facilities, childcare providers, health centres, sports venues, cemeteries and allotments.

A3 completions were up this year from 382.19m² last year.

A4 is down from -200m² in 2020/21. The loss in 2021/22 is due to a change of use to residential.

A5 completions were up from 0 last year.

C1 is down from 331m² in 2020/21.

80 C2 rooms were completed in 2021/22, this is an increase from last year where 76 C2 rooms for military and child residences were completed. 70 C2 rooms built at Brampton Park and 10 in Yaxley, account for this increase.

Sui Generis completions saw a substantial decrease from 1,478.6m² in 2020/21.

The biggest increase was seen in the D1 use class, up from -146.6m² in 2020/21. This is due to a number of medium sized developments in St Ives, Yaxley, and Huntingdon.

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of planning permissions granted for tourism, sport and recreation in the countryside	LP19, LP23	5, 10	6, 7, 12, 13, 17, 19	To promote a vibrant rural economy within the district's extensive countryside	4	Down	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
<p>Huntingdonshire has a limited tourism sector primarily focused on its wildlife viewing opportunities, countryside, heritage assets and water-based pursuits. The Council seeks to enhance the benefits to be obtained from tourism, sport and leisure development and will support proposals for high quality tourism development, particularly that promoting year round activities where they protect the natural or heritage assets of the district. Tourism investment and visitor spending can support the management and conservation of historic and natural sites and may benefit local communities by supporting local shops and services. Both tourist accommodation and attractions can also support direct and indirect employment.</p> <p>4 planning permissions for tourism, sport and recreation in the countryside were granted in 2021/22, this is down from 10 in 2020/21. There were 3 applications for sport and recreation (use class D2) and 1 demolition for tourism (Use class C1 and Holiday Houses/Bungalows) in the countryside.</p>							

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of housing completions for rural workers	LP20	10	14, 15	Ensure new homes for workers where they are required to live at or near their place of work in the countryside	0	No change	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
<p>To recognise the countryside's intrinsic character and protect high quality agricultural land the NPPF discourages the construction of isolated new homes in the countryside without special justification. Residential development in the countryside may be justified when accommodation is required to enable agricultural and certain other workers to live at or near their place of work due to the nature and demands of the work concerned.</p> <p>There were 0 completed dwellings for rural workers in 2021/22, this is the same as 2020/21. There is however 1 application for rural workers permitted during the monitoring year for one dwelling in Covington.</p>							

SECTION C: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number, % and tenure of affordable housing completions (gross)	LP25	3, 8, 18, 19	14, 15	Ensure that proposals for market housing development contribute to the delivery of affordable housing	Social Rented: 158 (61.96%)	Up	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
					Shared Ownership: 97 (38.04%)	Down	
Number and % affordable housing completions (gross)	LP24	3	14, 15		Total Affordable: 255 (23.61%)	Up	
<p>The availability of housing that is affordable is a major issue in the District, with a growing gap between average earnings and housing costs. A proposal will be supported where it delivers a target of 40% affordable housing on a site where 11 homes or 1,001m² residential floorspace (gross internal area) or more are proposed and it provides approximately 70% of the new affordable housing units as social or affordable rented properties with the balance made up of other affordable tenure. In 2021/22 255 new affordable homes were completed, up from 253 in 2020/21. This accounts for 23.61% of all new dwellings completed. 27.29% of completions were on qualifying sites (i.e. those that meet the affordable housing policy criteria), this is down from 24.30% in 2020/21. 175 of these affordable completions were on proposed Local Plan allocations (68.63% of the affordable total). This represents an increase from last year. Social rented dwellings were up from 148 while shared ownership was down from 105, in 2020/21. This indicator only measures affordable housing achieved through the planning system; other affordable homes may be provided by Registered Providers acquiring properties in housing market.</p>							

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of affordable homes completed through rural exceptions schemes	LP28	18	14, 15	Facilitate the provision of land for housing focused on meeting the needs of people with an established connection to the place in which the new homes are built	8	Down	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))

The Council is keen to facilitate a higher provision of affordable homes, particularly in rural areas, with a view to maintaining sustainable communities and meeting their specific housing needs. To achieve this the Council will support development on land where planning permission would not normally be granted for housing development and where consequently land values are low relative to policy compliant development sites. Such sites are referred to as 'rural exception sites', but are not limited to rural parts of the district and could be outside the built-up area of any settlement. In particular, rural exceptions schemes will be encouraged which support provision of affordable housing in settlements where it will not be delivered through allocated housing sites.

There were 8 affordable completions on rural exceptions sites in 2021/22, 8 on 17/00630/FUL in Ramsey. This is a decrease on 2020/21 (21). However, others are under construction (20/01915/FUL and 20/02495/REM) in Bury and Great Staughton, for a combined total of 56 affordable dwellings, with other schemes permitted or going through the planning process.

This supports the Council's ambition to boost affordable home provision in rural areas.

