

Welcome to the Cambridgeshire Growth E-newsletter

Welcome to the 13th edition of the Growth in Cambridgeshire e-newsletter.

In this edition we will be updating you on a wide variety of projects that Cambridgeshire Horizons and our partners are working on across the County.

We'd be keen to hear your thoughts on our e-newsletter, so if you have any feedback please email me at laura.halstead@cambridgeshirehorizons.co.uk

Kind regards

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In This Issue

- [Green Vision consultation launched](#)
- [Government funding cuts cause delays to local projects](#)
- [Quality is key](#)
- [Northstowe shortlisted as eco-town](#)
- [Sustainable drainage brings new hope for wildlife](#)
- [OnePlace results out](#)
- [Focus on: North West Cambridge](#)
- [Cambridgeshire Horizons Board dates for 2010](#)



Green Vision consultation launched

Back in 2006 Cambridgeshire Horizons and its partners launched the original Green Infrastructure Strategy for the Cambridge Sub-region. The Strategy encompasses a range of outdoors places and spaces including rivers and watercourses, country parks, woodlands, hedgerows, public rights of way and much, much more.

Now that almost four years have passed, Cambridgeshire Horizons is working with its partners again to review the Green Infrastructure Strategy, expand its reach to cover the whole of Cambridgeshire and gather views from the public before the strategy goes back to local authorities for their consideration. Have your say at one of the 16 consultation events that are taking place across the county, or have your say online at www.cambridgeshirehorizons.co.uk/greenvision.

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- [Back to top](#)



Government cuts cause delays to local projects

Following the announcement from Government at the end of last year that Cambridgeshire's Housing Growth Fund allocation would be cut by almost £6 million, the local authorities and Horizons have been working hard to create a revised funding programme.

Despite the funding reductions the county will still benefit from £21.5 million worth of Housing Growth Funding in 2009 to 2011, which will support over 20 different schemes.

The funded projects include a new Country Park in Ely, eco-friendly homes in Huntingdon, improvements to the Cambridge Station area, a wide range of projects to enhance green space and biodiversity across the county, and regenerating the Wisbech Nene Waterfront area. These schemes will help to support the delivery of thousands of much needed new homes, and associated services and facilities, across the County over the coming years.

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- [Back to top](#)



Quality is Key

With thousands of new homes and facilities planned for Cambridgeshire over the coming years, it is imperative that high quality standards are upheld, which is why all six Cambridgeshire local authorities, together with Cambridgeshire Horizons, are recruiting experts for a new Quality Panel, which will help to ensure the principles of the Quality Charter (4 C's) are implemented.

The Quality Panel is being created to provide a consistent approach to the implementation of the 4 C's for the major growth sites across the county, such as development around the Southern Fringe of Cambridge near Trumpington and the proposed new town of Northstowe.

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- [Back to top](#)



Northstowe short-listed as eco-town

Local authorities have welcomed news from Housing Minister, John Healey, that Northstowe has been short-listed in the second wave of eco-town proposals.

The announcement, made on 1st December 2009, is a response to proposals put jointly to Government by Cambridgeshire Horizons, Cambridgeshire County Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, and lists Northstowe as one of the "potential second



wave eco-towns proposals" due to the "opportunity to redesign elements of the existing project(s) to meet even higher sustainability standards". The second wave of eco-towns stand to share up to £10 million worth of funding to help deliver the highest standards of sustainability. Cambridgeshire Horizons is liaising with South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, and the promoters of Northstowe to bring forward a formal bid.

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- [→ Back to top](#)

Sustainable drainage brings new hope for wildlife

Developers building new homes in Cambridge are to be encouraged to recycle rainwater and create ponds and wetlands as part of an innovative new drainage strategy being launched by Cambridge City Council. The new system will introduce cost-effective ways of collecting rainwater as it runs off homes, storing it and cleaning it to cut down on pollution and protect the environment. Wildlife will be given the opportunity to thrive as ponds and wetlands are encouraged in city housing estates bringing the opportunity for leisure, play and educational facilities. This new system also offers better protection to homes from the problem of flash flooding.

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- [→ Back to top](#)

Cambridgeshire exceptional on recycling and working well for communities

A national report has rated Cambridgeshire as exceptional on driving up recycling and says the county's public bodies are working well together for their communities, including on the growth agenda.

The OnePlace report, published for the first time, measures how public services are doing on issues that matter most for people in the county and was produced by six independent watchdogs.

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- [→ Back to top](#)

Focus on: North West Cambridge University Site

The North West fringe of Cambridge has been outlined as a development area comprising two developments known as the NIAB site and the University site. Together these two sites will form a vibrant new extension to the city, and will include a range of much needed new homes and facilities.

Find out more about the development by clicking on the read more link below.

- [→ Read more](#)
- [→ Message the author](#)
- [→ Back to top](#)

Cambridgeshire Horizons Board and Committee Dates online

The 2010 dates for the Cambridgeshire Horizons' Board and Joint Strategic Growth Implementation Committee meetings can now be found online in our events calendar. Members of the public are always welcome to attend either meeting.

- [→ Read more](#)
- [→ Message the author](#)
- [→ Back to top](#)



We hope you enjoyed reading this issue of Growth in Cambridgeshire.

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contact@cambridgeshirehorizons.co.uk

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