

APPENDIX 4
APPRAISAL TABLES FOR
ADOPTED STRUCTURE PLAN

Key to Symbols

Symbol	Impact
✓✓	Major positive impact
✓	Minor positive impact
xx	Major negative impact
x	Minor negative impact
-	No significant effects
?	Uncertain impact
✓/x/?	In some instances, the Aim or Guiding Principle could have both positive and negative effects against a sustainability objective. The reasons for including both ticks and crosses in the appraisal fully explained in the commentary column. In other instances, where there is some uncertainty as to whether the effect will occur, a question mark may be added to the tick or cross.

Aim 1: to sustain and improve the quality of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	✓	Environmental improvements in the widest sense are likely to benefit all members of society.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	-	No significant effects.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	-	No significant effects.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	-	No significant effects.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓✓	Aim 1 is fairly general and does not specify which aspects of environmental quality will be sustained and improved. However, environmental improvements in general should secure more attractive and safe living and working environments. Supporting objectives, such as that seeking built environmental quality in the Rural and Urban Conservation chapter will help to achieve this Aim.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	✓✓	As stated above, Aim 1 is fairly general and does not specify which aspects of environmental quality will be sustained and improved. Improvements to environmental quality should help to maintain local distinctiveness for future generations, ensuring that successful implementation of this Aim will contribute positively to this objective.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✓✓?	Overall improvements to environmental quality should help to maintain and enhance biodiversity. The Aim is directed specifically at benefits for man's present and future generations though, rather than nature conservation for its own sake. The environmental quality interests of man do not necessarily coincide with wildlife and habitat interests.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓✓?	There is a direct correlation on environmental quality improvements between the aim and the sustainability objective. Pollution levels are not specifically mentioned in Aim 1, but should form part of general environmental improvements. Aim 1's impact on pollution is backed up by objectives in the Transport chapter.
9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓?	Success in improving environmental quality (air, noise, congestion etc) will partly depend upon reducing the impact of traffic and the private car. However, the aim is not detailed enough to specifically address this issue, although is supported by pollution and energy efficiency objectives in the Transport chapter.

Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas	✓	Improving the quality of the urban environment will involve addressing areas of dereliction and reducing the numbers of disused buildings. This will help to make better use of urban land and should also help to reduce pressure on greenfield land.
11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	✓	Sustaining and improving environmental quality should involve both protecting the best agricultural land and reducing the impact of agricultural chemicals on the environment.
12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	✓	Maintaining and enhancing environmental quality should ensure a long term and environmentally sustainable water supply.
13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	✓?	The Aim refers directly to future generations and the environment that they will experience. The climate change process will significantly affect future generations. Improvements to overall environmental quality will help to accommodate the climate change process and to reduce its adverse effects. Little supporting information on climate change is provided by objectives in later chapters.
14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	✓	The Aim is not specific, but improvements in environmental quality will rely partly on reductions in CO ₂ emissions. In addition, long term environmental improvements are likely to be reliant upon dramatically increased use of renewable energy.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✗	Sustaining and improving environmental quality may require restrictions on new development and commercial/industrial processes. Such restrictions could hold back economic growth. Some opportunities for growth in environmental technology may occur.
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✗	Restrictions on new development and commercial/industrial processes to sustain and improve environmental quality may discourage investors.
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✗	The potential restrictions on economic development and investment outlined above would have implications for employment opportunities.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	✗	Action to improve environmental quality will have a necessary focus upon energy efficient transport and reducing travel demand. This could impose restrictions on economic growth in sectors reliant upon the movement of goods and people.

Aim 2: to make adequate provision for housing, jobs, services, and facilities, with priority for population living and working within the County		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	✓✓?	Adequate provision of jobs, housing, services and facilities is vital for reducing disparity. The Aim prioritises local needs, which should help. However, the Aim makes no reference to location. Jobs, housing, services and facilities must be accessible to all sectors of the community to be successful in reducing disparity. The Industry and Business chapter objectives seek to address disadvantaged areas.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	✓✓?	Adequate provision of jobs for local people will help to reduce the number of low/no income households. Provision of education and training services are also important in enhancing access to employment opportunities. Again the potential problem is location and accessibility of the jobs and services.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	✓✓?	This aim seeks to make adequate provision for housing for local people. It should contribute to meeting the objective, provided that the housing is well located in relation to jobs and services. Further positive clarification on location is given by the detailed housing chapter objectives.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	✓✓?	As with the above three points, Aim 2 will help to meet the objective provided that the services and facilities are well located.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓?	Adequate provision of services, facilities and housing could contribute to a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work. However, use of the term 'adequate provision' in the aim does not suggest that major improvements in building or service quality will be forthcoming.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	?	New development to enable 'adequate provision' could potentially have adverse impacts on the landscapes, townscapes and settlement settings of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The impact will depend on the extent, location and type of development. High design quality and respect for local character in new development is important as this could help to mitigate against adverse impacts.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✗?	New development to make 'adequate provision' could have potential adverse impacts on biodiversity through loss of habitats and disturbance to species. The extent to which this is the case will depend on the location and type of development.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓?	Provision of additional public transport services could reduce pollution and improve environmental quality. A significant impact is likely to be dependent upon a dramatic improvement in public transport, requiring major investment.

