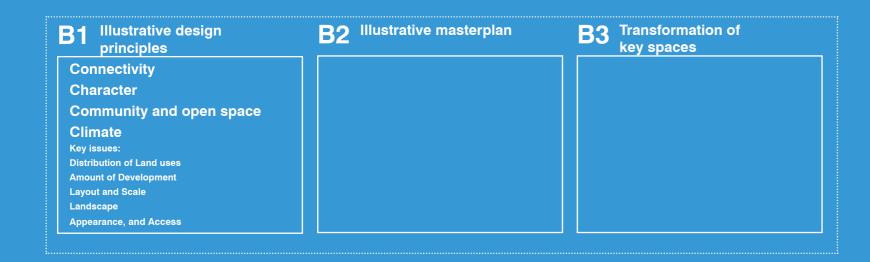
# ILLUSTRATIVE DESIGN PRINCIPLES



# 6. ILLUSTRATIVE DESIGN PRINCIPLES

# 6.1. Urban and landscape structure

# Layout and structure

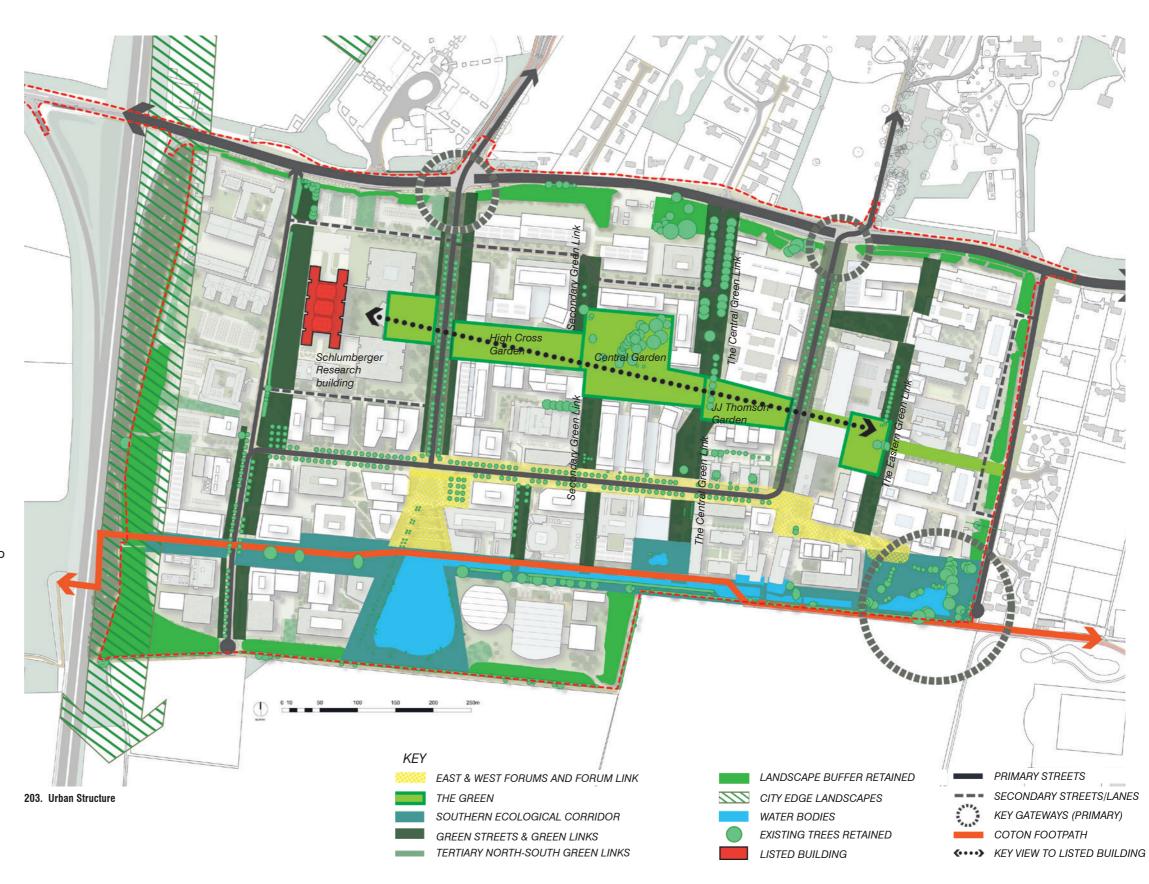
- 6.1.1 Key to the new masterplan is the need to transform the existing character and identity of West Cambridge and to introduce a new legibility throughout the site. A new urban and landscape structure has been overlaid on the site incorporating existing spatial elements and forming a series of new spaces.
- 6.1.2 The landscape structure for the masterplan forms a 'weave' of north-south and east-west running landscape and open space elements, that serve to strongly connect and knit together the West Cambridge site,

#### **Transformation of existing elements**

- 6.1.3 The masterplan retains existing roads and green infrastructure and reinforces elements from the consented masterplan such as the East and West Forum spaces. These two spaces remain the primary public spaces within the site, but they are now reinforced and connected with a better defined Charles Babbage Road (Forum Link).
- 6.1.4 The existing primary streets: Charles Babbage Road, JJ Thomson Avenue and High Cross, plus the Western Access/Ada Lovelace Road are retained and their characters transformed.
- 6.1.5 Along the Coton Footpath and the Southern Ecological Corridor, water and wetland habitats are retained and increased and the East Pond is incorporated into this new space.
- 6.1.6 The existing woodland buffers which frame the site along the majority of its edges will be protected and enhanced. From Madingley Road, the buffer will be reinforced to ensure that views into the site will be limited to the key access points.
- 6.1.7 New development is located around existing spaces and streets to form enclosure and overlooking to all key open spaces, providing a more coherent urban realm.

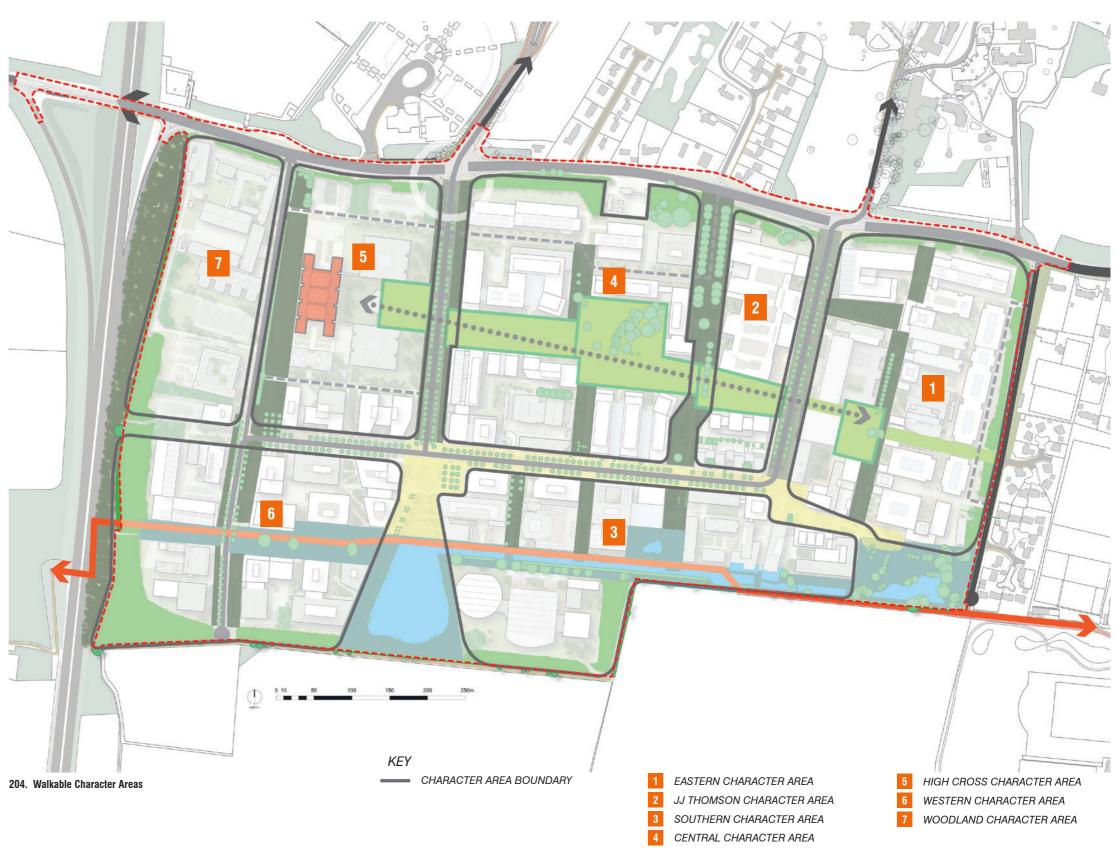
#### Introduction of new elements

- 6.1.8 The major new public open space will be The Green a chain of gardens running east/west that serve as a new open space. This space is orientated to ensure that a key view is opened up across the site from JJ Thomson Avenue to the Listed Schlumberger Research building roof structure.
- 6.1.9 Pedestrian orientated Green Links are introduced throughout the site that create pedestrian & cycle routes linking the site north to south.