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Amount of C2 floorspace & number of bedrooms completed for older people and other residents	LP26	19	14, 15, 21	Ensure that specialist housing development contributes to a range of attractive housing options	Floorspace: 4302m ² Bedrooms: 80	Up Up	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
Number of self-contained (C3) specialist housing units provided by tenure					Market: 1 Affordable: 0	Up No change	
<p>The need for appropriate housing for older people is expected to increase significantly up to 2036. Projected increases in the number of Huntingdonshire households comprising people aged 65 and over, evidenced in the Cambridge sub-region SHMA (2013), informs an indicative need in Huntingdonshire in the period 2016-36 for around 4,000 units of specialist housing for older people, and 2,000 care home beds.</p> <p>The range of specialist housing for people aged under 65 is more limited, including housing with care and care/ nursing homes.</p> <p>The purpose of this policy is to ensure that specialist housing development contributes to a range of attractive housing options for older people and those with specific needs.</p> <p>There were 80 bedroom completions for C2 for older people in 2021/22, this is a substantial increase from 0m² of floorspace and 0 room in 2020/21 (the 76 C2 bedroom completions in 2020/21 were for military and child residences). 19/00406/REM accounted for 70 beds in Brampton Park and 18/02165/FUL accounted for 10 beds in Yaxley.</p> <p>There was 1 completion in 2021/22 for specialist C3 accommodation in St Neots.</p>							

8 Analysis of Policy Performance and Effects

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of self build and custom build dwellings completed	LP25	3, 8, 18, 19	14, 15	Ensure all housing development in the district offers a genuine choice of different sizes and types of homes	24	Down	Huntingdonshire District Council
<p>Development of self and custom-build homes is growing in popularity as an alternative way for individuals and community groups to provide housing to meet particular needs either individually or for local communities. Under the Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015, the Council maintains a custom and self-build homes register to establish the level of demand for housing of this type, and must have regard to this in fulfilling its planning and housing functions. There were 24 self and custom-build dwellings completed in the monitoring year. This is a decrease from 56 self and custom-build completions in 2020/21.</p>							

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of Gypsy & Traveller pitches delivered	LP27	18	14, 15	Enable the appropriate provision of sites to meet the specific needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	4	Up	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
Number of Travelling Showpeople plots delivered					0	No Change	
<p>The Council, working with neighbouring authorities, will maintain a local assessment of need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches and Travelling Showpeople plots. Evidence for the Local Plan is contained within the Cambridgeshire, King's Lynn & West Norfolk, Peterborough and West Suffolk Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2016 (GTAA 2016). The GTAA 2016 identified a need for an additional 9 permanent residential Gypsy and Traveller pitches between 2016 and 2036 (of which 5 were needed between 2016 and 2021), and no specific need for Travelling Showpeople plots. It also identified a potential further need for between 0 and 19 additional pitches arising from existing households whom it was not possible to interview as a part of the GTAA process. It is expected that the GTAA will be reviewed every few years. A total of 4 traveller pitches were delivered during the monitoring year (2021/22), these include 2 pitches in in Bluntisham parish and 2 pitches in Somersham parish. As at 31 March 2022 there were no pitches with permissions and there were no completions or permitted developments in the monitoring year for Showpeople.</p>							

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Dwelling completions by number of bedrooms (net)	LP25	3, 8, 18, 19	14, 15	Ensure all housing development in the district offers a genuine choice of different sizes and types of homes	1 Bed: 73	Down	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
					2 Bed: 254	Down	
					3 Bed: 376	Up	
					4 Bed: 358	Up	
					Not Known: -6	Down	
<p>A diverse mixture of housing sizes, types and tenures is essential to help develop and maintain inclusive sustainable communities suitable for people with differing needs.</p> <p>The majority of C3 completions were 3 bed, which was up from 337 in 2021/22. 1 and 2 bed dwellings were down while 4 bed dwellings were up with no large increase. This shows there is a good mix of housing coming forward within the District.</p>							

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number and % of planning permissions granted for large scale development with a supporting rapid Health Impact Assessment	LP29	4	12	Facilitate safe, healthy and inclusive communities	12 (44.44%)	Up	Huntingdonshire District Council (Planning Policy)
Number and % of planning permissions granted for large scale major development with a supporting full Health Impact Assessment					3 (27.27%)	Up	

For larger development proposals, Health Impact Assessment (HIA) brings together a range of issues addressed in other policies in the Plan to focus on health impacts, acknowledging that a community's health is determined by economic, social, psychological and environmental influences, not just by its health services.

HIA assesses the likely positive and negative impacts of a development proposal on the health of different groups in the population, and makes recommendations on how positive health impacts could be enhanced and negative impacts avoided or mitigated. In particular, it considers how the proposal will affect vulnerable people and considers both short- and long-term impacts. HIA should form an integral part of working up a development proposal, and should be undertaken at a sufficiently early stage for it to inform the proposed design and layout.

Large Scale developments are those where 50 residential units or more will be built, and for other uses over 2,500m².

There were 27 Large Scale developments approved in 2021/22, 12 of which were supported by a rapid Health Impact Assessment. Percentage is calculated from total Large Scale developments.

A development is considered to be Large Scale Major if the number of residential units to be constructed is 200 or more, and for other uses where the developed floorspace is to be 10,000m² or more.

There were 11 Large Scale Major developments approved in 2021/22, 3 of which was supported by a full Health Impact Assessment. Percentage is calculated from total Large Scale Major developments.