9.	To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	?	Adequate provision of housing, jobs, services and facilities could, depending on proximity to existing settlements and population, help to reduce the length and number of motorised journeys. However, the aim gives no indication of location, so potentially could increase traffic movements if development occurs in the wrong locations. Increased provision of public transport services should help to encourage use of alternative means of transport. Consideration of the more detailed individual chapter objectives reveals a strong emphasis on reducing the need to travel.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources			
10.	To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas	?	The impact that Aim 2 will have on this sustainability objective will depend on how other, more detailed, Structure Plan policies and objectives influence the location of housing, jobs, services and facilities.
11.	To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	x	Making 'adequate provision' of housing, jobs, services and facilities could potentially result in the loss of some agricultural land.
12.	To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	✓✓?	Adequate provision of services will include a safe water supply. The extent to which this supply is used efficiently will depend on other measures. The aim does not address the possibility that water resources may not be able to cope with increased demand.
13.	To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	?	The lack of locational emphasis in Aim 2 means that the integrity of existing and future floodplains may or may not be maintained. Failure to maintain their integrity would increase the risk of flooding.
14.	To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	✓	Indirectly this aim could, through the type of buildings provided, encourage energy efficiency and good urban design, and hence reduce energy consumption and CO ₂ emissions. This is dependent on more detailed Structure Plan policies and actual implementation.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment			
15.	To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✓✓	Aim 2 seeks to make adequate provision for jobs, particularly for local people, which suggests that sustained economic growth will be encouraged.
16.	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✓✓	Indigenous and inward investment are likely to be encouraged by action to secure adequate provision for jobs, particularly for local people.
17.	To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✓✓	Aim 2 seeks to make adequate provision for jobs, particularly for local people, which should maintain a sustainable growth in employment.
18.	To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	✓	General improvements to transport services and accessibility should help to support economic growth.

Aim 3: to improve the quality of life in those parts of the County, and for sections of the community, which are relatively disadvantaged		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	✓✓	By specifically targeting the relatively disadvantaged people and areas, Aim 3 should help to reduce disparity and achieve greater social equality. General quality of life improvements should benefit everyone.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	✓✓	Aim 3 seeks to improve quality of life for the relatively disadvantaged. Income and employment opportunities have an important role in improving quality of life and increasing choices, to which this Aim should positively contribute.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	✓✓	Poor quality housing is often a key issue for the relatively disadvantaged. Improvements to quality of life for all sections of the community will require satisfactory access to residential accommodation.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	✓✓	Health, education, recreation and community services and facilities are an important element of quality of life, so Aim 3 should positively contribute to meeting this sustainability objective.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓✓	Widespread improvement to quality of life for all can only be achieved when everyone feels safe and happy in their day to day environment.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	✓	Quality of life is partly dependent on the quality of landscape and townscape that people experience. Improvements to quality of life should retain and improve landscape, townscape and setting. However, the aim gives no indication on how this will be achieved.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✓?	Improvements to people's quality of life may include enhanced access to the natural environment. This may prompt action to enhance biodiversity, although increased pressure for access may adversely affect wildlife through increased disturbance.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓	Low pollution levels are an important element of quality of life. Action to improve quality of life must include efforts to reduce pollution levels.
9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓	Relatively disadvantaged people and areas often suffer from poor physical access to housing, jobs and services. This issue must be addressed to secure widespread improvements in quality of life, but the aim is not specific on how transport improvements will be achieved.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce consumption of undeveloped land	✘	Open space is an element of quality of life. Maintaining open space provision may conflict with efforts to maximise the use of urban land.
11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	-	No significant effects
12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	✓?	Adequate water supply is an essential element of quality of life. Aim 3 should contribute to meeting this objective, but gives no detail on provision.

13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	✓?	Fear and risk of flooding may reduce quality of life. Comprehensive action to improve quality of life will require a programme to deal with climate change, but the aim is not specific on this issue.
14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	✓?	CO ₂ emissions will, in the long term, influence quality of life. Improvements to quality of life are dependent upon atmospheric improvement, but the aim is not specific on how this will be achieved.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✓?	Economic growth can contribute to quality of life improvements. The aim may need support in terms of directing growth towards disadvantaged areas in order to prove successful.
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✓?	Again quality of life improvements are likely to be dependent upon targeting investment towards the most disadvantaged areas and sections of the community.
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✓?	Job opportunities are an important element of quality of life. So aiming to increase the quality of life for the disadvantaged should include measures to provide job opportunities and hence contribute to meeting this sustainability objective.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	✓?	Improved quality of life will require enhanced access to employment opportunities for disadvantaged groups. The aim is not specific, but achievement of the aim will require accessibility improvements.

