

Cabinet

Tuesday, 25 November 2025

Decisions

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 25 November 2025. Decisions made by the Cabinet will be subject to call-in. Recommendations made to the Council are not subject to call-in. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Habbiba Peacey.

1. Draft Greater Cambridge Local Plan for Consultation (Regulation 18) and Update of Local Development Scheme

Cabinet has:

- a. Agreed the Greater Cambridge Draft Local Plan (Regulation 18) for Public Consultation (Appendix A), subject to amendments proposed in Appendix K;
- b. Noted the Sustainability Appraisal (Appendix B) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (Appendix C) and agree them as supporting documents that will also be subject to public consultation;
- c. Agreed to the publication of the following supporting documents to the public consultation:
 - i. Topic papers for each theme (including responses to First Proposals consultation comments) (Appendix D);
 - ii. Statement of Consultation (Appendix E);
 - iii. Duty to Cooperate Statement of Compliance (Appendix F);
 - iv. Draft Duty to Cooperate Statement of Common Ground (Appendix G);
 - v. Equalities Impact Assessment (Appendix H);
 - vi. Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (Appendix I);
- d. Agreed the Update to the Local Development Scheme (Local Plan Timetable) (Appendix J);
- e. Agreed that any subsequent material amendments to be made to the plan prior to consultation commencing will be approved by the Lead Member for Planning and Transport in Cambridge City Council and Lead Cabinet Member for Planning at South Cambridgeshire District Council; and

- f. Agreed that any subsequent minor amendments and editing changes that do not materially affect the content be delegated to the Joint Director of Planning in consultation with the Lead Members for Planning.

The Chair of Scrutiny and Overview Committee and the Chair of Council agreed that this decision was urgent and, as such, should not be subject to call-in owing to the desirability of proceeding promptly to public consultation on the Local Plan and thereby reducing the impact of the forthcoming festive period on the consultation process. The consultation period has been extended until the end of January 2026, to make provision for this and enabling it to start promptly on Monday 1st December 2025.

Options Considered:

Members may decide to:

- a. Agree the recommendations, including the Draft Local Plan (recommendation a) and supporting documents (recommendations b and c), and the local development scheme (recommendation d) as proposed without making any further amendments;
- b. Agree the recommendation subject to amendments; or
- c. Not agree the recommendations.

Reason for Decision:

Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council are preparing a joint Greater Cambridge Local Plan under section 28 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. This Draft Local Plan marks the next stage in the plan making process. The Draft Local Plan proposed for consultation has been informed by consideration a wide range of issues including feedback from previous rounds of consultation, national planning policy, and the Local Plan evidence base.

To enable submission of the Local Plan to meet the deadline set by the government for local plans under the current plan making system it will be necessary for this stage of consultation to progress in time to allow sufficient time for the Local Plan process to conclude with the submission of a Joint Local Plan to the Government by the end of 2026.

Following consideration by Scrutiny committees of each Council a number of issues were identified for further consideration. Potential modifications to the Draft Local Plan have been identified and proposed for inclusion in the final document.