SECTION C: CONSERVING AND ENHANCING THE ENVIRONMENT

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Losses to biodiversity habitat	LP3, LP30	21, 25	4, 5, 12	Protect, maintain and enhance biodiversity and habitats	0ha	No change	Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Environmental Records Centre (CPERC)
Additions to biodiversity habitat	LP3, LP30	21, 25	4, 5, 12		0ha	No change	
Total change in biodiversity habitat	LP3, LP30	21, 25	4, 5, 12		0ha	No change	
<p>Information has been provided by CPERC on the status of, and changes to, statutory and non-statutory designated sites (sites recognised for their intrinsic environmental value, including sites of international, national, regional, sub-regional or local significance). Huntingdonshire contains a number of sites of particular importance for protecting and enriching biodiversity, such as the Ouse Washes, Woodwalton Fen and Portholme Meadow. As in previous years, Fenstanton Pits (West End Pits) County Wildlife Site has been significantly affected by development in the year 2021/22. Development of a business park has been ongoing within the northern part of the site. This will result in a future boundary change for this CWS.</p>							

8 Analysis of Policy Performance and Effects

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	SSSI Condition	2021/22		Direction of Change	Data Source
						Area (ha)	%		
% of SSSIs in favourable, unfavourable recovering, unfavourable no change, unfavourable declining, destroyed/part destroyed condition	LP30	21	4, 5	Maintain, enhance and conserve Huntingdonshire's natural heritage	Favourable	1498.3	62.9	No change	Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Environmental Records Centre (CPERC)
					Unfavourable recovering	774.3	32.5	No change	
					Unfavourable no change	66.6	2.8	No change	
					Unfavourable declining	35.7	1.5	No change	
					Destroyed / Part destroyed	7.1	0.3	No change	

It is essential to conserve our remaining natural heritage for both current and future generations. Wildlife and geological features are under pressure from development, pollution, climate change and unsympathetic land management. SSSIs are important as they support plants and animals that find it more difficult to survive in the wider countryside.

Huntingdonshire, contains 27 SSSIs, the largest of which is Grafham Water (806ha). The condition of SSSI land in England is assessed by Natural England, using categories agreed through the Joint Nature Conservation Committee. There are 5 reportable condition categories: favourable, unfavourable recovering, unfavourable no change, unfavourable declining, destroyed / part destroyed. 'Favourable' condition means that the SSSI land is being adequately conserved and is meeting its 'conservation objectives', however there is scope for the further enhancement of these sites. 'Unfavourable recovering' condition (often simply known as 'recovering') means that SSSI units are not yet fully conserved but all the necessary management measures are in place. Provided that the recovery work is sustained, the SSSI will reach favourable condition in time. In many cases, restoration takes years. For example, woodland that has been neglected for 50 years would take several years to bring back into a working coppice cycle.

There has been no change in assessed SSSI condition in Huntingdonshire during 2021/22. Overall, the majority of SSSI land is still deemed to be in 'favourable' condition, with the next highest proportion in 'unfavourable recovering' condition.

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result		Change 20/21 - 21/22	Data Source
Total number and % of Local Sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented during the last five years (Single Data List Indicator Ref 160)	LP30	21	4, 5	Maximise the % of Local Sites where positive conservation management is being implemented	Total number of Local Sites in Huntingdonshire used in analysis	134*	0	Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Environmental Records Centre
					Number	47	-1	
					%	35.1%	-07.5%	

CWSs are 'Local Sites' as defined by DEFRA. Local Sites have been assessed in terms of their management for the local nature conservation / biodiversity data requirement on the Single Data List (Ref. 160, formerly known as NI197). The implementation of positive conservation management serves as a widely accepted proxy for assessing improvements in biodiversity. Positive conservation management is management that contributes to maintaining or enhancing the features of interest for which a site has been selected, and could include site management plans, management schemes, Biodiversity Action Plans, management guidance and advice. The five year period is deemed appropriate as many sites do not require annual management and the Local Sites guidance recommends monitoring on a 5-10 year rolling programme.

There has been a small decrease in the percentage of sites deemed to be in positive conservation management during 2021/22.

*East Holme and Sutton/Sibson Flood Meadows CWS are excluded from analysis as they are almost entirely within the Peterborough authority area.

SAC Name	Total area of SAC (ha)	Area within Huntingdonshire (ha)
Fenland	619.41	209.05
Ouse Washes	337.73	7.61
Portholme	91.79	91.79

SACs are sites designated under the EU Habitats Directive. There has been no change in SACs in Huntingdonshire during 2021/22.

8 Analysis of Policy Performance and Effects

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SPA Name	Total area of SPA (ha)	Area within Huntingdonshire (ha)
Ouse Washes	2498.61	45.25
SPAs are sites designated under the EU Birds Directive. There has been no change in SPAs in Huntingdonshire during 2021/22.		

Ramsar Sites	Total area of Ramsar site (ha)	Area within Huntingdonshire(ha)
Ouse Washes	2518.66	45.24
Woodwalton Fen	209.05	209.05
Ramsar sites are sites designated under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance. There has been no change in Ramsar sites in Huntingdonshire during 2021/22.		

National Nature Reserve (NNR) Name	Total area of NNR (ha)	Area within Huntingdonshire (ha)
Holme Fen	269.41	269.41
Monks Wood	156.27	156.27
Upwood Meadows	5.97	5.97
Woodwalton Fen	209.05	209.05
NNRs are designated by Natural England. There has been no change in NNR sites in Huntingdonshire during 2021/22.		

