

2.0 How can I get involved in the planning process?

- 2.1 Since planning has a direct impact on the daily lives of residents and businesses, it is important that development proposals are transparent and that you have the opportunity to have a say in the planning decisions that are made on your behalf. The Local Planning Authorities want to ensure that you have the opportunity to engage in planning decisions at the earliest possible stages of the planning process.
- 2.2 Early involvement in the planning process gives you the best chance of influencing planning proposals including in plan making, planning application stages and neighbourhood plans. The SCI's intention is to inform you of the formal stages in the planning process, including when and how you can engage and participate. In addition to the formal stages of planning, you are also able to speak to your local ward or parish Councillors about a planning matter or proposal you might wish to comment on or influence.
- 2.3 We recognise that local knowledge is valuable in making better planning decisions. An understanding of our communities concerns and aspirations is key to successful engagement. We also want to understand the aspirations of developers, as they are mainly responsible for delivering the new spaces that we plan for. Developers also have a significant role to play in engagement, and we will encourage them to engage effectively with local communities. Early engagement with our local communities often achieves the best planning outcomes.
- 2.4 The SCI has been written to guide you through the plan making, development management and neighbourhood planning process and set out how you can get involved in each of these areas. There are also a number of other ways you can engage in the planning process at a local level.
- 2.5 We have set up a series of forums for Planning Officers, Councillors and members of the public meet to discuss planning matters. We also sometimes invite developers to present information about their sites. There are the new settlements at [Northstowe](#), [Waterbeach](#), and [Bourn Airfield and Cambourne](#). Community Forums are also held focusing on development areas on the edge of Cambridge for [Cambridge East](#), [North West and West Cambridge](#), and [North East Cambridge](#). We also hold a [Residents Association Forum](#). [Waterbeach](#) and [Bourn Airfield and Cambourne](#). Community Forums are also held focusing on development areas on the edge of Cambridge for [Cambridge East](#), [North West and West Cambridge](#), and [North East Cambridge](#). We also hold a [Residents Association Forum](#). [Bourn Airfield and Cambourne](#). Community Forums are also held focusing on development areas on the edge of Cambridge for [Cambridge East](#), [North West and West Cambridge](#), and [North East Cambridge](#). We also hold a [Residents Association Forum](#). [Waterbeach](#) and [Bourn Airfield and Cambourne](#). Community Forums are also held focusing on development areas on the edge of Cambridge for [Cambridge East](#), [North West and West Cambridge](#), and [North East Cambridge](#). We also hold a [Residents Association Forum](#) for residents of the city of Cambridge.
- 2.6 We hold [Agent Forums](#) to update planning agents on changes to legislation and procedures within GCSP. We also regularly hold Parish Council Forums where we can discuss planning issues with Parish Councils.