Aim 4: to protect high quality agricultural land, and to reduce the rate of consumption of non-renewable resources of all kinds		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	-	No significant effects
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	-	No significant effects
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	?	The Structure Plan area has large areas of high quality agricultural land. Protecting this land may inhibit the ability to ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home, unless sufficient housing (and related employment/services land) can be provided elsewhere.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	-	No significant effects
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓✓	Protection of agricultural land will help to maintain an attractive rural environment, depending on how it is managed, and help prevent sporadic and sprawling urban growth.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	✓✓?	The Structure Plan area is largely characterised by agricultural land uses. Protection for this land should help to maintain the area's landscapes and settlement settings. However, the aim makes no reference to sustainable agricultural practices, which are essential for enhancing the rural landscape.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✓✓?	Biodiversity is a non-renewable resource. Aim 4 should therefore contribute to achieving this sustainability objective by reducing the rate of damage to wildlife and habitats. However the way in which agricultural land is managed can affect biodiversity positively or negatively. Continuation of intensive farming practices will cause further loss of species and habitats.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	x/✓✓	Protection and intensive use of agricultural land may involve the widespread use of chemicals, which could increase pollution. Runoff and leaching of chemicals could cause water quality to deteriorate. Reductions in consumption of non renewable resources, such as fossil fuels, will help to reduce pollution levels.
9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓✓	Fossil fuels are a non-renewable resource. Reductions in their usage will encourage the use of more environmentally friendly modes of transport.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land	✓✓	Aim 4, by aiming to protect agricultural land, could contribute indirectly to the achievement of this sustainability objective by steering development towards urban brownfield sites.
11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	✓✓	In terms of land protection, the aim should fully meet the objective, though the aim does not specifically promote sustainable use of the land.

12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	x/✓	Protection, and by implication continued use, of high quality agricultural land could involve use of chemicals which may adversely affect water resource quality. Reduction in consumption of water will be beneficial.
13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	x x	Protection of agricultural land in Fenland is likely to directly conflict with sustainable management of the climate change process and possible managed retreat in the long term.
14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	✓✓	Fossil fuels are a non-renewable resource. Reduction in the rate of consumption of non-renewable sources of energy is likely to encourage the use of renewable sources. Aim 4 should therefore contribute to achieving this sustainability objective.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	x/✓	Reduced consumption of fossil fuels and other non renewable resources may hold back economic growth, and therefore work against achieving this sustainability objective. Alternatively reduced consumption of non-renewable energy sources offers potential for R&D and growth in renewable and energy efficiency technology. Farms will also be protected to some extent.
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✓	Investment in high tech industries seeking renewable resources should benefit from Aim 4.
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✓	Implementation of this Aim should help to protect the rural economy.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	x	Reduced consumption of non renewable energy sources may hold back the development of transport and distribution systems to support economic growth, particularly in the short term until alternatives are developed.

Aim 5: to protect and conserve water resources and water in the environment		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	-	No significant effects.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	-	No significant effects.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	-	No significant effects. The Environment Agency has indicated that sufficient water resources are available to meet new housing needs over the next Structure Plan period.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	✓?	Protection and conservation of waterbodies and waterways may offer additional recreational opportunities. However, increased recreational use could conflict with the protection of water based habitats and species.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓✓	Waterbodies and waterways make a major contribution to many urban and rural environments. Measures to conserve and protect such features will enhance the appearance of the environments in which people live and work.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	✓✓	Waterbodies, rivers and waterways are often important features in landscape and townscape. Protection of these features will contribute positively to the quality and distinctiveness of different areas.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✓✓	Through the protection and conservation of water in the environment, this Aim should assist in maintaining aquatic habitats and their associated biodiversity. Wetland habitats are of great importance across the Structure Plan area, and particularly in the Fenland area.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓?	Protection of water resources and the water environment is heavily dependent on reducing pollution levels. Aim 5 should help to improve and maintain the quality of ground and surface waters, but relies upon concurrent action on pollution.
9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓?	Protection of waterways as a result of this aim may help promote their use for the movement of freight, although this is dependent upon supporting policies. Freight movement by water does not feature in the Transport chapter.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land	xx/✓	Protection for surface water resources and their floodplains may conflict with the pressure for increased development within urban areas. Some damage to existing waterways and waterbodies, as well as encroachment on their floodplains, could result from development. Conversely the protection of rural surface water resources may contribute to a shift in focus towards urban areas.
11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	✓	Water conservation measures form an element of sustainable agricultural practices.

12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	✓✓	Aim 5 will directly contribute to the achievement of this sustainability objective. Protection of water resources from pollution will also help maintain a safe drinking water supply.
13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	✓/✗	Aim 5 should help to maintain the integrity of existing flood plains. However, the protection of surface water resources and their floodplains, and possibly managed retreat, will adversely affect property in the long term as a result of climate change and increased flood risk.
14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	-	No significant effects.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✓	The aim promotes water conservation, which could encourage the development and expansion of businesses producing the appropriate equipment and technology.
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✓	Promotion of water conservation measures should encourage investment in sectors producing water efficiency technology.
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	-	No significant effects.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	?	The Aim and subsequent Transport objectives fail to pick up on possible waterway use for freight movement.