LNR Name	Total area (ha)	Area within Huntingdonshire (ha)
Little Paxton Pits	59.95	59.95
Somersham	9.54	9.54

LNRs are designated by Natural England and the relevant local authority, Cambridgeshire contains 25 LNRs. They all have public access. There has been no change in LNRs in Huntingdonshire during 2021/22.

LNR area & population	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
LNR area in Huntingdonshire (ha)	69.49	69.49	69.49
Population in Huntingdonshire - figures for population are revised mid-year estimates from Office for National Statistics for 2017 and 2016 respectively rounded to the nearest 100	179,000	178,000	177,400
LNR area per 1000 people (ha)	0.39	0.39	0.39

This table shows the figure for LNR area per 1000 people in Huntingdonshire for 2020/21. At the time of writing CPERC's report to Huntingdonshire District Council, the Office for National Statistics had not published the population mid-year estimates for 2021 so it was not possible to use the 2021/22 figure. It is hoped that a 2021/22 figure will be included with their report for 2022/23.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
No. of SSSIs within Huntingdonshire	27	27	27	27
Total area of SSSIs (ha)	4880.2	4880.2	4875.9	4873.9
Number of SSSI units in Huntingdonshire	60	60	60	60
Total area of SSSI land within Huntingdonshire (ha)	2382.1	2382.1	2382.1	2382.1

SSSIs are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. There has been no change in SSSI numbers or area in Huntingdonshire during 2021/22. A corrective boundary amendment was made to Ouse Washes SSSI in 2020/21, increasing its overall area by 5.12ha, but this did not change the area of SSSI land within Huntingdonshire as the amendment was outside of the district.

8 Analysis of Policy Performance and Effects

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County Wildlife Sites (CWSs)	2021/22	Change 20/21 - 21/22
No. of CWSs within Huntingdonshire	135	0
Total area of CWSs (ha)	2348.67	0
Total length of linear sites (km) CWSs that are major rivers (such as the River Great Ouse) are not considered to have an area, but are instead classed as linear sites and given a length in km.	133.92	0
Total area of CWS land within Huntingdonshire (ha)	2018.35	0
Total length of linear sites within Huntingdonshire (km)	68.07	0
CWSs are sites selected by the CWS Group (a group of partnership organisations and individuals affiliated to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biodiversity Partnership). CWSs have no statutory protection but are recognised in the planning system. There have been no changes to the boundaries or numbers of County Wildlife Sites in Huntingdonshire in 2021/22.		

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Target	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Open space managed to Green Flag Award standard	LP32	16	4, 12	Maximise the amount of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag standard	3 sites totalling 176ha (99.55% of eligible sites)	No change	Huntingdonshire District Council (Countryside Services Team)
Number of planning applications permitted involving the loss of open space which is not to be replaced off-site, or a financial contribution made					1	Up	Huntingdonshire District Council

Access to quality greenspace is a priority for the Council. Improving the ecological, visual and recreational value of the countryside brings environmental, educational, social and health benefits. It can also boost the local economy through increased visitor spending. The Green Flag Award is open to any freely accessible park or green space. To be eligible for an award, sites must be freely accessible to the public and perform well against the following eight criteria: 'A welcoming place', 'Healthy, safe and secure', 'Clean and well-maintained', 'Sustainability', 'Conservation and heritage', 'Community involvement', 'Marketing' and 'Management'.

Open space managed to Green Flag Award standard by Huntingdonshire District Council is made up of 3 sites: Hinchingsbrooke Country Park in Huntingdon (69ha), Paxton Pits Nature Reserve in Little Paxton (75ha) and Priory Park in St Neots (32ha). Sudbury Meadow in St Neots (0.8ha) has not reapplied due to a lack of resources and voluntary commitment, however Riverside Miniature Railway in St Neots applied and now has a Green Flag Community Award.

In addition to open spaces managed by the Council, Grafham Water, which is managed by Anglian Water, holds a Green Flag. Grafham Water attracts thousands of visitors throughout the year for walking, cycling and watching wildlife at the Wildlife Trust nature reserve, as well as attending events such as triathlons and fishing competitions. It is home to an array of wildlife - 170 species of birds have been recorded there.

There was 1 planning application involving loss of open space which was not replaced off-site. The permitted application (19/01294/FUL) in Sawtry involved loss of open space. However, the Huntingdonshire District Council Green Space Team reviewed the application and noted that with the addition of six dwellings, the quantity of green open space has been reduced but there is still sufficient green open space.

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of planning permissions granted which require a low emissions strategy	LP36	24	9, 10	Ensure effects on air quality by developments are mitigated	0	Down	Huntingdonshire District Council

Pollution can arise from a wide variety of the activities and sources. Development types that are sensitive to poor air quality include, but will not be limited to, residential uses, schools, hospitals and children's playing areas. Where pollution issues are likely to arise pre-application discussions should be held with the Council, the relevant pollution control authority and stakeholders with a legitimate interest. An air quality assessment should be undertaken for proposals that may adversely affect or be affected by poor air quality.

