

## Section 3: Policy Implementation

### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 This section of the SPD provides guidance on the implementation of policies contained within the Cambridge Local Plan (2018) and the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan (2018). It provides guidance on the information that needs to be submitted with applications to demonstrate compliance with policy, the format that this information should take, and guidance on possible approaches to policy compliance. Where appropriate, links to additional guidance will be provided.

3.1.2 The guidance contained in this section is split into the following topic areas:

- Energy and carbon reduction;
- Water efficiency;
- Climate change adaptation;
- Biodiversity;
- Pollution;
- Sustainable drainage systems;
- Construction Standards (BREEAM).
- Sustainable Show Homes;
- Climate change and heritage assets;
- Construction waste and occupation phase waste management

#### **Viability considerations**

3.1.3 As part of the process of developing the 2018 Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Local Plans, the viability of all of the policy requirements has been tested as part of the examination process. With regards to the policies considered by this SPD, the requirements set out in these policies were all found to be viable, with some, for example the water efficiency requirements for new residential development, being found to have minimal impact on viability.

3.1.4 Integrating sustainability considerations early in the development process can go some way to ensure that policy requirements can be achieved in a cost effective manner. Nevertheless, it is recognised that viability considerations can change and are influenced by many factors. Technical feasibility may also have a bearing on the ability of proposals to fully meet policy requirements in some situations. In such situations, we would strongly recommend that the applicant seek early engagement with the councils in order to consider and agree in principle alternative ways in which the aims of the councils' sustainability policies and objectives can be achieved, even if full policy compliance is not possible. Such an upfront approach can help to minimise delays after the formal submission of planning applications.