Aim 6: to conserve and improve the urban and rural environment		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	✓?	Aim 6 could help to reduce disparity if environmental improvements are focussed on the more deprived urban and rural areas. The aim is not specific about this, but should have a positive impact in conjunction with Aim 3.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	-	No significant effects
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	✓?	Improvements to the urban and rural environment should include improvements to the housing stock. However, conservation of both urban and rural environments may reduce the availability of land for new housing provision.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	✓	Aim 6 should contribute to enhanced provision of high quality recreation and community services and facilities (such as parks and playing fields).
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓✓	Conserving the best of the rural and urban environment and improving other more typical areas should increase the attractiveness of living and working environments for everyone.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	✓✓	Aim 6 correlates closely with this sustainability objective.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✓✓	Habitats and species form a vital part of the urban and rural environment. Although not specific about nature conservation, Aim 6 should help to achieve this sustainability objective, provided that supportive objectives in the Rural and Urban Conservation and Agriculture chapters are successfully implemented.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓?	In their widest sense, improvements to the urban and rural environment will include restrictions on pollution. The aim is not specific about how these will be achieved.
9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓	No significant effects, although the Aim would make urban areas more attractive places in which to live, reducing journey distances.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land	x/✓	Conservation of urban buildings may reduce the availability of urban land, which could conflict with this sustainability objective. Alternatively improvements to urban environments could promote better use of land and help conserve rural environments by reducing pressure.
11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	✓✓	Agricultural land is an important part of the rural environment. Therefore Aim 6, which seeks to protect the rural environment, should contribute to the achievement of this sustainability objective.

12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	-	No significant effects
13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	x x	Efforts to conserve the urban and rural environment may conflict with sustainable management of the climate change process.
14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	x	Aim 6 will have little impact on the achievement of this sustainability objective. However, conservation of buildings may preclude the use of energy conservation measures.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	x/✓	Conservation of certain environments, such as the urban and surrounding rural environments of Cambridge, may inhibit the growth of certain economic sectors with specific requirements for accommodation. Economic growth may result from conservation related businesses. Improved urban and rural environments would prove attractive to inward investors.
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	-	No significant effects
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✓/x	Conservation of rural and urban environments should help to generate jobs, for example, in sustainable tourism and building maintenance. A restrictive approach to conservation may slow employment growth in other sectors.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	-	No significant effects

Aim 7: to encourage energy efficiency		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	✘?	Aim 7 will only reduce disparity if energy efficiency measures are available to the more deprived sections of the community. Potentially this aim could increase disparity if energy efficiency measures are only available to the wealthy, who would then also benefit from reduced energy bills.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	-	No significant effects.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	✓	Promotion of energy efficiency measures should improve the overall quality of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's housing stock.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	-	No significant effects.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	-	No significant effects.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	-	No significant effects.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✓	In a global sense, energy efficiency measures will help to support biodiversity through reduced pollution and environmental impact. The impact that increased energy efficiency within the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area will have is clearly more limited, although still important.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓✓	Use of energy efficient modes of transport/forms of heating in buildings etc. will help to reduce emissions and therefore improve local and global air quality.
9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓	Implementation of Aim 7 should help to support this objective and reduce the environmental impact of transport movements, whilst not necessarily leading to a reduction in length or number of movements.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land		No significant effects.
11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	-	No significant effects.
12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	-	No significant effects.
13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	✓✓	In a global sense, improvements to energy efficiency and reductions in wastage will, in the long term, reduce the impact of climate change and global warming.

14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	✓✓	Aim 7 deals directly with the achievement of this sustainability objective, particularly in terms of overall consumption. Increased energy efficiency will help to reduce CO ₂ emissions. However, energy efficiency measures, whilst reducing consumption, do little in themselves to encourage less wastage of energy. No support for renewable energy sources and usage is provided by Aim 7, although one objective in the Energy Generation and Conservation chapter targets renewable energy.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✓	The aim promotes energy efficiency, which could encourage the development and expansion of businesses producing the appropriate equipment and technology, and increase competitiveness of existing businesses..
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✓	Promotion of energy efficiency measures should encourage investment in sectors producing appropriate technology.
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	-	No significant effects.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	✗?	Energy efficiency measures imply reduced movements of traffic. This could restrict movements related to economic growth unless distribution by sustainable and energy efficient methods can be achieved.