There are four Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in Huntingdonshire – Huntingdon, Brampton, St Neots and Fenstanton, identified where the annual mean level of nitrogen dioxide exceeds 40µg/m³. The main source of nitrogen dioxide is vehicle emissions. Careful monitoring of the nitrogen dioxide levels occurs within these areas and the Council has developed an Air Quality Action Plan which includes actions to promote cycling and walking and reducing the need to travel by car.

Whether or not effects are considered to be significant is a judgement for the Council, but will include instances where there is predicted to be an increase in nitrogen dioxide of 3µg/m³ or more. Where an air quality assessment shows that as a result of the proposed development the affect on air quality could be significant, the proposal will need to be supported by a low emissions strategy. Such a strategy should concentrate on identifying measures that will tackle the air quality issues identified in the assessment. Actions with permanent or long lasting effects should be prioritised as well as actions identified in applicable air quality action plans.

In 2021/22 no permission was granted where an Air Quality Assessment identified the need for a low emissions strategy.

8 Analysis of Policy Performance and Effects

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of planning permissions granted with an agreed contamination mitigation strategy	LP37	24	2, 10	Avoid ground contamination and groundwater pollution	8	Up	Huntingdonshire District Council
Number of planning permissions for the specified development types granted in a SPZ 1 where adequate safeguards against possible contamination have not been agreed					0	No Change	

Failing to deal adequately with contamination could cause harm to human health, property and the wider environment. It could also limit or preclude new development. In matters of contamination the Council works with the Environmental Agency. However, the onus is on the developer to ensure that all proposals are situated on land where it will be safe and suitable for the proposed use. In some circumstances remediation works will be required to make land safe prior to development. A preliminary risk assessment (desk-top study and reconnaissance survey) should be undertaken as a requirement for validating relevant planning applications. Planning permission will only be granted when it can clearly be demonstrated that the development can proceed as proposed without causing pollution to controlled waters or significant risks to human health. Planning conditions will be applied to manage any outstanding detailed surveys, investigation, modelling, remediation and verification. There were 8 planning permissions granted with an agreed Contamination Mitigation Strategy in 2021/22. It is common for a condition to be attached to a planning permission regarding contamination. Once detailed survey work can be undertaken, its findings are submitted as a discharge of condition application to the Council where the details are considered in consultation with Environmental Health teams.

Groundwater provides a third of the drinking water in England and Wales, and maintains the flow in many rivers. It is crucial that development does not cause contamination of these sources so that the water is safe for human consumption. The Environment Agency has identified source protection zones (SPZs) and maintains maps showing the three main zones: inner (zone 1), outer (zone 2) and total/ source catchment (zone 3) in addition to a range of sub-zones. The main area of SPZs in the district is located to the east of Huntingdon and south of St Ives. There are also SPZs at Little Paxton and south and east of Waresley/ Great Gransden. During the monitoring year no planning permissions were granted in an SPZ 1.

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of conservation character assessments reviewed within the last five years	N/A	21	6, 7	Conservation of heritage assets in the district	0	No Change	Huntingdonshire District Council
<p>Huntingdonshire contains many sites of historic importance which are protected under specialist legislation including the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Some heritage assets make a particularly strong contribution to local identity, either individually or collectively. Any development proposal which may have an impact on these should clearly demonstrate what that impact is likely to be, how it will be addressed and how any adverse impact will be mitigated. Historic England and Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) have responsibility for the management of the historic environment through their Sites and Monuments Record and the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record. These provide extensive information on Huntingdonshire's historic environment and can assist in appreciating the potential impact of a development proposal on a heritage asset or its setting. No conservation character assessments have been reviewed in the last 5 years due to staff resource issues.</p>							

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number and % of planning applications refused on grounds of impact on heritage assets	LP34	21	6, 7	Ensure development proposals protect and conserve the district's heritage assets	48 (27.42%)	Down	Huntingdonshire District Council
<p>As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm to or loss should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of a Grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, such as scheduled monuments, grade I and II* listed buildings and grade I and II* registered parks and gardens should be wholly exceptional. In 2021/22 there were a total of 175 refusals of which 48 were contrary to LP34. The percentage is calculated from total refusals.</p>							

8 Analysis of Policy Performance and Effects

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Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number and % of planning applications refused on grounds of impact on the countryside	LP33	10	6	Reuse or replacement of buildings in the countryside	11 (6.28%)	Up	Huntingdonshire District Council

As introduced in 'What does the Local Plan do?', permitted development rights for changes of use of agricultural buildings to homes (use class 'C3') and 'flexible use', within certain limitations and with certain exceptions, are dealt with through a process known as 'Prior Approval' or 'Prior Notification'. The requirements of this policy will apply to proposals that are outside the limitations of that process, with development possible through 'Prior Approval' or 'Prior Notification' being a material consideration in the decision making process.

In 2021/22 there were a total of 175 refusals of which 11 were contrary to LP33. The percentage is calculated from total refusals.

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Number of applications refused on the basis of impact on trees, woodland, hedges and hedgerows	LP31	21	5	Protecting existing trees, woodlands, hedges and hedgerows	17 (9.71%)	Up	Huntingdonshire District Council

Trees, woodlands, hedges and hedgerows provide important habitats for a range of species, provide shelter, help reduce noise and atmospheric pollution and also store carbon dioxide, helping to mitigate against climate change. A hedge is generally found within a settlement and often has an amenity or ornamental role; a hedgerow is more commonly found in a rural setting although some old hedgerows remain within settlements and often provide field boundaries and may comprise a range of native species. They add to the character and quality of the local environment, can have historic value (e.g., ancient woodlands) and can offer recreation opportunities supporting health and wellbeing. Trees along a river bank also help to protect the river edge and shade the water reducing the potential for water to warm and thereby hold less oxygen, which is detrimental to biodiversity.

