

My ref:

Public Health

Your ref:

Health in All Policies

Date: 30 August 2023
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Richard Kay
Strategic Planning Manager
Strategic Planning Team
East Cambridgeshire District Council
The Grange
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CB7 4EE

Dear Richard

RE: Local Plan Single Issue Review

Thank you for Consulting Public Health regarding the East Cambridgeshire District Council Local Plan Single Issue Review. Public Health has reviewed the SIR and associated documents and has the following comments.

As per the recommendation for Option 1 (the preferred option):

MM1 – Public health does not have a view on the methodology used to recalculate Housing Need, however the use of the nationally agreed methodology is appropriate. The recalculation difference in need is 2 houses, as this change is nominal, Public Health agree that no adjustment is necessary, and therefore the corrections of this section appear appropriate and correct. Further, there are no obvious impacts on Public health as reiterated in Table 2 of Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Local Plan to 2031.

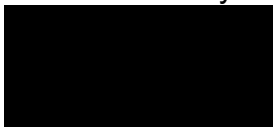
MM2 – The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) chapter 8. Promoting healthy and safe communities states that Local Plans should “To provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should: (b) take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community;” therefore the East Cambridgeshire Local Plan should have regard to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Health & Wellbeing and Integrated Care Strategy December 2022 which has Priority 3: Reduce poverty through better employment, skills, and better housing, which aims to achieve improved employment opportunities and outcomes, for example through better jobs and employability skills provision, therefore Public Health support aim to “maximise opportunities for jobs growth in the

district, however, the jobs created need to be meaningful employment. There is solid evidence that jobs and the workplace environment are key influencers on health and wellbeing outcomes. Conversely unemployment and low-paid or insecure work is associated with an increased risk of mortality and morbidity, including limiting illness, cardiovascular disease, poor mental health, suicide and health-damaging behaviours. The area is starting to fall behind the national average on higher level skills. Currently levels of higher skills are in line with the rest of the UK at 43% of the working age population qualified at level 4+, but this rate is growing more slowly than average, and there is large variation between places. Rates are rising fastest in Huntingdonshire at 6.7%. But in Fenland, Cambridge and East Cambridgeshire, rates are falling.

MM3 – No specific comments, but the policy has not mentioned any need for Gypsy and Traveller sites as part of the housing need.

MM4 – No comments.

Yours sincerely



Iain Green
Team Manager Health in All Policies