


Cambridge Green Belt Study


A Vision of Cambridge


Existing Features


 Green Belt boundary (inner and outer edges)
There may be potential for limited local changes to the boundary, allowing Green Belt releases for development, in addition to those strategic areas indicated. See Guidelines for Areas of the Green Belt below.


 Country Park.

Potential Initiatives

 New green finger linking the centre of Cambridge with new Country Park and the Fen Edge landscape to the east.

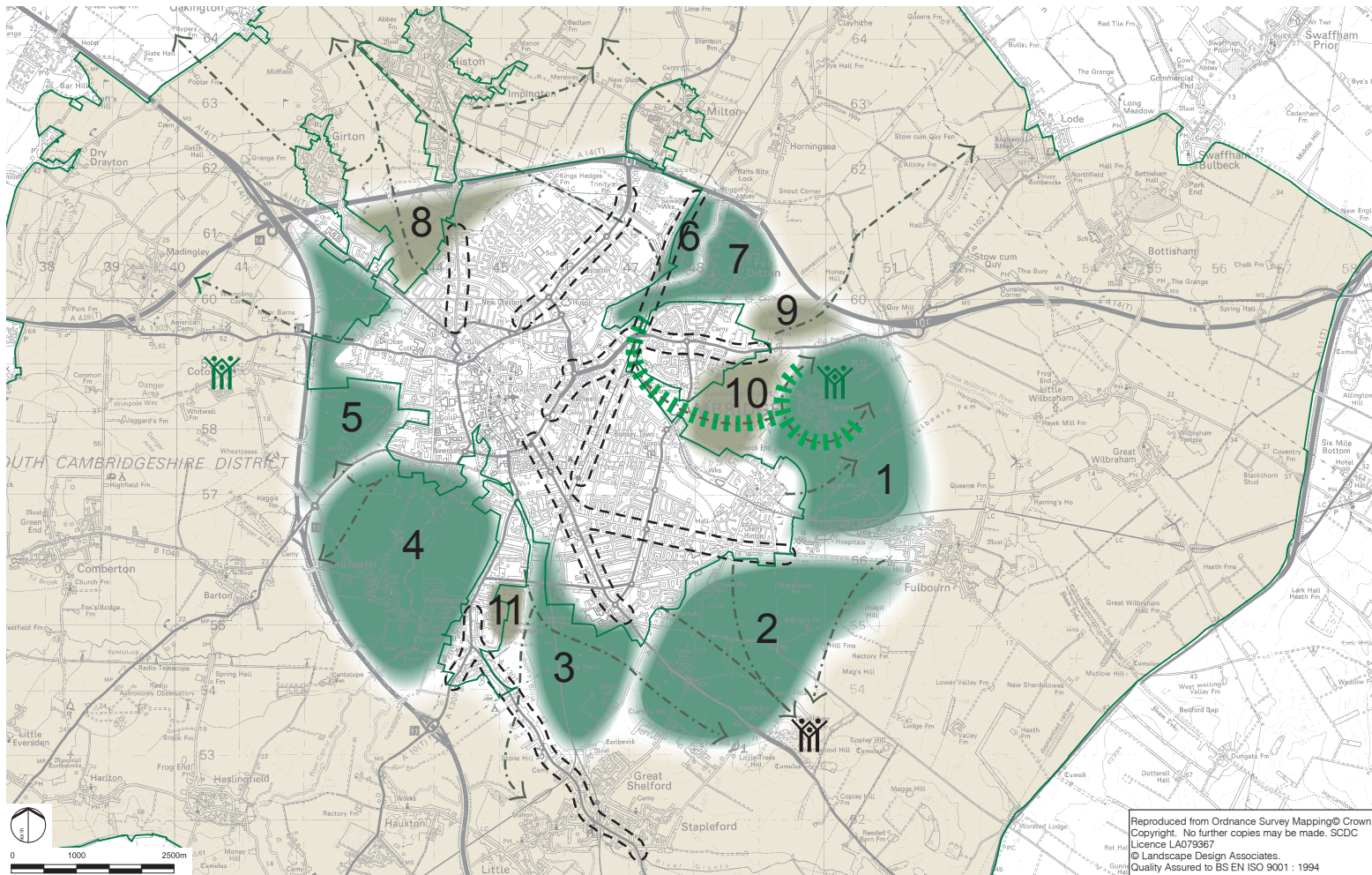
 New access link between Cambridge and the surrounding countryside.

