



# **Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report**

**June 2012**

Published by South Cambridgeshire District Council

© June 2012

**If you would like a copy of this document  
in large print or another format please contact  
South Cambridgeshire District Council on  
03450 450 500 or email [ldf@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:ldf@scambs.gov.uk)**

**The maps in this document are based upon the Ordnance Survey  
mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's  
Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction  
infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil  
proceedings. South Cambridgeshire District Council Licence No. LA  
100022500 (2012)**

# Contents

	Page
<b>Executive Summary</b>	
<b>The Scoping Report</b>	
<b>Chapter 1 Introduction</b>	1
<b>Chapter 2 The Sustainability Appraisal Process</b>	2
<b>Chapter 3 Relationship to Other Assessments</b>	4
Strategic Environmental Assessment	4
Habitat Regulation Assessment	4
Health Impact Assessment	5
Equality Impact Assessment	5
Rural Proofing	6
<b>Chapter 4 Overview of South Cambridgeshire</b>	7
Overview of the New South Cambridgeshire Local Plan	8
The Current Position	8
The Need to Review	8
<b>Chapter 5 Sustainability Themes</b>	11
<b>Chapter 6 The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Process</b>	13
Review relevant plans and programmes	14
Collect and review baseline information	15
Identify key issues and problems	16
Identify sustainability objectives and appraisal questions	16
Indicators	17
<b>Chapter 7 Difficulties Encountered</b>	18
<b>Chapter 8 Consultation</b>	19
<b>Chapter 9 Subsequent stages of the Sustainability Appraisal process</b>	30
Stage B Developing and Refining Alternatives and Identifying Significant Effects	31
Stage C Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report	33
Stage D Consulting on the Draft Plan and the Sustainability Report	34
Stage E Monitoring and Implementation of the LDF	35
Tables 8;9 and 10	36
<b>Sustainability Themes</b>	
<b>Chapter 10 Land and Soil Resources</b>	56
Efficient use of land	57
Agricultural land	62
Waste	64
Mineral Resources	67
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	69
<b>Chapter 11 Air Quality and Environmental Pollution</b>	70
Air Quality	71
Water Quality	78
Land Contamination	83
Odour Pollution	86
Noise Pollution	88
Light Pollution	95
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	99
<b>Chapter 12 Biodiversity</b>	100

Protection and Enhancement of Habitats and Species	101
Green Infrastructure	116
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	122
<b>Chapter 13 Landscape, Townscape and Cultural</b>	123
Landscape Character	124
Green Belt	128
Design	131
Historic Environment	137
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	142
<b>Chapter 14 Climate Change</b>	143
Climate Change	144
Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	148
Water Resources	158
Managing Flood Risk	163
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	167
<b>Chapter 15 Healthy Communities</b>	168
Improving the Health of the Community	169
An Ageing Population	174
Availability and Access to Health Services in the Rural Area	178
Healthy Lifestyles	183
Reducing Crime and Fear of Crime	187
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	190
<b>Chapter 16 Inclusive Communities -Housing</b>	191
Achieving Delivery of Housing	192
Providing Housing in the Right Location	198
Affordability	202
Right Mix of Type and Size	212
Particular Housing Needs	217
Making the Most of the Existing Housing Stock	221
Specialist Housing Needs for Travellers	225
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	230
<b>Chapter 17 Inclusive Communities –Redressing Inequalities</b>	231
<b>and Involving the Community</b>	
Redressing Inequalities	232
Rurality	239
Involvement of Community in Planning	244
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	247
<b>Chapter 18 Economic Activity</b>	249
The Nature of the Economy	250
Economic Land Supply	258
Workforce	265
Retailing	268
Investment in Infrastructure	271
The Rural Economy	275
Tourism	278
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	280
<b>Chapter 19 Transport</b>	282
Encouraging Modal Shift	283
A14, Congestion and Commuting Patterns	290
Freight Traffic	296
Air Quality and Climate Change	299
Health and Safety	302
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	305
<b>Habitat Regulations Assessment</b>	

**Chapter 20 Habitats Regulation Assessment Scoping** 306

**Appendices** Detailed Review of Plans and Programmes,  
Information Sources and Evidence Base 313

Appendix 1 – Land & Soil Resources

Appendix 2 - Air Quality and Environmental Pollution

Appendix 3 - Biodiversity

Appendix 4 - Landscape and Townscape

Appendix 5 - Climate Change

Appendix 6 - Healthy Communities

Appendix 7 - Inclusive Communities - Housing

Appendix 8 - Inclusive Communities - Redressing inequalities  
and involving the community.

Appendix 9 - Economic Activity

Appendix 10 – Transport

Appendix 11 – Habitats Directive Assessment Scoping