Guiding Principle 1. Sustainable development: The scale and pattern of new development in the County is to be environmentally sustainable. Environmentally sustainable development is defined as development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, and which avoids irreparable or long-term damage to the environment		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	✓	The Guiding Principle's emphasis on sustainability seeks to meet the needs of the present and future, but does not specifically address reducing disparity.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	✓?	Again the emphasis on meeting needs is a positive sign which should make some contribution improving employment opportunities for all. Environmental sustainability may involve some restriction on economic growth.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	✗?	This definition of sustainable development places the emphasis on the environment. Restrictions on development for environmental protection reasons may reduce opportunities to meet the housing needs of the whole population.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	✓?	Meeting present and future needs should include additional service provision, provided that there are no significant adverse environmental impacts.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓✓?	Environmental sustainability should play a crucial role in improving the quality and attractiveness of the everyday environment.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	✓/?	The supporting text to Guiding Principle 1 states that ways sustainable development will be achieved include restricting the overall rate of housing increase and by promoting a concentrated pattern of growth. This should contribute to the achievement of this sustainability objective, by protecting existing local character and distinctiveness in rural areas. Conversely, unless high design standards are secured, the quality and distinctiveness of urban areas will suffer from concentrated development
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✓✓?	Ensuring that new development is sustainable will help to avoid long term damage to nature conservation interests including both species and habitats. In general though, new development will often cause additional pressure on biodiversity.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓✓	Long term environmental sustainability is heavily dependent upon the achievement of major reductions in pollution and overall improvements to environmental quality.
9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓✓	The supporting text to Guiding Principle 1 fully supports this sustainability objective and seeks to improve transport efficiency.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land	✓✓	The concentration of new development to achieve environmental and energy efficiency benefits is clearly set out in the supporting text.

11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	✓	A side effect of the concentrated pattern of growth should be a reduction in pressure on agricultural land.
12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	✓✓	Environmental sustainability will involve reductions in pollution levels and not overexploiting the earth's resources, both of which should protect water supplies. The supporting text also stresses the importance of reducing resource consumption.
13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	✓?	The supporting text to this Guiding Principle mentions the need to avoid climate change and sea level rises. However it gives no direct guidance on how this can be achieved and fails to mention taking a sustainable approach to the changes that are already likely.
14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	✓✓	Efforts to improve environmental sustainability must include reductions in energy usage and pollution, which the supporting text recognises.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✗	The Structure Plan's definition of sustainability does not specifically include economic issues. The restrictions on population and housing growth set out in the supporting text may limit economic growth.
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✗	Restrictions on population and housing growth may discourage high levels of inward investment.
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✗	Economic growth and investment restrictions may limit new job opportunities.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	✓	The supporting text seeks to develop efficient and integrated transport, which should reduce congestion and support economic growth.

Guiding Principle 2. Economic development and employment: The potential for economic development and employment growth in the County is to be fulfilled within a positive guiding framework, which encourages some selective dispersal of investment in jobs from the congested areas in the south and west to centres in the north and east.		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	✓✓?	Guiding Principle 2 gives a commitment to encouraging some dispersal of investment and jobs to the north and east of the Structure Plan area. These areas are relatively disadvantaged compared to areas further south and west. Consequently dispersal of jobs and investment should generally help to meet this objective, although relatively deprived wards in the more prosperous south and east may not benefit from increased opportunities.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	✓✓?	Areas to the north and east of the Structure Plan area are often reliant on limited employment sectors, with an emphasis on the rural economy. Dispersal of investment to these areas will enhance access to a range of job opportunities for local residents, although again residents of relatively deprived wards elsewhere in the Structure Plan area may miss out on additional employment opportunities.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	?	Employment growth is reliant upon a labour source. Dispersal of employment opportunities may create demand for additional housing for workers if accommodation is not already available. This issue is addressed by Guiding Principle 4.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	?	Dispersal of employment opportunities northwards and eastwards is likely to increase demand by workers for an increased range of local services. This should benefit existing residents, provided that funding for additional services is available.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	-	No significant effects.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	x/✓	Dispersal of jobs and investment to the northern and eastern areas, which currently experience lower development pressures, could help to protect the physical environment further south, but put pressure on targeted settlements. A high standard of design and use of local characteristics and materials will be necessary to prevent adverse impacts in the northern and eastern areas.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	-	No significant effects.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓	Congestion in the southern and western areas should be eased by redirecting development pressure to other areas.

9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	?	Dispersed employment opportunities will only reduce journey lengths and numbers if a ready source of local labour is available. If the labour force lives (and continues to live) elsewhere, then commuting levels are likely to be high. A dispersed pattern of employment may make the provision of efficient and regular public transport services more difficult. Guiding Principle 4 and the Transport chapter objectives pick up this point.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land	✓✓	The Guiding Principle seeks to focus investment in the 'centres' of the north and east. Successful implementation should help to make good use of urban land in these areas and reduce pressure for expansion of centres further south and west.
11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	✓	Direction of investment towards 'centres' in the north and east should reduce demand for development on agricultural land across the Structure Plan area.
12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	?	Dispersal of economic development could spread water demands more evenly, having a positive impact provided that adequate supplies are available in the north and east.
13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	x	In the longer term, further development in the north and east of the Structure Plan area may exacerbate flood risk to new properties as a result of climate change. This is the area at greatest risk from flooding.
14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	-	No significant effects.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✓✓/x	The Guiding Principle generally encourages economic growth, although could require some restrictions on growth in the southern parts of the Structure Plan area in order to prompt growth in more disadvantaged areas.
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✓✓/x	Guiding Principle 2 broadly welcomes economic investment, although could require some restrictions in the southern parts of the Structure Plan area.
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✓✓	Dispersal of economic growth should enhance job opportunities in areas to the north and east, which currently rely on a relatively limited range of economic sectors.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	x	The Guiding Principle seeks to disperse economic activity, which may decrease accessibility and journey length if goods and employees still need to travel to the south and west.