#### Walkable character areas

- 6.1.10 The arrangement of primary streets and the open space structure help to form a series of identifiable, pedestrian friendly building zones each with their own urban character. The site has seven of these character areas, defined by existing and new streets and spaces, each incorporating a public, pedestrian space. Each of these spaces is connected to and forms part of the wider network of open space and movement corridors that weave through the site. The seven character areas or clusters are:
- 1. Eastern: Its central space is the Eastern Green Link running from north-south from the East Forum to a new Arrival Square in the north. This Eastern Green Link is at present an access road, and will be transformed to become a pedestrian orientated space which will connect and bring together the new and existing buildings within this area;
- 2. JJ Thomson Avenue: This smaller area contains a new building for the Department of Physics the Cavendish III Laboratory and a shared facilities building to the south. The area is formed around the JJ Thomson Garden, part of The Green open space, which will run east-west across the site between High Cross and JJ Thomson Avenue once complete;
- 3. Southern: This area contains a high proportion of existing buildings, including academic and residential buildings and the Sports Centre. These will be supplemented by new shared facilities buildings and the Entrepreneurship Hub and will form new frontage and provide new enclosure to Charles Babbage Road;
- 4. Central: This area will contain a mixture of academic and commercial uses. The key space for this area is The Green open space that will visually and physically connect the site;
- 5. Western: This area provides the main commercial focus of the development and contains the majority of proposed new commercial space. The Character Area forms the frontage to the West Forum;
- **6. High Cross**: This area incorporates the Schlumberger building and allows for any future intensification or extension. This area is very prominent with a frontage to High Cross and is visible from The Green and from the approach from the North West Cambridge Development;
- **7. Woodland**: This is a lower density character area in the west incorporating existing buildings and the woodland edge landscape.



# East/west structure: Key places

- 6.1.11 The transformation of place relies on the creation of new landscapes and spaces and the retention of existing primary spaces.
- 6.1.12 The existing spaces of the East and West Forums and the Southern Ecological Corridor are retained and reinforced by new active development and planting. The East and West Forums are connected by an invigorated Charles Babbage Road - the Forum Link.
- 6.1.13 These spaces together with the new east-west chain of Gardens - The Green - are the four key open spaces within the new landscape structure for the site. These key spaces run across the site and serve to visually and physically connect the eastern and western parts of the Site. The Green specifically allows views to be opened up to the Listed Schlumberger Research Building.
- 6.1.14 These four spaces are the key elements of the open space structure and, with their diverse characters, will contribute to a variety of environments and experiences throughout the site.
- 6.1.15 West and East Forums will be the social focal points of the site and will each form a series of connected urban spaces, terraces and squares. The Green and the Southern Ecological Corridor are more landscaped and provide usable green open spaces as well as important east-west pedestrian and cycle connections.
- 6.1.16 More detail about these key spaces is provided in section B3 of this Volume.
- 6.1.17 The woodland buffer to the south and to the north along Madingley Road will be retained and reinforced where necessary. Both will form a visual and spatial containment for the site.
- 6.1.18 With the retention of the northern woodland buffer the character of Madingley Road, a key approach road to the city of Cambridge will retain its existing agrarian character.



205. Key Places - primary open space structure running east to west

#### North/south structure: Streets and Green Links

- 6.1.19 Diagram 200 shows primary north-south streets and Green Links. These serve to weave together the east-west key places and spatial elements described on the previous
- 6.1.20 These spaces also provide the key access points into the site and connect to existing and new developments in the north, including the North West Cambridge Development.
- 6.1.21 These links also provide a direct visual connection between the site and the southern countryside, especially from the high points located along Charles Babbage Road.
- 6.1.22 Existing streets are retained and transformed to ensure a green character, including: JJ Thomson Avenue; High Cross; and the Western Access/Ada Lovelace Road.
- 6.1.23 New Green Links are formed through the transformation of existing tertiary streets and access roads (Central and Eastern Green Link) and an additional Green Link can be formed within the central area of the site.
- 6.1.24 A few of the existing streets and access lanes are already landscaped: along Western Access Road there is existing mature hedges; High Cross and JJ Thomson Avenue are tree-lined avenues and the original Vet School approach (Central Green Link) has mature lime trees.
- 6.1.25 In contrast, the southern part of the Central Green Link is a narrow service lane and the Eastern Green Link is formed from a car dominated road serving car parking and building drop-offs.
- 6.1.26 The new landscape framework connects and transforms these types of spaces to form coherent, cycle and pedestrian orientated Green Streets and Links.
- 6.1.27 Again, the eastern and western woodland buffers are retained and reinforced to ensure visual containment for the site and to retain an agrarian character.
- 6.1.28 More detail about Streets and Green Links is provided in the third section of this Volume.

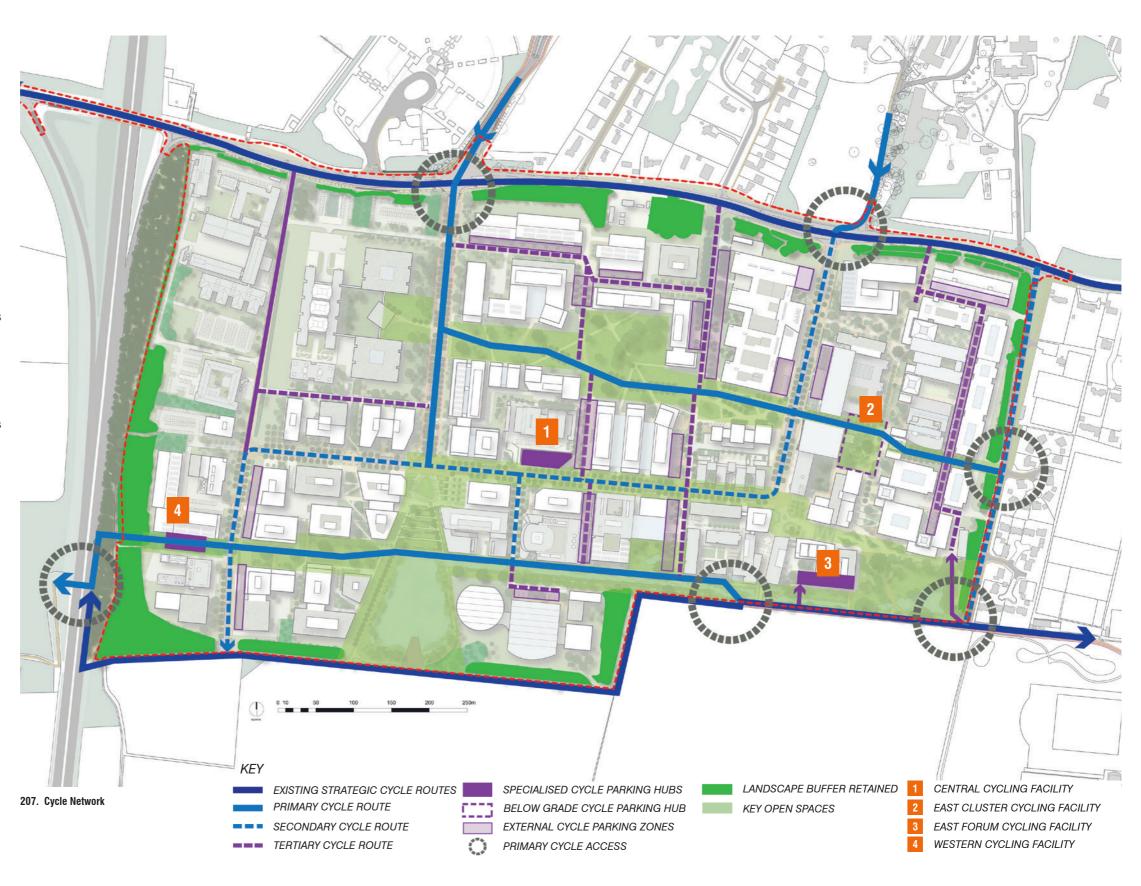


206. North South running Green Links and transformed existing streets

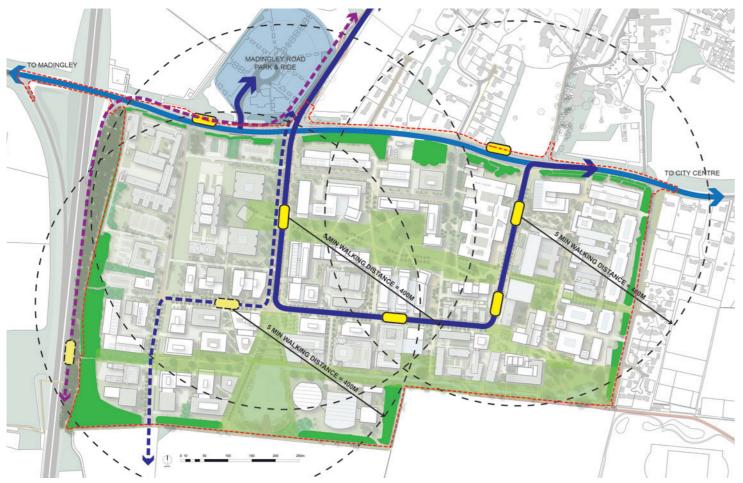
# 6.2. Connectivity

# Walking and cycling

- 6.2.1 The masterplan aims to encourage walking and cycling to, from and within the West Cambridge site. The masterplan strengthens the existing network by extending the NWCD strategic pedestrian and cycle network into the site and connecting it to the Coton Footpath, which provides strong cycle links to the city centre and other academic sites in the west of the city. Within the site there will be a network of cycle routes that bring cyclists through the site. The proposed strategy consists of:
- Primary routes: these connect to the existing strategic cycle network (Coton Footpath and NWCD network) and are expected to be primary routes for arrival to the site, but also used for transit through the site;
- Secondary routes: along the existing tertiary street network and connecting with the Coton Footpath;
- Tertiary routes: which provide a finer grain of connections through the site and allow cycle access adjacent to most buildings.
- 6.2.2 The cycle parking strategy consists of three types of parking facilities. Within the site, there are four Cycle Hubs which provide fully enclosed, secure parking, as well as facilities such as showers, changing rooms, storage lockers and potentially cycle repair, coffee points and delivery services. These would contain 500-1000 spaces each and have been located along primary cycle routes. A free standing facility on Charles Babbage Road is potentially deliverable from the outset, with potential for other large facilities to follow as part of Department of Engineering cluster in the east and part of shared facilities provision at East Forum in second phase. The Western Facility is envisaged to serve the commercial research areas in the west.
- 6.2.3 For short-stay cyclists, covered cycle parking areas have been distributed within the public realm close to points of arrival and key buildings. Each containing 50 -200 spaces, these have been located just off primary cycle routes.
- 6.2.4 Enclosed, secure cycle parking will also be provided on plots, as part of individual developments.
- 6.2.5 The estimated amount of cycle parking within the illustrative masterplan has been based on a generic ratio of 1 cycle parking space per 30sqm of commercial research and 0.7 parking spaces per student (of total student population) and 0.5 parking space per University staff member. The assumptions used match standards for the NWCD and exceed local Cambridge City guidelines.



