



Cambridge Past, Present & Future  
Wandlebury Country Park  
Cambridge CB22 3AE

## Draft Greater Cambridge Local Plan for consultation

Suggested alternative wording to Policy GP/QP: Establishing high quality landscapes and public realm.  
New text in red

### 1.a. Enabling local communities;

- i. It should be demonstrated that sufficient public realm and greenspace is appropriate in size and composition for the number of people in the local community (new and existing) expected to use them. Depending on the size and complexity of the development this may be a range of greenspace and public realm or just one adequately sized space.
- ii The area(s) should be overlooked (or with natural surveillance), be well located so as to be convenient and well connected to the community they serve, not be dominated by motorised vehicles, have an adequately sized kickabout area, passive areas to read, chat and enjoy the landscape/planting etc., play areas for different age groups, provide a high quality of planting variety and hierarchy.
- iii Wherever possible, sufficient additional greenspace should be made available for an above ground sustainable drainage system separate from the open green space.
- iv Areas of public realm should be of an adequate size and proportion to the buildings that surround them and should be designed to allow adequate sunlight and shade throughout the day and sufficient artificial light to be safe for all users.
- v. Surfacing of the public realm should be of high quality, durable and easily maintained.
- vi. There should be a hierarchy of streets with adequate space allowed for the planting of street trees including large scale trees. Street trees offer shade to buildings as well as shade in streets and squares and help reduce the urban heat island effect. Sufficient space above and below ground must be provided to accommodate root and branch systems, enabling the tree to reach its ultimate size without the need for pruning.

### 1.b. Enhancing connectivity;

- i. Ensure new and enhanced existing routes are designed inclusively, prioritising a pedestrian led movement hierarchy including generous and level footways;
- ii. Ensure that new and existing public realm and greenspace seamlessly connects, is accessible for all intended users. Street furniture should not obstruct the public realm or create street clutter;
- iii. Establish streets and greenspaces that are well defined, and which clearly demarcate public and private space;
- iv. Establish a hierarchy of streets that responds to varying levels of use, avoids vehicular dominance in terms of parked cars, and accommodates a corresponding hierarchy of street trees.

1.c.iii. Seek opportunities to incorporate street trees, including large scale species trees such as Lime and London Plane, into the public realm .....

Spilt 1.d.ii into two sections, creating an additional point to emphasise the importance of space for trees to achieve successful public realm.

ii Ensure that the right growing conditions and future management regimes for landscape schemes are secured as part of any planning permission granted and implemented across the agreed timeframe

iii Ensure that space for trees, especially large scale trees, without the need for canopy or root management, and other planting is incorporated that is appropriate to the scale of buildings.

1.e.iii – Seek to remove any barriers, both actual and perceived through public realm improvements by minimising barriers to accessibility and inclusion of users including those wheeling and skateboarding.

To avoid risk to skate boarders themselves, pedestrians, wheel chair users and cyclists, skate boarding should be accommodated in separate areas and not encouraged as part of active travel.

Amend 1.f.ii Encouraging walking, wheeling including by skateboard, cycling and other forms of active travel