In 2021/22 there were a total of 175 refusals of which 17 were contrary to LP31, this is up from 7 refusals contrary to LP31 in 2020/21.

Indicator	Related Policy	Related Spatial Objective	Related SA Objective	Intention	Result	Direction of Change	Data Source
Permitted renewable energy capacity in MW	LP35	21	6, 7, 8	Maximise the overall provision of renewable energy capacity	Wind onshore: 0	No change	Cambridgeshire County Council (Business Intelligence (Research))
Completed renewable energy capacity in MW					Solar photovoltaics: 23.8416	Up	
					Hydro: 0	No change	
					Biomass: 0	Down	
					Total: 23.8416	Up	
					Wind onshore: 0	No change	
					Solar photovoltaics: 0.7388	Down	
					Hydro: 0	No change	
					Biomass: 0	Down	
					Total: 0.7388	Down	

Together with energy conservation measures, renewable energy generation is central to efforts to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and achieve international agreements and the requirements set out in UK legislation on reductions in carbon dioxide emissions in order to tackle climate change. Six renewable energy applications were permitted in the monitoring year (2021/22), including a large (20MW) solar farm at Wood Walton. These were all solar photovoltaic installations. Total schemes permitted are significantly up on 2020/21 (1.1524MW). There were 0.7388MW completions in 2021/22, which were all solar photovoltaics installations in 4 parishes. The largest of which was the installation of solar panels at Littlehey Prison in Perry. This is down from 53.88158 completions in 2020/21.

Appendix 1 Local Plan to 2036 Spatial Objectives

Huntingdonshire District Council Local Plan | Annual Monitoring Report - Part 2 (Policy Analysis) 2021/22

Appendix 1 Local Plan to 2036 Spatial Objectives

The Local Plan to 2036 spatial objectives summarise key policy directions and help provide a framework for developing appropriate indicators and targets for monitoring purposes.

Topics	Objectives
Cross-cutting	1. To maintain a good supply of suitable land growth in sustainable locations and focusing on previously developed land, offering sites of a variety of sizes and types to meet a range of market demands.
	2. To promote high quality, well designed, locally distinctive, sustainable development that is adaptable to climate change and resilient to extreme weather.
	3. To provide better job opportunities and more affordable homes to help create a more balanced and diverse local population and encourage more young people to stay or move here.
	4. To facilitate opportunities for people to pursue a healthy lifestyle, actively participate in their community and have a high quality of life.
Supporting a diverse, thriving economy	5. To promote economic growth and resilience and diversify the range of businesses active across the district that can add greater value to the local economy.
	6. To maximise the benefits for Huntingdonshire of the Alconbury Enterprise Zone.
	7. To maximise the advantages offered by Huntingdonshire's strategic location to develop sector specialisms, supply chains and business accommodation that complement existing local growth sectors.
	8. To increase the proportion of economically active residents in the district and promote education and skills that meet the future needs of the local economy.
	9. To enhance the role of Huntingdon, St Neots, St Ives and Ramsey's town centres helping them to adapt to modern retail trends and focusing commercial developments towards the most accessible locations.
	10. To support agriculture, farm diversification, estate management and rural tourism that will sustain the function and character of the countryside and its communities.

Local Plan to 2036 Spatial Objectives Appendix 1

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	11.To protect the best and most versatile agricultural land from built development.
Providing sufficient infrastructure to support healthy communities	12.To maintain an up-to-date Infrastructure Delivery Plan to identify the infrastructure needs of proposed developments and to prioritise investment to be provided by developer contributions and other identifiable sources.
	13.To focus investment on improving access in strategic expansion locations to make optimum use of available resources.
	14.To facilitate sustainable modes of travel and give high priority to providing access to public transport and provision of segregated routes for walking and cycling.
	15.To provide for adequate infrastructure to meet the needs of new growth and facilitate active, cohesive communities and sustainable lifestyles.
	16.To ensure inclusive and accessible provision for community needs including education, health, social care, policing, sports, libraries, play and open space, green infrastructure and integrated community facilities.
Meeting the needs of a changing population	17.To provide for a quantity and quality of housing growth to support the economic aspirations of the district while contributing to sustainable patterns of development.
	18.To provide a range of market and affordable homes that enables choice between types, sizes and tenures as well as over lifetimes and within individual communities.
	19.To provide opportunities for vulnerable people to live independent lives with support to meet their needs.
	20.To promote attractive, safe and distinctive residential neighbourhoods in which people can meet their day-to-day social, health, educational, recreational and convenience shopping requirements with access to sustainable transport to meet other needs.
Working with our climate, landscape and heritage	21.To maintain, enhance and conserve Huntingdonshire's historic environment, characteristic landscapes, natural habitats and biodiversity.
	22.To utilise sustainable design and construction techniques; as a minimum to meet national standards for building performance as they evolve and to exceed them where feasible and viable to do so.
	23.To take advantage of opportunities for minimising energy and water use and for securing carbon emissions reductions in all new development and transport choices.