# **Public transport**



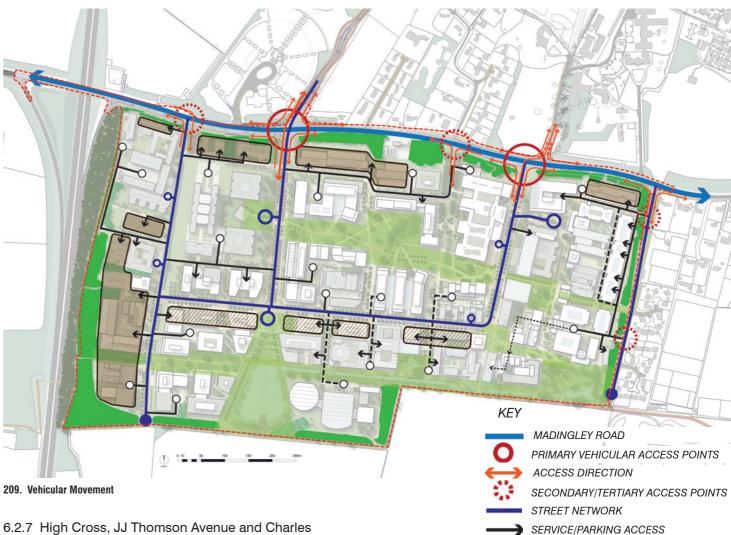
208. Public Transport

#### 6.2.6 The main public transport improvements proposed include:

- Increased frequency of the Universal bus service to every 10 minutes and revised route to include a direct service to Cambridge Rail Station, at least every 20 minutes, as well as to Addenbrooke's Hospital;
- Enhancement of Citi 4 services to every 10 minutes, with a route revision to serve West Cambridge, at least every 20 minutes;
- A significant enhancement of the Arc Service proposed for North West Cambridge - with increased frequency and higher quality vehicles, the service being extended from West Cambridge, via the M11 motorway to Trumpington Meadows, the Biomedical Campus and Addenbrooke's Hospital. This will provide links from West Cambridge to Chesterton Rail Station, North Cambridge, and South Cambridge.

#### KEY MADINGLEY ROAD BUS ROUTE EXISTING PARK & RIDE **BUS ROUTE** POSSIBLE FUTURE ARC ROUTE POSSIBLE INTERIM ARC ROUTE **BUS STOPS (EXISTING)** POSSIBLE FUTURE BUS STOPS LANDSCAPE BUFFER RETAINED KEY OPEN SPACES

# Motor vehicular movement and car parking



Babbage Road are retained as the primary motor vehicle circulation and access points into the site. From this network car drop-off areas, parking structures and service/ tertiary streets are accessed. Secondary/tertiary site access points are located along Clerk Maxwell Road to allow direct access for servicing and car parking.

6.2.8 Car parking is concentrated into multi-storey parking structures located at the periphery of the site, thus helping to reduce traffic movements within the site. Smaller car parking areas in semi-basements are possible along Charles Babbage Road.

6.2.9 Key junction improvements would be established as part of the 'Adaptive Phased Approach' and could include:

 a potential later phase junction at the Western Access Road to intercept strategic movements, and provide direct access to the car parking in the western part of the

- -> LIMITED SERVICE ACCESS INTERNAL SERVICE (TROLLEYS) SERVICE - TURNING AREA O DROP-OFF AREA NO THROUGH ROAD CAR PARKING/ANCILLARY ZONES UNDERCROFT CAR PARKING LANDSCAPE BUFFER RETAINED KEY OPEN SPACES
- a provision of increased flare lengths on the North West Cambridge and West Cambridge approaches of High Cross;
- an enhancement to the existing junctions at Clerk Maxwell Road and JJ Thomson Avenue; and
- creation of a new access by opening up the original Vet School entrance off Madingley Road.

#### **Clerk Maxwell Road service access**

- 6.2.11 The outline planning application proposes the use of two servicing accesses at any one point in time on Clerk Maxwell Road. Potential access points are identified as I-J (north), K-L (midway down) and M-N (south) on Parameter Plan 03 as part of the outline application. The University commits to only operating one of the two southern access points at any given point in time and has proposed wording of a condition to secure this.
- 6.2.12 The following sets out assumptions about the extent of vehicle usage of these servicing access points, based on assumptions around the relocation and growth of the Department of Engineering into the eastern part of the West Cambridge site.
- 6.2.13 In assessing any potential impact on any neighbouring properties a baseline position needs to be established. Although there are no residential properties fronting onto Clerk Maxwell Road, the road provides access to two Cul-de-sacs (Perry Court and The Lawns). In addition to these properties is 53 Madingley Road which fronts onto the main arterial route into and out of the city (Madingley Road). This dwelling is separated from Clerk Maxwell Road by well established planting and a footpath. Clerk Maxwell Road has well established vegetation along both sides of the road and is currently characterised by (uncontrolled) on-street parking on both sides of the road.
- 6.2.14 Clerk Maxwell Road itself currently accommodates around 190 car movements daily on the assumption that 95 on-street parking spaces are used. Although not all cars park towards the southern end of Clerk Maxwell Road, often cars in the southern half will drive down to Perry Court to turn before driving north (as the on-street parking restricts the possibility of turning before Perry Court), causing additional movements and disturbance for local residents
- 6.2.15 In addition to this, behind the woodland buffer and bund within the West Cambridge site lie 270 parking spaces to the rear of the CAPE building and Roger Needham Building, which are accessed from JJ Thompson Avenue and 290 parking spaces that form the Park and Cycle Facility which is accessed from Clerk Maxwell Road. These spaces account for a large number of movements behind the bund each day.

#### Servicing to the east of the masterplan

6.2.16 The eastern part of the West Cambridge site is

likely to accommodate the relocation and growth of the Department of Engineering, which is currently located on Trumpington Road and currently accommodates around 27,000sqm GIA of Engineering floorspace. For the current operations on the Trumpington Road site there are, on average, 30 deliveries per day (150 deliveries per week). This comprises 25 deliveries, and 5 servicing contractors. Of these deliveries larger vehicles account for only 2 or 3 deliveries per week. The remainder are 'white van' or standard vehicle deliveries (all under 7.5 tonnes).

6.2.17 It is expected that this existing floorspace will move over to West Cambridge. The servicing numbers will move across also (See Figure 210: Table 1 - Line 1), and will be supplemented by deliveries from CAPE, Nano-science, and the Whittle Lab, all currently on the West Cambridge site and serviced from JJ Thomson Avenue (Line 3). The Roger Needham Building is assumed to be part of the redevelopment and therefore its servicing is included in Line 1. The masterplan allows for significant growth of the department, however this will not necessarily mean 100% increase in servicing. Some of this growth is to enable existing provision/operations to work in better, less cramped/constrained conditions. A factor of 50% growth in servicing has therefore been applied (Line 2).

6.2.18 Some buildings such as Whittle and buildings close to the East Forum will continue to receive some of the deliveries from JJ Thomson Avenue, and it is also likely that some of the buildings to the south could be serviced from a servicing lay-by space combined with trolley deliveries. A factor (Line 4) has been applied to remove these.

6.2.19 It is assumed that buildings in the blue zone will be accessed from the northern access (I-J) on Clerk Maxwell Road. All <7.5 tonne vehicles will enter and exit via access I-J. No <7.5 tonne vehicles servicing the blue zone will exit via the southern access (M-N). It is suggested that this could be enforced through the use of a physical restriction such as a bollard (or similar) which could be removed/lowered to allow >7.5 tonne vehicles to exit via the southern access (M-N). Large vehicles will need to continue southwards as there is no space within the blue zone to provide a turning circle for vehicles >7.5 tonnes. As such, vehicles >7.5 tonnes servicing the blue zone will be required to use the northern access (I-J) for entry and egress via the middle egress (K-L) or the southern egress (M-N) once it is delivered in association with the development of the purple zone. Use of either egress will

require vehicles to cross the east-west cycle link at point (K-L). It is proposed that a banksman will be on hand to manage the movement of all >7.5 tonne vehicle deliveries to ensure that there is no conflict between the delivery and pedestrians/cyclists (See Figure 211).

6.2.20 Buildings in the green zone will be predominantly serviced from Clerk Maxwell Road but with some deliveries able to come from JJ Thomson Avenue via the orange zone.

6.2.21 All buildings in the orange zone will be serviced from JJ Thomson Avenue.

6.2.22 Buildings in the purple zone will be serviced from access M-N and exit through the same point. The M-N access will be located to the south of the east-west cycle link. As such, there will be no conflict between vehicles utilising this access and pedestrians/cyclists on the link. All vehicles entering access point M-N will only serve the purple zone.



