

## Appendix 1: Consultation Bodies for Plan Making

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 specify a number of organisations that local planning authorities should consider consulting when preparing planning policy documents. These are known as ‘Specific Consultation Bodies’ and ‘General Consultation Bodies’.

The Regulations allow the councils to select ‘such of’ the Specific and General Consultation Bodies that may have an interest and/or the ‘local planning authority consider appropriate’ to the consultation document being prepared.

The organisations the councils will consult will be drawn from the list in this appendix and will depend upon the nature of the consultation being undertaken, bearing in mind:

1. The area covered by the document – certain organisations may only operate in parts of Cambridge and/or South Cambridgeshire:
  - a. The new Local Plan for Greater Cambridge will cover the whole of both Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire.
  - b. A topic-based Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) elaborating on district-wide policies in one or other council’s adopted Local Plan may cover the whole of Cambridge or South Cambridgeshire.
  - c. A site specific SPD may cover part of Cambridge or South Cambridgeshire.
2. The subject matter of the document - an SPD may address a specific topic which may only be of interest to some organisations.

The consultation bodies outlined in this appendix are common to both Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire. Where there are differences between the councils, these have been identified below.

### Specific Consultation Bodies

The ‘Specific Consultation Bodies’ are defined in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, Part 6, Regulation 2 as the following:

- The Coal Authority(b)<sup>37</sup>
- The Environment Agency
- The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (now known as Historic England)
- The Marine Management Organisation(e),
- Natural England

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<sup>37</sup> The Coal Authority has advised South Cambridgeshire District Council it does not wish to be consulted

- Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (company number 2904587) (Network Rail Office of Rail Regulation)
- The Highways Agency (now known as Highways England)
- Relevant authority any part of whose area is in or adjoins the local planning authority's area:
  - a) A local planning authority

For both LPAs this includes Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority

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| <p>SCDC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bedford Borough Council</li> <li>• Braintree District Council</li> <li>• Cambridge City Council</li> <li>• East Cambridgeshire District Council</li> <li>• Fenland District Council</li> <li>• Huntingdonshire District Council</li> <li>• North Hertfordshire District Council</li> <li>• Peterborough City Council</li> <li>• Uttlesford District Council</li> <li>• West Suffolk Council (comprising Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury Councils)</li> </ul> | <p>CCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Cambridgeshire District Council</li> </ul> |
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- b) A county council referred to in section 16(1) of the Act,

For both LPAs this includes Cambridgeshire County Council

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| <p>SCDC: Also includes the following adjoining county councils:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essex County Council</li> <li>• Hertfordshire County Council</li> <li>• Suffolk County Council</li> </ul> |  |
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- c) A parish council

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| <p>SCDC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Councils within South Cambridgeshire; and</li> <li>• Parish Councils which adjoin South Cambridgeshire</li> </ul> | <p>CCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Councils within South Cambridgeshire which adjoin the City</li> </ul> |
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- d) A local policing body (Cambridgeshire Constabulary)

- any person—
  - (i) to whom the electronic communications code applies by virtue of a direction given under section 106(3)(a) of the Communications Act 2003, and

(ii) who owns or controls electronic communications apparatus situated in any part of the local planning authority's area,

- If it exercises functions in any part of the local planning authority's area—
  - (i) a Primary Care Trust established under section 18 of the National Health Service Act 2006(g) or continued in existence by virtue of that section; (now known as Clinical Commissioning Groups)
  - (ii) a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 6(1)(b) or (c) of the Electricity Act 1989(h);
  - (iii) a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 7(2) of the Gas Act 1986(a);
  - (iv) a sewerage undertaker; and
  - (v) a water undertaker;
- The Homes and Communities Agency (now known as Homes England); and
- where the local planning authority are a London borough council, the Mayor of London<sup>38</sup>.

### **General Consultation Bodies**

The 'General Consultation Bodies' are defined in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, Part 6, Regulation 2 as the following:

- a) voluntary bodies some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the local planning authority's area;
- b) bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the local planning authority's area;
- c) bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the local planning authority's area;
- d) bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the local planning authority's area;
- e) bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in the local planning authority's area;

The LPAs must also ensure they meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010. To ensure the views of 'harder to reach groups' are represented, the LPAs will work closely with relevant organisations that have experience in a particular matter to find the best way of consulting and liaising with these groups.

The LPAs will also consult with other consultation bodies which they consider to be appropriate to planning and who do not fall into the above categories. These may include:

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<sup>38</sup> Note: the Mayor of London and Transport for London are not applicable to Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire.

- Residents' Associations;
- Developers and agents;
- Landowners;
- Special interest groups.

### **Duty to Co-operate Bodies**

The 'Duty to Cooperate Bodies' are defined in Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, Part 2, Regulation 4 as follows:

- The Environment Agency
- The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (known as Historic England)
- Natural England
- the Mayor of London <sup>2</sup>
- The Civil Aviation Authority
- The Homes and Communities Agency (now known as Homes England)
- Each clinical commissioning group established under section 14D of the National Health Service Act 2006
- The National Health Service Commissioning Board;
- The Office of Rail Regulation (known as the Office of Rail and Road)
- Transport for London <sup>2</sup>
- Each Integrated Transport Authority
- Each highway authority within the meaning of section 1 of the Highways Act 1980 (including the Secretary of State, where the Secretary of State is the highways authority)
- The Marine Management Organisation.

In addition, the Planning Practice Guidance states:

“Local Enterprise Partnerships and Local Nature Partnerships are not subject to the requirements of the duty. But local planning authorities and the public bodies that are subject to the duty must cooperate with Local Enterprise Partnerships and Local Nature Partnerships and have regard to their activities when they are preparing their Local Plans, so long as those activities are relevant to local plan making.”

(Planning Practice Guidance, Paragraph: 006 Reference ID: 9-006-20160519)