Appendix 1 Local Plan to 2036 Spatial Objectives

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	24.To encourage waste management and pollution control practices which minimise and reduce contributions to climate change and avoid adverse impacts on the local environment or human health.
	25.To conserve and enhance Huntingdonshire's strategic green infrastructure, including the Great Fen and the belt of ancient woodland north of Alconbury, the River Great Ouse and its associated landscape corridor, Grafham Water and its circle of ancient woodlands and the Nene Valley, and to promote a balance between conservation and public access to and enjoyment of these assets.

Appendix 2 Local Plan to 2036 Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

SA Topic	SA Objective
Land, Water and Flood Risk	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimise development on greenfield land, maximise development on previously developed land or land with the lowest agricultural value 2. Protect water resources (both quality and quantity) 3. Manage and minimise all forms of flood risk (taking into account climate change)
Green Infrastructure and Open Space	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open and natural green space and promote the strategic green infrastructure network and links to it
Biodiversity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Protect, maintain and enhance biodiversity and habitats
Landscape	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Protect, maintain and enhance landscape and townscape character and the sense of place of our settlements
Heritage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Protect, maintain and enhance heritage assets, whether they are designated or not
Climate Change and Energy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and improve energy efficiency
Pollution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Improve air quality 10. Avoid unnecessary light, noise and visual pollution
Waste and Recycling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Reduce waste production and increase reuse, recycling and composting
Health and Wellbeing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Promote built environments that encourage and support physical activity, including extending and improving access to facilities 13. Promote accessibility of cultural and social activities
Population and Housing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Ensure all groups in society have access to decent, appropriate and affordable accommodation
Deprivation, Crime and Access to Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Redress inequalities 16. Reduce and prevent crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime 17. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of social and community services and facilities including promotion of multi-purpose design and use and efficient use of these resources

Appendix 2 Local Plan to 2036 Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

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Employment, Business, Retail and Tourism	18. Improve access to satisfying work, appropriate to skills, potential and place of residence 19. Positively and pro-actively encourage sustainable economic growth by improving the efficiency, competitiveness, vitality and viability of the local economy
Education	20. Ensure that the educational needs of the growing population are served locally while improving uptake of learning and training opportunities
Transport Infrastructure and Commuting	21. Reduce the need to travel and promote necessary infrastructure improvements and sustainable modes of transport (walking, cycling, and public transport)

Appendix 3 Local Plan to 2036 Monitoring Framework

Policy	Indicators	Related spatial objectives	Related SA objectives	Responsible agencies
LP 1 Amount of Development	Number and % of housing completions by settlement type	9	1, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	Amount and % of employment development by settlement type			
	Amount and % of completed office, retail and leisure development in town centres			
LP 2 Strategy for Development	Amount and % of completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres	1, 9, 11, 15, 17, 20, 23, 25	1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 21	Huntingdonshire District Council, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (Business Board), landowners, developers, Cambridgeshire County Council, infrastructure and service providers
	Amount and type of employment land available			
	No. and % of housing completions by settlement type			
	Amount and % of employment development by settlement type			
	CIL receipts/expenditure monitoring			
	S106 monitoring			
	Gross no. and % new dwellings on previously developed land			
	Amount and % of employment floorspace developed on previously developed land			
LP 3 Green Infrastructure	Losses to biodiversity habitat	21, 25	4, 5, 12	Huntingdonshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, town and parish councils, environmental
	Additions to biodiversity habitat			

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	Total change in biodiversity habitat			protection agencies, landowners, developers
LP 4 Contributing to Infrastructure Delivery	Annual CIL receipts/ expenditure monitoring	12, 15, 16, 20	12, 13, 14, 17, 20, 21	Huntingdonshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, town and parish councils, landowners, developers, registered providers, infrastructure and service providers
	S106 monitoring			
	Rolling update of GIIDP			
	Completion of A14 trunk road upgrade			
	Completion of A428 trunk road upgrade between Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet junctions			
	Provision of additional capacity at Huntingdon, Oldhurst, Ramsey, Somersham and St Neots Waste Water Treatment Works			
LP 5 Flood Risk	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to advice of Environment Agency on flooding or water quality grounds	2	3	Huntingdonshire District Council, Landowners, developers, registered providers, Environment Agency
LP 6 Waste Water Management	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to advice of Environment Agency on flooding or water quality grounds	24	2, 3	Huntingdonshire District Council, Environment Agency, Natural England, Anglian Water, developers, infrastructure and service providers
LP 7 Spatial Planning Areas	No. and % of housing completions by settlement type	9	1, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	Amount and % of employment development by settlement type			
	Amount and % of completed office, retail and leisure development in town centres			