211. Service access to the east of the masterplan

	Item	<7.5 Tonne deliveries per week	>7.5 Tonne deliveries per week
1	Servicing from Tumpington Rd transferred across*	147	3
2	Accounting for growth	74	2
3	Existing buildings where servicing is transferred to CMR	125	2
4	Removing deliveries expected to continue from JJ Thomson Ave	(25)	0
Total		321	7

<sup>\*</sup>figure includes Civil Engineering

210. Table 1: Proposed servicing to the east of the masterplan

	1	1	
Access point usage	Total	Access I-J	Access M-N
Total Deliveries p/w	328	246	82
<7.5 Tonne deliveries per week	321	241	80
>7.5 Tonne deliveries per week	7	5	2
Total Deliveries p/ day*1	65.6	49.2	16.4
<7.5 Tonne deliveries per day	64.2	48.2	16
>7.5 Tonne deliveries per day	1.4	1	0.4
Total Deliveries p/hr*2	6.54	4.92	1.64
<7.5 Tonne deliveries per hour	6.42	4.82	1.6
>7.5 Tonne deliveries per hour	0.14	0.1	0.04

<sup>\*1</sup> assumes Mon-Fri \*2 assumes 10 hours between 8am- 6pm

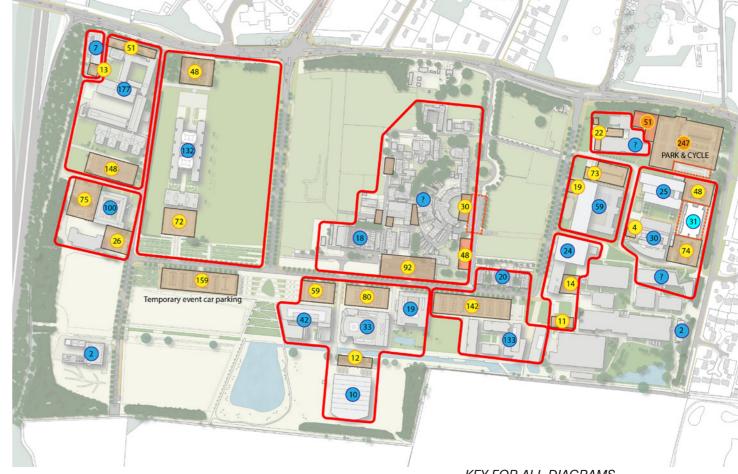
212. Breakdown of access point usage

#### **Analysis**

- The majority of deliveries are white van/ courier type vehicles. Vehicles over 7.5 tonnes only account for 2% of deliveries.
- The white van and courier delivery is not materially different in terms of noise impact than that of a normal vehicle.
- All of the delivery vehicles <7.5 tonne serving the blue</p> and green zones will ingress and egress out of access I-J which will not cause a disturbance issue for residents in the cul-de-sacs which link to Clerk Maxwell Road.
- It is expected that on average 1.4 > 7.5 tonne vehicle deliveries will be made each day. As a worst-case the noise assessment has assessed one >7.5 tonne vehicle delivery per hour which is significantly higher than the number of deliveries forecast. The results of the assessment confirm that there will be less than an adverse noise impact during the daytime on residents at The Lawns and Perry Court.
- Behind the central part of the bund the site currently accommodates 270 parking spaces to the rear of Roger Needham building (assume therefore potential for 540 daily movements). These will be replaced by 49 deliveries per day with similar vehicles (assume 98 movements) with an additional 1 delivery per day by a larger vehicle.
- Around 16.4 deliveries will use the M-N access per day. Assume also that the 1 >7.5 tonne vehicle will exit from M-N having entered I-J. This amounts to an average of 34.8 movements per day or 3.48 per hour using M-N. This is compared to the 190 movements per day associated with the (uncontrolled) car parking on Clerk Maxwell Road which will be displaced by the West Cambridge Scheme.
- Clerk Maxwell Road (access I-J) will also provide access to the proposed 540 space multi-storey car park. It is recognised that this will give rise to additional movements in comparison to the existing 290 space Park and Cycle facility. The vehicle movements related to the multi-storey car park have been assessed with regard to the properties at The Lawns and Perry Court. The assessment has confirmed that the sound levels associated with the proposed multi-storey car park are not likely to exceed the proposed Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level (LOAEL) and are therefore considered acceptable (see Noise and Vibration Chapter of the ES Addendum).

# Interim parking condition

- 6.2.23 The gradual transformation of the site requires a strategy that involves the removal of existing surface parking areas infront of buildings, alongside the intensification of development and associated increase in population on the site.
- 6.2.24 The following pages and diagrams provide an illustration of an indicative process of development for the site and interim car parking conditions in the initial period of development, before there is enough development to trigger the construction of the multi-storey car parks proposed for the site.
- 6.2.25 The following diagrams show existing car parking areas with the number of spaces indicated in yellow circles. The estimated car parking requirements for each existing building is shown in dark blue dots and the parking requirements for new buildings are shown in lighter blue dots.
- 6.2.26 The proposed areas of car parking for the initial period of development consist of new temporary surface car parking, new surface parking areas that will remain through the redevelopment of the site and the multi-storey car parking structures.



213. Indicative Interim Car Parking for Phase 1A (2019)

- 6.2.27 Phase 1A consists of the development of the first building for the Department of Engineering - the UKCRIC building, located on the eastern boundary of the site. This displaces some surface car parking, but the remaining provision can accommodate the additional requirement of 31 spaces for the UKCRIC building.
- 6.2.28 An area of the existing Park and Cycle will be lost due to the construction compound required for the UKCRIC building and this number can be re-provided as surface car parking adjacent to the Whittle Laboratory (additional 51 spaces). This means that the Park and Cycle car park can remain operational.
- 6.2.29 The existing Vet School car park in front of the Small Animal Hospital can be partially relocated to the south (as a temporary car park), to enable the construction of the proposed JJ Thomson Garden.

#### KEY FOR ALL DIAGRAMS

CAR PARKING PROVISION

CAR PARKING REQUIREMENTS **NEW CAR PARKING REQUIREMENTS** 

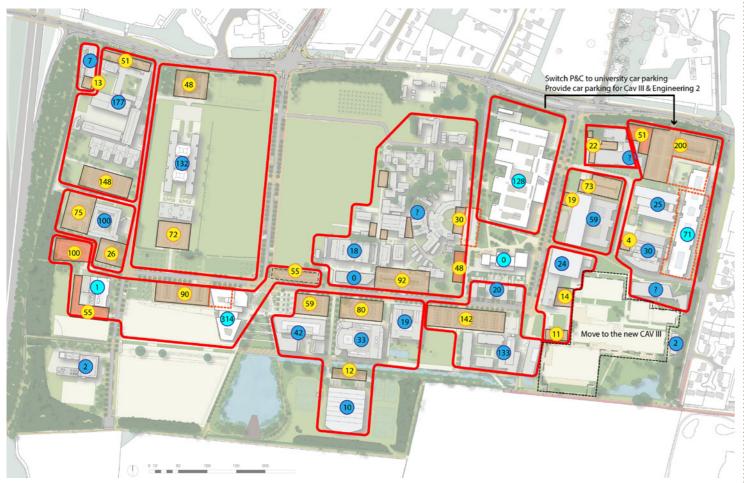
EXISTING AT GRADE CAR PARKING

PROPOSED AT GRADE CAR PARKING PROPOSED MULTI-STOREY CAR PARKING

PROPOSED BASEMENT CAR PARKING

EXISTING CAR PARKING TO BE DEMOLISHED

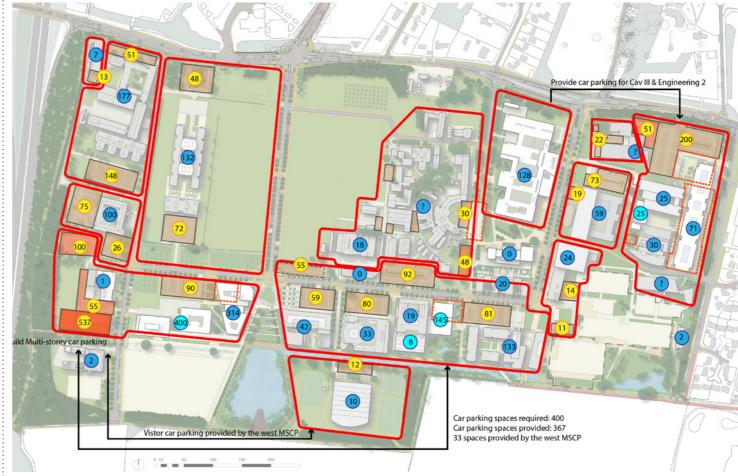
CAR PARKING GROUP



214. Indicative Interim Car Parking for Phase 1B (estimated 2021)

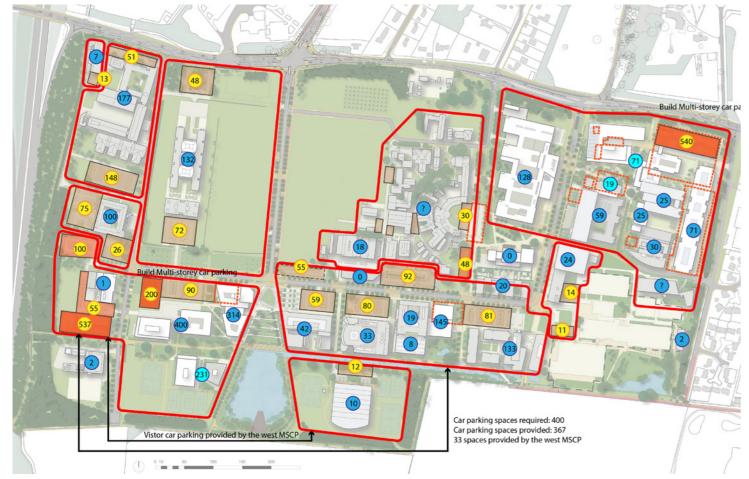
- 6.2.30 Phase 1B consists of the development of additional workshop/lab buildings along the eastern boundary of the site for the Department of Engineering. In addition, the Cavendish III Laboratory, the Shared Facilities hub, as well as JJ Thomson Garden will be developed to the west of JJ Thomson Avenue. Development also commences in the western commercial cluster adjacent to the West Forum.
- 6.2.31 The developments in the east require an additional 199 spaces but the development of more buildings for the Department of Engineering means that existing surface car parking areas are lost to the east of the site.
- 6.2.32 In addition, the development for the Department of Engineering means that more parking spaces within the Park and Cycle will be lost.
- 6.2.33 One way to accommodate the new car parking requirement would be to switch-off the Park and Cycle car park and turn the remaining 200 spaces to academic car

- parking. This would mean that the multi-storey car park in the north-east would not be required at this stage.
- 6.2.34 An alternative would be to build temporary surface car parks to the north of the site to the east of High Cross.
- 6.2.35 Development commences in the western cluster and this commercial research development has higher parking requirements than the academic developments to the east
- 6.2.36 This development at the West Forum requires 315 spaces and these can be accommodated in a series of existing and new surface car parking areas in the west. The new parking areas will remain as surface car parks through the life of the development.
- 6.2.37 The existing events car parking to the south of the Charles Babbage Road will become parking for the new commercial uses.