Guiding Principle 3. Areas of disadvantage: The differences in the availability of opportunities, and in the incidence of deprivation, between the south and west of the County and the north and east, is to be reduced by widening the range of job opportunities and maintaining or improving services in the north and east.		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	✓✓	Widening the range of job opportunities and improving services in the relatively deprived north and east should help to reduce existing disparities between the north/east and the more prosperous south/west.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	✓✓	Average household incomes are lower in the Peterborough and Fenland area than further south. Addressing these discrepancies through improving job opportunities and services will help to reduce the number of low income households.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	?	This Guiding Principle does not relate tackling areas of relative disadvantage, through job creation and improved services, to the provision of suitable residential accommodation.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	✓✓?	Clear improvements are sought in jobs and services to the north and east of the Structure Plan area. The Guiding Principle does not address problems faced by 'Areas of Disadvantage' elsewhere in the Structure Plan area.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	-	No significant effects.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	-	No significant effects.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	-	No significant effects.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	-	No significant effects.
9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓?	The impact of this Guiding Principle upon the need to travel and availability of transport is uncertain. Beneficial impact is only likely if the jobs and improved services are well located in relation to housing. In conjunction with Guiding Principle 4 and the Transport chapter objectives, a positive impact should be made.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land	-	The Guiding Principle relates to broad locational areas, rather than urban and rural differences.
11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	-	Unlikely to be significant impacts unless the widened job opportunities and services require significant areas of land for development.

12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	-	No significant effects.
13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	x?	The north and east of the Structure Plan area will be worst hit by climate change and potential sea level rises. Significant increases in land for jobs and services in these areas may exacerbate this impact.
14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	-	No significant effects.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✓✓/x	The Guiding Principle addresses the needs of areas to the north and east, but is less clear about implication for the relatively prosperous areas to the south and east.
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✓✓/x	Positive support is given to investment in the north and east. By implication, some restriction on investment to the south and east is likely.
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✓✓	This Guiding Principle should enhance employment opportunities in those areas that currently have more restricted employment sectors.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	?	The impact of this Guiding Principle on freight movements is unclear. Dispersal of economic activity could lead to increased freight movements.

Guiding Principle 4. The rate and location of growth: The continued growth of population, housing and jobs, is to be permitted, but on a selective basis in order to reduce the need for long distance commuting, and to protect the environment in the south and west from inappropriate development.		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	✓✓?	Efforts to direct growth away from the south and west of the Structure Plan area should help to reduce disparity between the south/west and the north/east, although few details are provided.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	?	Guiding Principle 4 does not address this issue, although attempts to direct growth in jobs to certain geographical areas may achieve the sustainability objective if the locations chosen are accessible to low income families.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	✓	The Guiding Principle and its related text support further housing growth to meet the population needs and seek to restrict housing demand as a result of immigration. Localised housing shortages could result in areas, such as the south and west, where further development is restricted.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	✓	The supporting text to Guiding Principle 4 states that a slower rate of growth will enable local authorities to improve services for the existing population.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓✓?	This Guiding Principle specifically seeks to protect the environment in the south and west of the Structure Plan area from inappropriate development. The supporting text recognises that the area has limited environmental capacity to absorb further growth. The impacts upon other parts of the Structure Plan area are uncertain.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	✓✓	Slower rates of growth and development should help to protect the quality and distinctiveness of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Limits on development of housing and employment sites in the south and west of the Structure Plan area, which is under development pressure, should particularly help to protect the characteristic features of that area.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✓✓/?	Sites of nature conservation interest should be protected by limits on development of housing and employment sites, especially in the south and west. The impacts upon other parts of the Structure Plan area are uncertain.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓	If the need for long distance commuting is reduced, air quality improvements should be achieved.

9.	To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓?	Reductions in long distance commuting will reduce reliance on the private car and reduce average journey length. However, simply directing growth away from the south and west will not necessarily achieve this. The Structure Plan must ensure that jobs, housing and services are in close proximity to each other, and Guiding Principle 5 seeks to address this.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources			
10.	To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land	✓	The Guiding Principle is not specific about this issue, and generally seeks lower growth rates. However, it aims to reduce long distance commuting, which will require development in urban areas where jobs and housing are closely related.
11.	To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	✓	Protection of certain areas from inappropriate development will avoid further loss of agricultural land.
12.	To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	✓	Reductions in population and housing growth will limit further pressure on water supplies. Directing growth away from the south and west of the Structure Plan area will be reliant on the availability of water resources in other locations.
13.	To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	-	No significant effects.
14.	To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	✓✓	Reductions in long distance commuting, if achieved, will significantly reduce CO ₂ emissions.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment			
15.	To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✓?	A selective basis for growth in jobs suggests that some restriction will be imposed on economic growth. However, the Guiding Principle states that continued growth in jobs will be permitted.
16.	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✗?	Restriction on overall levels and locations for growth may reduce investment levels.
17.	To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✓?	Permitted growth in jobs should allow greater opportunity, although locational restrictions may prevent everyone from benefitting.
18.	To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	✓	Reductions in long term commuting suggest a closer relationship between jobs and houses, hence improved accessibility.