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LP 8 Key Service Centres	No. and % of housing completions by settlement type	20	1, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	Amount and % of employment development by settlement type			
LP 9 Small Settlements	No. and % of housing completions by settlement type	21	1	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	Amount and % of employment development by settlement type			
LP 10 The Countryside	No. of planning permissions granted on unallocated sites on grade 1 & 2 agricultural land	21	1	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
LP 11 Design Context	No. of applications granted for large scale major development supported by an appropriate masterplan or design code	2, 4, 14, 20, 21, 22	6, 7	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
LP 12 Design Implementation	% of dwellings completed at specified densities	2, 4, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23	6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 16	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	Average household water consumption			
LP 13 Placemaking	No. of applications granted for large scale major development supported by an appropriate masterplan or design code	2	6, 8, 16	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
LP 14 Amenity	No. of applications refused where grounds of refusal included detriment to neighbouring properties	24	10, 16	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
LP 15 Surface Water	No. of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of Environment Agency on flooding or water quality grounds	2	2, 3	Huntingdonshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority, landowners, developers, registered providers

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LP 16 Sustainable Travel	No. and % of housing completions by settlement type	14, 20	21	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	No. and % of planning permissions granted for major development supported by a Transport Assessment, Transport Statement and/or Travel Plan			
LP 17 Parking Provision and vehicle Movement	Number and % of planning permissions for new main town centre uses of over 600m ² net internal floorspace achieving at least one cycle space for every 25m ² of net internal floorspace	2	16	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	Number of new homes permitted with no off-street parking			
LP 18 Established Employment Areas	Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type in Established Employment Areas	5	18, 19	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers
	Losses of employment floorspace in Established Employment Areas to non-employment uses			
LP 19 Rural Economy	Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type (gross and net in m ² in the countryside)	5, 10	19	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers
	No. of planning permissions granted for tourism, sport and recreation in the countryside			
LP 20 Homes for Rural Workers	No. of housing completions for rural workers	10	14, 15	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers
LP 21 Town Centre Vitality and Viability	Total amount of completed retail, office and leisure development	5, 9	6, 7, 19	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers
	Amount and % of completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres			

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LP 22 Local Services and Community Facilities	Amount and % of completed retail, office and leisure development (gross and net)	15, 16, 20	17, 18, 19, 20	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, town & parish councils
	Amount of completed floorspace for other use classes (net)			
LP 23 Tourism and Recreation	Number of permissions granted for tourism, sport and recreation in the countryside	5, 10	6, 7, 12, 13, 17, 19	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers
LP 24 Affordable Housing Provision	No. and % affordable housing completions (gross)	3	14, 15	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers, Homes England
LP 25 Housing Mix	Dwelling completions by number of bedrooms	3, 8, 18, 19	14, 15	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	No. of self build and custom build dwellings completed			
	Number, % and tenure of affordable housing completions (gross)			
LP 26 Specialist Housing	Amount of C2 floorspace & no. of bedrooms completed for older people and other residents	19	14, 15, 21	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	Number of self-contained (C3) specialist housing units provided by tenure			
LP 27 Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	No. of Gypsy & Traveller pitches delivered	18	14, 15	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers, travelling community
	Number of Travelling Showpeople plots delivered			
LP 28 Rural Exceptions Housing	Number of affordable homes completed through rural exceptions schemes	18	14, 15	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers, parish councils

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LP 29 Health Impact Assessment	No. and % of planning permissions granted for large scale development with a supporting rapid Health Impact Assessment	4	12	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered developers
	No. and % of planning permissions granted for large scale major development with a supporting full Health Impact Assessment			
LP 30 Biodiversity and Geodiversity	Losses to biodiversity habitat	21	4, 5	Huntingdonshire District Council, Natural Cambridgeshire Local Nature Partnership, The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biodiversity Partnership, Natural England, landowners, developers, registered providers
	Additions to biodiversity habitat			
	Total change in biodiversity habitat			
	Total number and % of Local Sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented during the last five years (Single Data List Indicator Ref 160)			
	% of SSSIs in favourable, unfavourable recovering, unfavourable no change, unfavourable declining, destroyed/part destroyed condition			
LP 31 Trees, Woodland, Hedges and Hedgerows	Number of applications refused on the basis of impact on trees, woodland, hedges and hedgerows	21	5	Huntingdonshire District Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biodiversity Partnership, Natural England, landowners, developers, registered providers
LP 32 Protection of Open Space	Open space managed to Green Flag award standard	16	4, 12	Huntingdonshire District Council, Sport England, landowners, developers, registered providers
	No. of planning applications permitted involving the loss of open space which is not to be replaced offsite, or a financial contribution made			

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LP 33 Rural Buildings	No. and % of planning applications refused on grounds of impact on the countryside	10	6	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
Chapter 8 Conserving and Enhancing the Environment - Heritage Strategy	No. of conservation character assessments reviewed within the last five years	21	6, 7	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers, Historic England, Cambridgeshire County Council
LP 34 Heritage Assets and their Settings	Number and % of planning applications refused on grounds of impact on heritage assets	21	6, 7	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
LP 35 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy	Permitted renewable energy capacity in MW	21	6, 7, 8	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	Completed renewable energy capacity in MW			
LP 36 Air Quality	Number of planning permissions granted which require a low emissions strategy	24	9, 10	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
LP 37 Ground Contamination and Groundwater Pollution	Number of planning permissions granted with an agreed contamination mitigation strategy	24	2, 10	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers
	Number of planning permissions for the specified development types granted in a SPZ 1 where adequate safeguards against possible contamination have not been agreed			
LP 38 Water Related Development	No. of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flooding or water quality grounds	10	2, 3, 5, 10, 14	Huntingdonshire District Council, landowners, developers, registered providers, Environment Agency