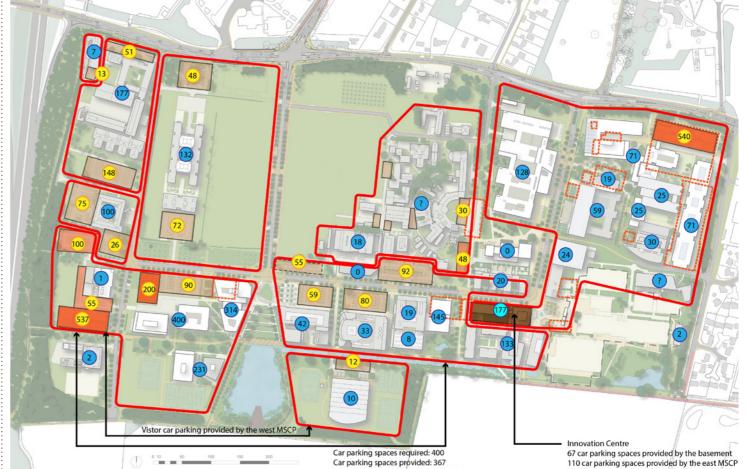
215. Indicative Interim Car Parking for Phase 1C (estimated 2022)

- 6.2.38 In Phase 1C, development is primarily focused in the western commercial cluster. Development in the east consists of one of the social hub buildings for the Department of Engineering and to the south an extension to the IfM Building on Charles Babbage Road.
- 6.2.39 The Engineering hub building requires 25 spaces and this amount can be accommodated in the existing configuration of surface car parks developed in the previous phase.
- 6.2.40 Development of the IfM extension requires 153 spaces and the development also means there is a loss of car parking along Charles Babbage Road. This means that the existing car parking area to north of Charles Babbage Road is required to serve this development.
- 6.2.41 Further development in the western cluster takes place in Phase 1C and this commercial development requires 400 spaces. This large amount triggers the first of the multi-storev car parks within the site to be developed. located to the south west of the site and accessed from Ada Lovelace Road.
- 6.2.42 This multi-storey car park will accommodate the shortfall of car parking within the central area around the IfM Building.



216. Indicative Interim Car Parking for Phase 1D (estimated 2025)

- 6.2.43 Phase 1D consists of the remaining Phase 1 development for the Department of Engineering, including the Whittle Lab extension, as well as an extension to the Computer Lab. There is further development of the commercial cluster at the West Forum.
- 6.2.44 Development to the east requires 90 spaces and will also mean further loss of area within the former Park and Cycle car park. At this point the development of the multistorey car park in the north-east is triggered.
- 6.2.45 Further development to the west of the site requires 231 spaces and so a second multi-storey car park is required to be developed.



217. Indicative Interim Car Parking for Phase 1E

- 6.2.46 In Phase 1E the Innovation Centre is developed at the East Forum, and this triggers a high amount of car parking - 177 spaces. This can be accommodated in the multi-storey car park to the north-east as well as semi-basement parking underneath the new building (67 spaces).
- 6.2.47 In the future, the development of Phase 2 of the Department of Engineering on the former Cavendish Laboratory site, or any development within the central area of the site, will trigger the building of the multi-storey car parks proposed to the north of the site, and accessed from High Cross.
- 6.2.48 Future development in the south-western commercial cluster will require a further multi storey car park to be developed.

# 6.3. Character

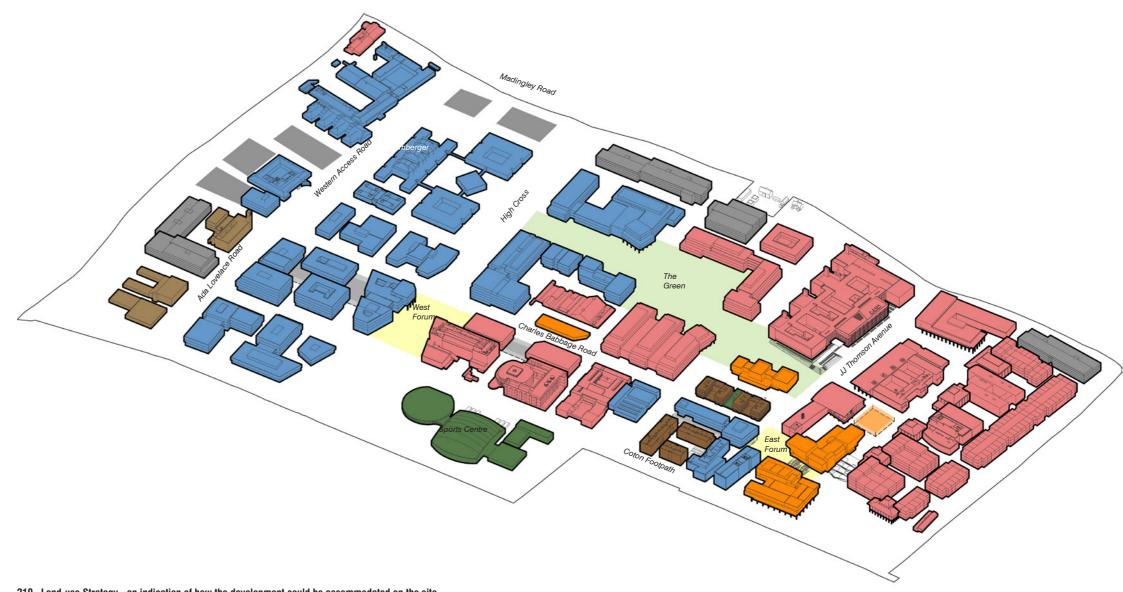
#### Land use

- 6.3.1 The character of the site the distribution of land uses, scale, density and appearance is informed by the wider context and character of this part of Cambridge; as well as Cambridge's and world-wide best practice precedents and the needs of current and potential future occupiers.
- 6.3.2 The key objective of the masterplan is to create an urban campus, a place where landscape and built form are balanced to create an optimal physical and social environment for collaboration and interaction.
- 6.3.3 The masterplan contains a mixture of academic and commercial research floorspace. While these uses are blended throughout the site, an academic-led focus is created to the east (around and extending from the East Forum) and a more commercial-led focus is located to the west at West Forum. The central area in particular, is a zone for future mix and flexibility between academic and commercial research uses.
- 6.3.4 As seen in the precedents presented in Volume A, such distribution of uses supports interaction between occupiers while maintaining a sense of identity and potential for growth for each of the clusters.
- 6.3.5 In order to promote innovation and interchange, small entrepreneurship hubs could be distributed across the site with the main entrepreneurship centre located at East Forum, reinforcing and expanding the existing uses within the Hauser Forum and Broers Building.
- 6.3.6 To enable informal interactions and further integrations, and also to enhance the focal role of East and West Forums, major shared/social facilities and active uses are located at the Forums ensuring that these spaces are active and vibrant. A further provision of smaller social hubs is distributed throughout the site, incorporating existing social spaces, closely associated with and addressing key public spaces.
- 6.3.7 To the south along the Southern Ecological Corridor is an area for sports and recreation, community facilities and outdoor amenity.
- 6.3.8 Diagram 212 shows one possible configuration of the distribution of uses.



#### **Amount of development**

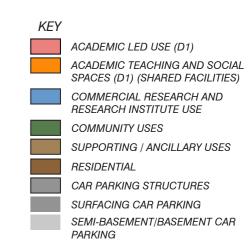
- 6.3.9 Underpinning the masterplan is the need to increase density to create critical mass and optimise development capacity at the West Cambridge site.
- 6.3.10 Taking into account the land currently occupied by buildings which are to be demolished, over 380,000m2 of additional development capacity has been identified through the masterplanning process.
- 6.3.11 This amount follows from the premise of creating an urban campus. The optimal density for such environment has been identified at the Sidgwick site in Cambridge: three to four storey buildings with well defined but airy and sunlit open spaces in between.
- 6.3.12 The scale and overall amount of commercial research development accords with best practice models: both University Park at MIT and Chiswick Park in London show that a scale of around 200,000m2 of commercial floorspace corresponds with a population which can form a community, support social facilities and bring activity to the public realm. The amount of academic development is proportionally higher to achieve an overall ratio of three to two, a balance which is seen to ensure that the overall character is set by the academic uses and not dominated by commercial research. The overall amount of commercial space is supported by market assessment and estimated to be absorbed within a 15-25 year span.
- 6.3.13 In addition, the amount of development on the site is also dependent on the capacity of the surrounding transport network and will increase incrementally, following gradual improvement in public transport and the introduction of a Green Travel Plan. These measures will be designed to achieve gradual decrease in car dependency.
- 6.3.14 Out of the overall 380,000m2, academic research, teaching and shared facilities and commercial and/or research institute will comprise 370,000m2. Within this capacity, commercial/research institute space will be limited to no more than 170,000m2. Together with more than 100,000m2 of academic and 40,000m2 of existing commercial space, the overall balance of approximately 300,000m2 of academic space and up to 210,000m2 commercial space provides a good balance between the two major uses: a balance which allows for a significant commercial address but with a predominant feel of an academic research and teaching campus.
- 6.3.15 The Illustrative masterplan shows a number and size of car parking structures sufficient to accommodate maximum numbers of car parking spaces used for testing of the surrounding transport network.