Guiding Principle 5. Settlement pattern: Settlement policies are to encourage concentrated rather than dispersed development, with new housing and jobs in close proximity, and well related to public transport links. Nevertheless, the policies are to allow most communities the flexibility for limited growth.		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	-	No significant effects.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	✓/✗	Concentration of development in urban areas should increase physical access for people living in those areas. People living in rural areas are unlikely to benefit from increased job opportunities.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	-	The Guiding Principle does not specifically seek to meet housing needs, although will have implications for housing location. It will not directly affect housing quality though.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	✓/✗	Concentration of development in urban areas should increase physical access for people living in those areas. People living in rural areas are unlikely to benefit from increased job opportunities. The 'flexibility for limited growth' may work against concentration and improved accessibility.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓/✗	Concentration of new development should tackle problems of derelict and underused land. Provided that design standards are high, the existing urban areas should be revitalised and form more attractive places to live. Again rural areas may not benefit from potentially necessary environmental improvements.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	?	Additional urban development should help to reduce adverse impacts of development on the countryside. Townscape may suffer if densities are significantly increased and good design will certainly be a major requirement.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✓?	The concentration of development should protect biodiversity generally, although may put more pressure on urban wildlife within the growth areas.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓	Traffic pollution levels should decrease as a result of concentrated development. Pollution from homes and businesses is unlikely to change as the Guiding Principle does not seek to increase or restrict overall levels of development.
9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓✓	Increased concentration of development should both reduce the need to travel, particularly by car, and provide a more focussed passenger base to increase the viability of public transport services. Rural communities may remain relatively isolated.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land	✓✓	Concentrated development should make good use of land within existing urban areas and promote urban renaissance. The Guiding Principle ties in closely with this sustainability objective, although it makes no reference to prioritising the development of brownfield land.
11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	✓	Concentrated rather than dispersed development should reduce the pressure for development on agricultural land.

12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	-	Provided that adequate water resources are available to serve the increased density of development, the Guiding Principle should not conflict with this sustainability objective.
13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	?	Provided that new development is not concentrated on floodplain areas or those areas that are likely to become floodplains as a result of climate change, no significant impact should result. The Guiding Principle is not clear about the avoidance of such areas.
14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	✓	Transport related energy usage should be reduced through an increased concentration of urban development.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	-	This Guiding Principle does not specifically seek to meet economic needs, although will have implications for the location of new businesses.
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	-	Provided that investors are happy to locate in urban environments, this Guiding Principle should not have a significant impact.
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✓	Concentration of new jobs and housing within settlements should provide opportunities for everyone in close proximity.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	✓?	Concentrated development should improve the physical accessibility of the workforce to the workplace and allow more efficient local goods movements. However, over-intensification could create congestion problems. This Guiding Principle will do little to help goods movements between settlements.

<p>Guiding Principle 6. Transport policies: Emphasis is to be given to the energy efficient transport of goods and people, and to the effects of movement on the local environment. Public transport will have a special role to play in the transport strategy.</p> <p>Where investment in roads is necessary, priority is to be given to the main pressure points in the primary road network, to schemes which stimulate economic and employment growth in the north and east, and to schemes which enhance safety and local amenity without causing serious damage to the built environment or the countryside.</p>		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	✓✓	Increased emphasis on public transport will reduce inequities in accessibility, for instance to out of town retail outlets, for people without access to a private car.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	✓?	Public transport improvements will also facilitate improved access to job opportunities for lower income households with no private car. The Guiding Principle does not address the need to reduce the average distance travelled from home to work, although this is addressed in part by an objective in the Transport chapter covering new development.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	-	No significant effects.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	✓✓?	The emphasis placed on public transport should help to improve access to services and facilities. The Guiding Principle does not specifically require reductions in overall movements to services and facilities.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓✓	The Guiding Principle specifically requires road schemes that improve safety. Increased use of public transport and other energy efficient means of transport should reduce road congestion, creating a safer and more attractive environment for all.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	✗	Development or expansion of roads, particularly in the flat north and east of the Structure Plan area could have a detrimental impact upon character. Although the Guiding Principle refers to the effects of movement on the local environment and to preventing damage to the countryside and built environment, it does not state how negative impacts will be avoided. Subsequent Transport chapter objectives do not address this issue further.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✗?	The Guiding Principle refers to the effects of movement on the local environment but does not specify the positive benefits that will be sought. Additional transport capacity could adversely affect habitats and species, although increased public transport usage could reduce adverse impact through lower levels of pollution and disturbance. Avoiding transport impact upon biodiversity does not form a Transport chapter objective.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	✓✓	Energy efficient transport and increased usage of public transport, walking and cycling have the potential to reduce transport related emissions and to improve air quality.