 New Country Park.

 Enhance approaches to the city through management initiatives and highway, landscape, building and environmental improvements

The Vision

- Safeguard the special qualities of the city and its setting. See dwg. no. 1641LP/09 for details.
- Ensure that peripheral development does not grow so as to be a threat to the dominance of the historic core and areas of distinctive and supportive townscape and landscape. Maintain a compact city in a rural setting.
- Only limited peripheral development is possible if the special character and setting of the city is to be protected or improved.
- The long term role of a tightly drawn Green Belt is therefore vital to the protection of Cambridge as one of England's most special historic cities.
- Protect short and/or distinctive approaches to Cambridge. Enhance other routes.
- Protect the quality of views from key viewpoints when considering development proposals or changes within the rural landscape.
- Conserve the historic core and areas of distinctive and supportive townscape and landscape. Conserve and/or enhance all other areas.
- Employ management and enhancement measures to maintain and enhance landscape and settlement character (including Cambridge and surrounding villages).
- Ensure that the contrasts in landform are not masked by inappropriate development or management.
- Preserve and enhance the soft green edge to the city.
- The green fingers need to be protected and very carefully managed. A new green finger is proposed.
- Protect and where appropriate promote designated sites and areas for public education and access.
- Maintain long distance footpath and bridleway links between Cambridge and the open countryside including Country Parks. New access links and Country Parks are proposed.
- Maintain the separate identity of the necklace villages.




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Guidelines for Areas of the Green Belt


(Guidelines on development potential are strategic. There might be scope for some small-scale development in limited locations in areas not identified on this plan. All guidelines on development would need to be verified by 40 detailed survey and analysis)

Inner Green Belt

 Landscape essential to the special character and setting of Cambridge. To be preserved. No scope for substantial development through Green Belt releases.


1. Teversham and Fulbourn to remain as separate villages. Potential for a new Fen Edge Country Park to the east of the city. Potential for a programme of landscape and access enhancements in this area.
2. No development to take place on elevated land. The open elevated setting to the city must be retained. Potential for new access routes linking the city with Wandebury Country Park and Magog Down.

3. Green rail corridor to be retained. Edges to be enhanced through planting where potential exists. Potential for new access routes linking the city with Wandebury Country Park and Magog Down, and other areas of countryside.
- 4&5. Open countryside merging with green edge of city to be preserved.
6. Potential for programme of general landscape enhancement and management to enhance the river/rail corridor.
7. Open, high quality landscape to be retained. Potential for enhancing edges of housing to south through tree and shrub planting.

 Landscape less important to the setting of Cambridge. To be enhanced. Potential for sensitive, well-designed and sited development subject to other planning factors and detailed appraisals.

8. Potential for some land between Cambridge and A14 to be sensitively developed. Setting and separation of Girton to be retained. Retain some open land between A14 and urban edge. Views from A14 to historic landmarks should be retained. Green edge of the city to be enhanced.
9. Potential for some sensitive development. Potential for approach along Newmarket Road to be enhanced.
10. Potential for airport to be sensitively developed, incorporating new green finger and public access from Cambridge to Country Park and Fen Edge landscape to the east. Edge and setting of city to be enhanced through development and planting.
11. Potential for sensitively designed development subject to clarification by more detailed studies.

Outer Green Belt

 Maintain and enhance the quality of the open, rural landscape, the diversity of character, and the qualities of views, approaches and villages. Improve access and recreational facilities.