219. Land-use Strategy - an indication of how the development could be accommodated on the site.

Proposed development at West Cambridge of up to 383,300m2 comprising:

- up to 370,000m2 of academic floorspace (Class D1), commercial / research institute floorspace (Class B1b and sui generis research uses), of which not more than 170,000m2 will be commercial floorspace;
- up to 2,500m2 nursery;
- up to 4,000m2 of A1-A5 uses;
- up to 4,100m2 floorspace for community facilities, and not less than 3,000m2;
- up to 5,700m2 of sui generis uses;
- demolition of existing structures; and
- associated infrastructure including roads (including adaptations to Madingley Road), pedestrian, cycle and vehicle routes, parking, drainage, open spaces and earthworks.



# **Density and critical mass**

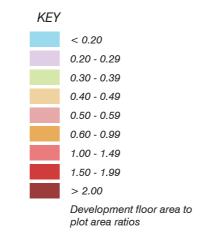


220. Design Principles - Density distribution

6.3.16 The density, expressed as floor area ratios, as indicated by the diagram above is based on the amount of development demonstrated within the Illustrative Masterplan. The existing density of the site is shown on the diagram on the right.

6.3.17 Generally, these diagrams show the proposed general increase in density across the site and also indicate that density is to be increased in a controlled way: with higher density located around the West and East Forums and lower density around the edges of the site. The density also shows a reduction in density towards the western edge of the site - the edge of the city.

6.3.18 The floor area ratios shown, ranging from 0.40 to 1.49, compares well to the densities of sites such as the Sidgwick site, judged to be a good precedent for an urban academic campus outside of a city centre.





221. Existing density distribution - for comparison

# Scale, massing and accents

#### **Building heights**

6.3.19 General building heights across the masterplan are set predominantly at three to four storeys. This allows for a backdrop or baseline height to be established and provides a consistency through the masterplan. This baseline height then allows the potential for the taller building accents to form a new skyline for West Cambridge.

6.3.20 Lower development is located on the edges of the site where there are sensitive adjacent land uses and Conservation Areas. This will enable the existing woodland buffer at this boundary to continue to screen development.

6.3.21 Such heights allow for a good balance between the built form and landscape, with some mature trees exceeding the height of the buildings and open spaces having good daylight qualities and sense of enclosure.

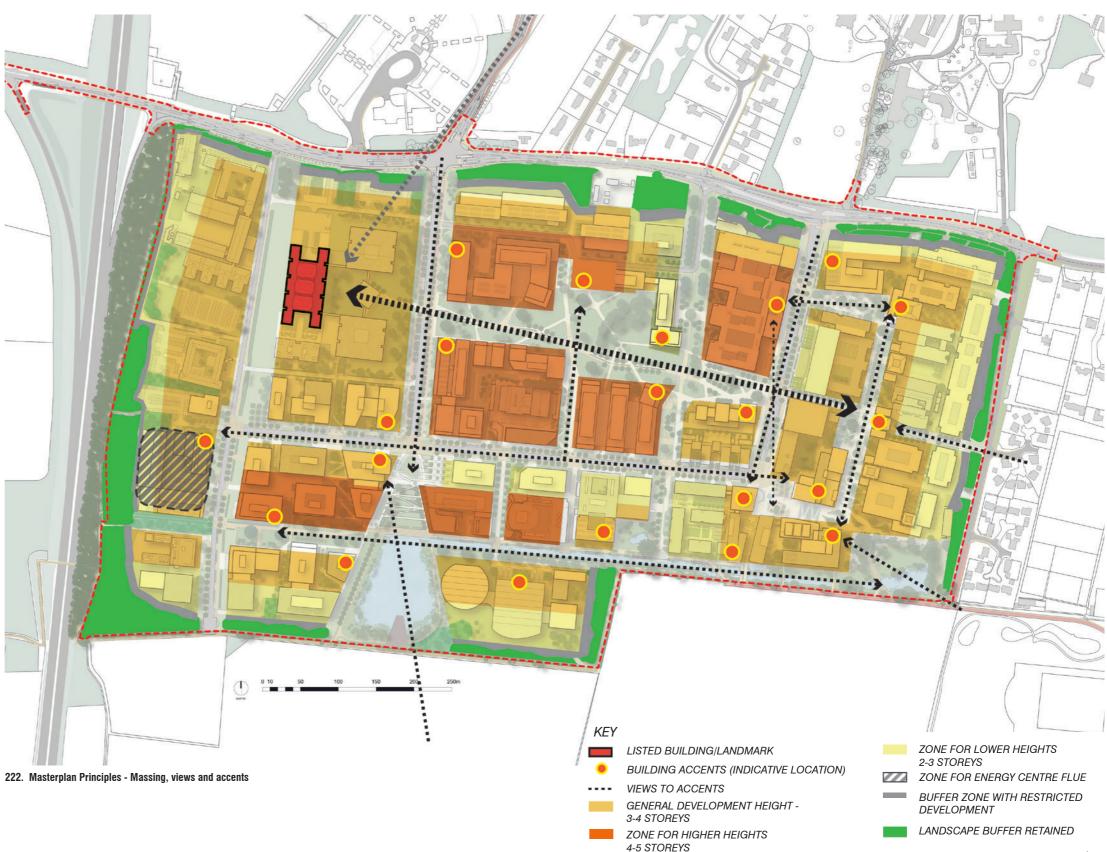
#### Views and accents

6.3.22 Key to the masterplan is the establishment of a new skyline for West Cambridge, which will reveal a new identity for the site. Also, variations in heights will create opportunities for additional outdoor spaces such as rooftop terraces, promoting integration of landscape and architecture. This new urban framework will also be an aid to legibility and pedestrian movement through the site.

6.3.23 To create this skyline and aid legibility, building accents are located within the centre of the site along The Green open space; around the Forum spaces, and at the JJ Thomson Avenue access. These landmarks ensure that these key spaces are identifiable within the urban structure.

6.3.24 In addition, building accents are also located to terminate views. These accents serve to lead pedestrians through these spaces and provide a visual unfolding and termination of views.

6.3.25 The primary West Cambridge landmark – the Schlumberger Research Building is given increased prominence by the opening up of views across the site, from JJ Thomson Avenue through The Green to the building's roof structure. In addition development heights in the vicinity of the building are kept below the Schlumberger line of the tent structure to ensure that this building remains visible and the tallest element in the west of the site.



# **Appearance: Architectural framework**

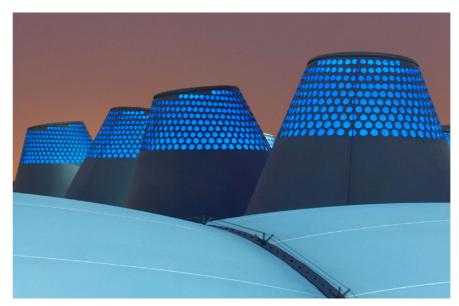
6.3.26 The transformation of the West Cambridge site provides an opportunity for a new, more cohesive architectural character. A key issue of the site is the in-coherence of the disparate and disconnected developments. An additional set of characteristic elements and themes, applied thoughtfully, and drawn from the best of what exists, can address this. To form a new coherence for the site, new overarching themes and attitudes will be explored:

- Materials: Use of natural materials such as: timber, brick, masonry, terracotta. Particular interest will be given to exploring these materials used in innovative ways or the use of new innovative materials, as a response to brief or a response to climate.
- Technology: Technology will be celebrated through visible, clear and logical structures and tectonic facade treatments. There are good precedents already on the site where the building structure itself provides key architectural interest: such as Schlumberger Research Building and the William Gates/Computer Science building.
- Roofs and soffits: A celebration of skyline. Roofs will be used to provide shade, define and provide shelter for exterior, active spaces and provide a response to climate.
- An environmental response to climate: applied to facade design and roofscape - layered facades, prefabricated components, brise soleils, shading structures, wind cowls, etc. The University will aim to achieve BREEAM Excellent as a minimum.





A response to climate





A celebration of skyline and response to climate







224. Woodland edge - utility/ancillary buildings

#### Woodland Edge - Utility buildings

6.3.27 Within the masterplan there is a special condition of mainly utility buildings or car parking structures that are set within the woodland landscape of the western and northern site boundaries. These buildings will be responsive to sensitive conditions such as adjacencies to Conservation Areas and residential uses. These buildings could be characterised by:

- Use of planting: on trellis structures, on roofs, around structures to form buildings that are part of the landscape;
- Materials: Use of natural materials, or materials that blend with the woodland landscape or a combination of materials to control scale and rhythm of the façades.

#### Southern edge

6.3.28 Some of the existing buildings along the southern frontage already provide good precedents for the use of natural materials and shading devices. These themes would be further reinforced by use of timber and particularly timber as a structural element (this could be applied around East Forum for instance, to provide warmth and natural references in areas where users will socialise), and also through use of shading devices and brise soleils as architectural themes.

#### The Green

6.3.29 The buildings facing The Green will address this open space with their primary frontages, entrance lobbies and social spaces (which can also spill out into and animate the public realm). Façades will be carefully composed, exploring rhythm and horizontal differentiation between base, middle and roof elements; as well as layering and transparency. Social parts in particular will be transparent to provide a view into the interior of the building. Also, planting of hedges and trees will be explored to achieve a balance of built form and landscape elements within The Green.