9.	To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	✓✓	Guiding Principle 6, in conjunction with Transport chapter objectives, should directly contribute to the achievement of this sustainability objective. The Guiding Principle does not specifically address reduction in the need to travel.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources			
10.	To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land	✓✓	Increased emphasis on public transport will reduce demands for road and parking space to accommodate the private car, allowing better use of urban land.
11.	To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	✗	Additional investment in roads and public transport corridors could involve development on agricultural land.
12.	To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	-	No significant effects.
13.	To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	✓	In the long term, energy efficient transport systems could reduce global warming and reduce the impacts of climate change.
14.	To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	✓✓?	Energy efficient transport of goods and people and increased usage of public transport should contribute to a significant reduction in CO ₂ emissions. The guiding principle does not address reductions in energy consumption through reducing the need to travel.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment			
15.	To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✓?	Provided that public transport improvements are co-ordinated with any restriction on private car usage, no adverse impact upon economic growth should result. However, the Guiding Principle does not set out how this will be achieved and its impact on economic growth is therefore somewhat uncertain. Economic development in the north and east is covered by a specific Transport chapter objective.
16.	To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	✓	The Guiding Principle specifically targets schemes to stimulate investment in the north and east.
17.	To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	✓	The Guiding Principle emphasises road schemes that stimulate growth in the north and east of the Structure Plan area and public transport generally, which should improve the range of opportunities available to people in those areas.
18.	To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	✓✓	Guiding Principle 6 should directly contribute to the achievement of this sustainability objective through improvement to transport facilities.

Guiding Principle 7. Rural and urban conservation: The conservation of the countryside, and of the built environment is to be given high priority in assessing development proposals, and in assessing the need for positive measures to improve the environment.		
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainability Objectives	Impact	Commentary
Social Progress which Recognises the Needs of Everyone		
1. To achieve greater social equality by reducing disparity	-	No significant effects.
2. To reduce the number of low/no income households by providing enhanced access to a choice of employment opportunities	-	No significant effects.
3. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home that meets their needs	x	Efforts to conserve the open countryside and the built and urban environments of the Structure Plan area may reduce housing land availability and could prejudice attempts to provide decent accommodation for all.
4. To improve access to high quality health, education, recreation and community services and facilities	-	No significant effects.
5. To ensure that everyone enjoys a safe and attractive environment in which to live and work	✓✓?	Conservation of the best parts of the rural and built environment should give general improvements to environmental attractiveness. The Guiding Principle is not entirely clear about whether positive improvements will be sought as part of development proposals or as part of conservation initiatives.
Effective Protection of the Environment		
6. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes, townscapes, and settlement settings	✓✓	The supporting text to Guiding Principle 7 identifies the particular qualities of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough environment to be safeguarded. These include the Nene and Ouse Washes, the cultural heritage of the towns and villages, and Cambridge's Green Belt. Conservation of these features will help to achieve this sustainability objective.
7. To maintain and enhance biodiversity	✓✓/?	Conservation of the countryside should indirectly protect biodiversity. The Guiding Principle makes no specific reference to habitats and species, and gives no support at all to the importance of nature conservation in urban areas.
8. To reduce pollution levels and to ensure that environmental quality continues to improve	-	No significant effects.
9. To reduce the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and hence reduce reliance on the private car	-	No significant effects.
Prudent Use of Natural Resources		
10. To make full and effective use of land within existing urban areas and reduce the consumption of undeveloped land	x/✓	Conservation of the built environment may reduce the availability of urban land. Guiding Principle 7 states that conservation of the countryside and built environment will be given high priority in assessing development proposals. This suggests that development on undeveloped land will be discouraged, increasing pressure for effective use of urban land.

11. To avoid the irreversible loss of agricultural land and promote sustainable agricultural practices	✓✓	The high quality agricultural land across the Structure Plan area is identified in the supporting text to this Guiding Principle as a feature to be safeguarded. Its protection should contribute to the achievement of this sustainability objective.
12. To ensure an environmentally sustainable supply of safe and affordable water and to manage commercial, industrial and residential demand	✓	The supporting text to Guiding Principle 7 identifies water as a limited resource to be safeguarded. Such recognition should contribute to the achievement of this sustainability objective.
13. To accommodate the climate change process and minimise the risk of flooding to people and property	✗	Conservation of urban and rural environments in the long term will conflict with a sustainable approach to the climate change process. At some point there will inevitably be a trade-off between conservation and costly protection measures to avoid flooding.
14. To reduce overall energy consumption, CO ₂ emissions, and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy	✗	Conservation of the built environment may preclude the use of energy conservation measures.
Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment		
15. To encourage and accommodate sustained economic growth throughout the area to facilitate improvements in business competitiveness	✗?	Conservation of the rural and built environment may cause some reduction in availability of land for particular economic sectors, such as high tech industries, which have specific locational demands. The overall impact on economic growth will depend upon the actual implementation of the Guiding Principle. A high quality environment may attract some economic investment.
16. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	?	Conservation of both urban and rural environments may enhance the attractiveness of areas for investment, but at the same time restrict land availability.
17. To maintain sustainable growth of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities	-	No major impact other than minor growth in conservation related employment.
18. To improve accessibility and develop transport and distribution systems which support economic growth	-	No significant effects.