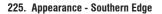












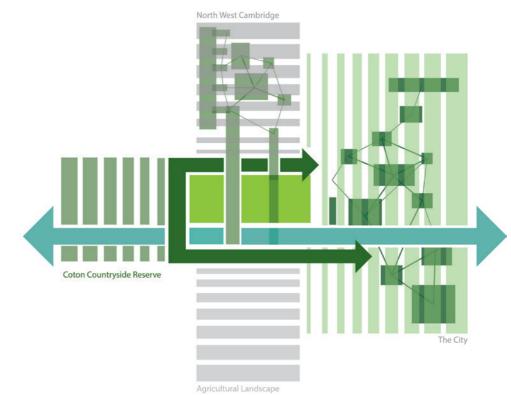
# 6.4. Community and open space

# Landscape vision

- 6.4.1 The City of Cambridge has a distinctive character and landscape setting. The diversity of historic buildings and conservation areas, the colleges, the river, the commons, open spaces, natural features and habitats all contribute to the distinctiveness and uniqueness of the City's landscape.
- 6.4.2 The rural hinterland of Cambridgeshire is particularly close to the west of the City, and is defined by large arable field parcels with an open aspect, but with limited visual connections to the city. The remnants of the agricultural landscape can be seen throughout the City and these remnants define the network of open spaces and routes that shape the urban grain.
- 6.4.3 The association between public open space, private intimate space and the density and scale of the built form are particularly marked in Cambridge. The connection between these spaces is typically reinforced with mature avenues or lines of trees, formal boundaries, with a clear distinction between private and public functions.
- 6.4.4 The site at West Cambridge offers and contains many of the features seen though out the city and rural fringe:
- · Hedgerows with mature trees;
- · Legible routes with avenues of trees;
- · A network of cycle and pedestrian routes;
- Mature woodland copses;
- · Woodland buffers and shelterbelts;
- Areas of open water; and
- · A range of naturalised shrub and grassland habitats.

#### The Landscape 'Weave'

- 6.4.5 The aim of the masterplan is to create a hierarchy of public spaces and a range of landscapes of distinct character. These will draw influence from and weave together the surrounding areas of city, the countryside reserve, the agricultural landscapes and the emerging new landscapes of the North West Cambridge Development.
- 6.4.6 The primary purpose of the new public realm and landscape at West Cambridge is to:
- promote and improve pedestrian and cycle legibility, while minimising conflicts with vehicular movement;
- provide spaces that allow creativity, expression, inspiration and delight;
- integrate and retain existing landscape features and build on the character and amenity they already provide;
- integrate with the surrounding natural network, promoting diversity and species rich habitats.
- 6.4.7 Creating a strong landscape framework is important in delivering a masterplan which meets high sustainability targets.
- 6.4.8 Strong networks of landscape are important for the creation of bio-diversity corridors to benefit species migration including insects, mammals, birds and water species. Species migration helps maintain and develop more robust, bio-diverse communities. Within the West Cambridge masterplan the Landscape 'Weave' aims to:
- provide a continuous network of green spaces and water bodies that link together to create rich habitats for wildlife, where people can walk and cycle and enjoy recreation;
- bring the field pattern character of hedgerows and open fields of the surrounding agrarian area into the site;
- ensure the City of Cambridge is reflected in the landscape structure of the site, by introducing new active urban places for people to meet and congregate;
- connect the new landscapes with the NWCD to the north of the site and draw through and echo this emerging character; and
- introduce a new, substantial central green-space in the overall network of landscape ensuring strong ecological, pedestrian and visual links through the centre of the site.



227. Landscape Concept Diagram - The West Cambridge 'Weave'



228. Landscape Concept Diagram - The West Cambridge 'Weave'



229. West Cambridge - Landscape illustrative masterplan

# Landscape framework

6.4.11 Underpinning the open space design approach are five themes. These have been determined to guide design considerations, opportunities and outcomes for West Cambridge. The landscape framework for West Cambridge

#### 1. Character and Legibility

- · Establish a site-wide open space structure that promotes good legibility and way finding;
- Draw upon the existing, embedded site qualities to inform the future character of open space;
- Retain and enhance the existing context of mature trees and woodland buffers and maintain an aesthetically 'green' place relevant to its rural location;
- Ensure all public space has a well-defined role and character and ensure buildings contribute to the use and definition of public space; and
- Ensure that the character and design of streetscape responds in an integrated way with hierarchy, scale, built form, functional movement, water sensitive urban design, entry locations, points of intersections, views and destinations.

#### 2. Community and culture

- Provide a mix of spaces to support a diversity of social activities:
- Design the public realm to maximise community and university/occupier engagement; and
- Provide event/meeting places and facilities for multifunctional and adaptable use.

#### 3. Connectivity and access

- · Strengthen the existing campus structure by forming strategic external links;
- Create a pedestrian and cycle network that promotes and encourages active transport through ease of mobility within the site and to external networks; and
- Ensure strong visual connections and way finding.

#### 4. Safety and security

- · Create safe public spaces, with appropriate levels of passive surveillance provided as a result of the strong relationship between space and built form;
- Ensure adequate provision of lighting to all public realm areas and in particular the major pedestrian and footpath network;
- Ensure all paths are universally accessible.



#### 5. Environment and sustainability

- · Ensure protection and enhancement of existing areas of environmental importance and strengthen links to the wider landscape to establish 'Biodiversity
- · Design open spaces and streetscapes to integrate water sensitive urban design initiatives;
- Retain existing trees and select native species to encourage bio-diverse bird, water life and insect habitats; and

• Use materials that feature low embodied energy. effective whole-of-life costs, low ongoing maintenance and are sustainably produced.

# Amount of public realm open space: Key Spaces

- 6.4.12 The scale and amount of open space held within the masterplan has been informed by both Cambridge and world-wide precedents. The total landscape and public realm area (including streets, Green Links and Woodland buffers) adds up to 16.8 ha. The primary areas of open space highlighted in the diagram in Figure 231, add up to 10.3 ha. The majority of this area is accessible to site users and the general public, however some areas form on-plot landscape, such as the western-most Garden of The Green which is within the Schlumberger Research Building plot.
- 6.4.13 The largest open space is located close to the centre of the site. This is the Central Garden, part of The Green chain of gardens, which accommodates soft landscaping and open lawn areas for informal recreation and relaxation. This space has an area of 1.8Ha (in comparison a minimum set by the Design Guidelines that accompany this Design and Access Statement of 1.6Ha) and some of the recreation activities possible within this size of space include frisbee, informal ball games, yoga, etc.
- 6.4.14 The main area of the Green, between JJ Thomson Avenue and High Cross, has an area of 2.9Ha.
- 6.4.15 Other larger spaces include the East Pond and the West Lake. These spaces include water bodies and mature tree planting and are more suitable for relaxing breaks, picnics, etc., rather than large group activities.
- 6.4.16 The East and West Forums are the primary active, urban meeting and interaction spaces and, as such, are of relatively smaller scale and more contained by development.
- 6.4.17 The key spaces highlighted in Figure 231 are woven together into a network of connective spaces which ensures all the parts of the site have a good access to open space.
- 6.4.18 An important part of this network are the north-south Green Links, which themselves are not of significant width to be used for informal sports and have not been included in the total amount of public spaces. Nonetheless these green links can provide pleasant small gatherings spaces, pedestrian links and ensure that the green, soft feel is distributed throughout the site.



231. Key Spaces

Please note: these spaces and areas are based on the Illustrative Masterplan.

# **Incorporating existing trees**



232. West Cambridge - Trees to be retained

#### **Existing mature trees**

6.4.19 Located within the site are individual and groups of mature trees forming either distinct lines of trees, avenues or standard specimens. The trees of note are prominent specimens given their age, size and maturity. Their vitality and structural conditions are varied, however, the majority are in good vitality. The diagram in Figure 232 is taken from the Design Guidelines that accompany this Design and Access Statement, and shows trees in dark green that must be retained and others that are recommended to be retained if possible.

#### **Existing street trees**

6.4.20 The existing street trees are predominantly young specimens that form distinct avenues or formal lines of trees. The limited age of these trees on High Cross and Charles Babbage Road reduces their arboricultural value at present. However, over time this will increase with their maturity and it is the preferred approach to keep these trees where possible, replace trees in ill health and infill where required with appropriate species.

#### **Woodland Edges**

6.4.21 The site boundaries sustain linear belts of mature trees and shrubs that provide full or partial screening of the site and it is the preferred approach to keep these trees where possible and will be managed through the implementation of 'Woodland Management Plan'.

# Opportunity for new tree planting



233. West Cambridge - Proposed tree planting

# Opportunities for new tree planting

6.4.22 In addition to the retention within the masterplan of the previously described planting and trees, it is proposed to enhance the planting generally throughout the site, and specifically to increase the number of large specimen trees within the site.

6.4.23 These new trees would be located in the larger green spaces which will have less restricted conditions and will enable these trees to reach their full potential in the future. These landscape spaces are identified within The Green, the Southern Ecological Corridor, the East Pond and West Lake areas and within Green Links.

6.4.24 Standard tree planting is proposed throughout the site to create avenues, provide interest where people gather and enhance the public realm.

Existing trees to be retained

New standard tree planting

Opportunity for large feature tree planting

East-west key open spaces

North-south green links and streets Woodland edge

Tree buffer zones

# Activity and social spaces in landscape

6.4.25 Places of social intensity that will be the focus for community, educational, commercial and ecological activities are formed at key intersections between roads, footpaths, cycle routes, as well as at certain building entrances.

6.4.26 These places can be seen as 'social hubs' and will provide a variety of spaces, from urban plazas, to play zones, urban orchards, outdoor labs or external meeting spaces. These spaces will be designed to accommodate people coming together.

6.4.27 Informal leisure and recreation is predominantly accommodated within the more major open spaces. The Green and the East and West Forum spaces are conducive to passive recreation that is not prescriptive or defined but instead provide flexible and active spaces in a wider landscape setting.

6.4.28 More structured sports activity is located in proximity to the Sports Centre and the West Lake and includes walking trails, cycling and possible open water swimming.

6.4.29 Recreational based cycling & pedestrian activity is part of a greater cycling and pedestrian network linking to Coton Footpath, the Coton reserve and the North West Cambridge Development to the north.

KEY

Programmed space Key node/'social hubs'

Woodland edge Shared facilities hub

Amenities

East-west key open spaces

Outdoor sports activities



234. West Cambridge - Activities and Social spaces

# **Social amenity**

#### Three tiers of amenity spaces

6.4.30 The West Cambridge site at present offers a series of amenity facilities such as the Cavendish Canteen, the West Cafe at Hauser Forum, and smaller cafes such as that within the CAPE Building providing hot and cold drinks, sandwiches and snacks. Many of these smaller facilities are embedded within buildings and while providing a vital function for the staff that work there, do little to invigorate public space or to promote gathering, exchange and interaction beyond the building they are located in. Within the new masterplan, many of these facilities will be retained while a few will be removed as redevelopment/relocation takes place. However, the aim of the masterplan is to improve and then supplement the existing offer with a fuller range of new and modern facilities.

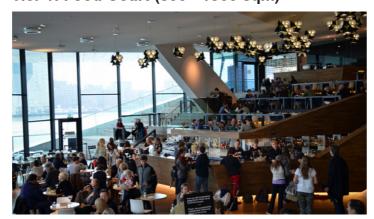
6.4.31 With the proposed increase in density on the site, there will be a necessity to increase the amount of the amenity facilities offered. This importantly also provides the opportunity to increase the range and variety of types of facilities throughout the site - to provide a variety of styles, experiences and prices.

6.4.32 The strategy for these spaces is to form clusters of activity that are capable of becoming attractors or destinations within the site, and then to associate these activity clusters with key public spaces so as to invigorate key locations such as the East and West Forums and through The Green.

6.4.33 Proposed are three tiers of amenity spaces as illustrated by the photos on this page:

- Tier 1: Foodcourt. These are the largest types of spaces, between 800 1500 sqm in area (or 350 450 seats). The size of these spaces mean that they bring people from across the site for meeting, gathering and eating and create high levels of actiivty. It is predicted that the West Cambridge site, at full capacity could accommodate up to two of these and they would be located within University shared facilities buildings at or close to the East Forum;
- Tier 2: Hot Food Cafe. These are medium size spaces, with a varied offer and experience, such as a Cafe or a fine-dining room, and sized between 400 - 700 sqm (or 150 - 300 seats); and,
- Tier 3: Cafe/deli space. These are the smallest sized spaces, between 150 - 300 sqm (or 50 - 150 seats).

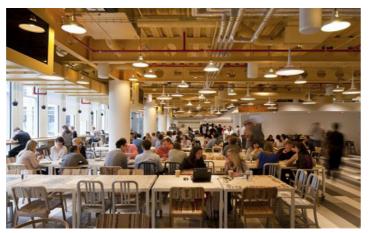
Tier 1: Food Court (800 - 1500 sqm)



235. EYE Film Museum, Amsterdam



236. Macquarie University, Sydney



237. Google Office in London

Tier 2: Hot Food (400 - 700 sqm)



238. Existing catering area in Hauser Forum



239. Google Headquarters, California



240. Queen Mary University of London

Tier 3: Cafe/Deli (200 - 300 sqm)



241. Existing cafe in William Gates Building



242. Existing cafe in Sports Centre



243. Existing cafe in CAPE

#### Location of catering

6.4.34 The highest concentrations of catering facilities are located around East and West Forum. Due to the concentration of academic staff and students, two large food courts could be in the East Forum area.

6.4.35 The first to be delivered is the replacement of the Cavendish Canteen, located on The Green, adjacent to JJ Thomson Avenue and opposite the new Cavendish III Laboratory. This will be in the form of a food court which can be positioned to over look JJ Thomson Garden and invigorate the new green space. While accommodating a canteen this building will also accommodate shared teaching and study spaces. This location is also highly visible forming an event along the JJ Thomson Avenue. Its gravitational pull will aid connections between the East Forum spaces to the south and The Green.

6.4.36 The East Forum cluster of shared facilities can be established following the relocation of the existing Cavendish Laboratory. New facilities will frame and extend along the East Steps, which connect the East Forum Upper Square, the Lower Square and the East Pond area. Another larger food court could be located here.

6.4.37 To the west of the site a further cluster can be established using the ground floors of new commercial research buildings overlooking the West Forum Terraces and the western extension of the Southern Ecological Corridor. These facilities are smaller but will have the potential to provide a variety of offers including: deli/cafe, hot food, fine-dining, etc. These facilities will be located so as to provide an active frontage to the West Forum spaces.

6.4.38 Along The Green, additional facilities on the ground floors of new buildings can extend activity through the space from east to west, with the potential for a facility to be visible from High Cross.



244. West Cambridge Catering Spaces

(2) HOT FOOD (400 - 700 sqm)

(3) CAFE / DELI (200 - 300 sqm)

New catering facilities

Existing catering facilities

# 6.5. Climate

#### Introduction

- 6.5.1 The public realm and open space network which is an important part of the new spatial structure and the identity of the site, also has a key role in the sustainability strategy for the site. It aims to:
- Improve ecology, by increasing connectivity and the variety of habitats;
- Utilise the existing features and elements on the site, in order to minimise waste;
- Facilitate sustainable drainage; and
- Promote walking, leisure and enjoyment of nature, through improvement of quality of open spaces and addition of amenity.

#### 6.5.2 Key principles include:

- Protection and enhancement of existing areas of environmental importance and strengthen physical links to establish 'Biodiversity Corridors' that connect into a wider landscape;
- Respond to topographic and pre-development drainage patterns on the site;
- Open space and streetscape to integrate water sensitive urban design initiatives, where possible;
- Adopt a sensitive and strategic response to constructed micro-climates through both location of facilities and plant species;
- Select native species where possible to encourage biodiverse bird and insect habitats;
- Use materials that feature low embodied energy, effective whole-of-life costs, low ongoing maintenance and are sustainably produced; and
- Retain existing trees where ever possible.

#### **Ecology**

6.5.3 The site has existing habitats that attract wildlife, such as the Southern Ecological Corridor. These areas will be retained and enhanced where possible to support the existing and attract new diverse wildlife.

6.5.4 The West Lake, the East (Payne's) Pond and the Southern Ecological Corridor's canals and other water bodies could potentially support a diverse range of species. Although historic records exist of water voles, the habitats on site are no longer suitable. They could be made suitable through the proposed landscape design.

6.5.5 The Coton Footpath hedgerow, the woodland edges and existing trees are likely to attract small birds which utilise them for nesting and feeding.

6.5.6 The habitats to the south west of the site are dominated by arable fields with small woodland blocks and hedgerows. These play an important role in connectivity to the wider habitats.

#### Infrastructure

6.5.7 The site has an existing network of roads, drainage and utilities infrastructure that is proposed to remain in place. Waste will be reduced by reusing these networks where possible.

6.5.8 There is already an extensive surface water drainage network that utilises a range of SUDs storage structures discharging to Washpit Brook to the north and to Coton Brook to the south. The proposed modifications of the onsite southern water bodies will provide additional capacity.

#### Sustainable drainage

6.5.9 More than two thirds of the site is drained into the existing water bodies on the site: the West Lake, the East (Payne's) Pond and the Canal.

6.5.10 The opportunities to build sustainable drainage methods in to this network, such as roadside swales and retention ponds, have been explored.

#### **Energy Strategy**

6.5.11 A preferred Energy Strategy has been produced for the site and this includes a site wide heat network and energy centre.

6.5.12 However, there are ongoing concerns about the opportunity to export electricity from the site and how this will affect the viability of proposals for an energy centre based on CHP, and provision of PV panels, as well as the recognition that fossil gas CHP may not be a low carbon solution in the medium term.

6.5.13 It has been agreed that the Energy Strategy should include the principle of hierarchy of approach so now explores options including:

- A fully site wide approach exploring different energy solutions within the site;
- An approach based on clusters or precincts linking several buildings;
- A building by building approach.

# **Ecology and bio-diversity**



245. Ecology and biodiversity network

6.5.14 Key existing elements of the site will be retained and reinforced to improve habitats such as the Southern Ecological Corridor and the woodland edges:

- The new profile of the Canal and West Lake, which will be modified to increase drainage capacity, will maximise ecological value by providing a variety of physical habitats and maintain a permanent water level. Hard engineering structures along the banks of these surface water bodies will be minimised with preference given to softer natural banks planted with species to maximise ecological value;
- Existing woodland buffers will be improved in accordance with the 'West Cambridge Masterplan Woodland Management Plan' to ensure that existing wildlife corridors are maintained and improved;
- Existing mature trees will be retained within the site and new planting will be designed to reinforce the ecology of the site, including the introduction of additional trees that can grow to maturity.

KEY

Existing Ponds & canal - reprofiled

Existing Ponds & canal - retained

Proposed Ponds & canal

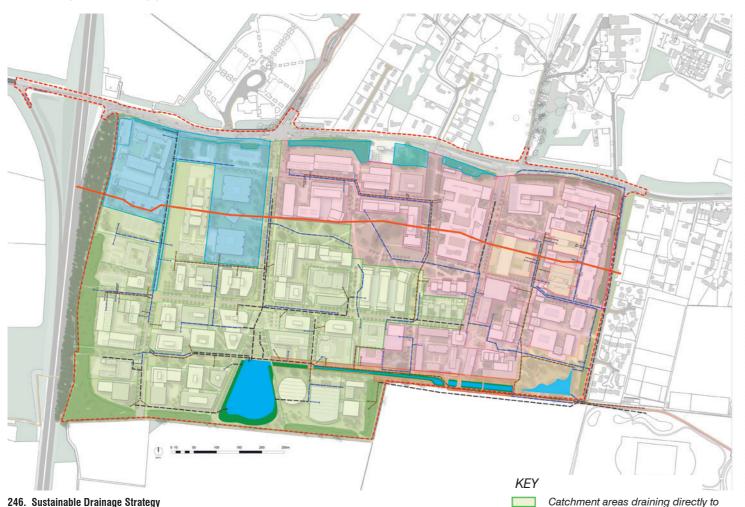
Rain gardens/attenuation opportunity area
Rain garden opportunities to streets

Existing Woodland edge retained

Existing trees retained within the site

Indicative location for additional tree planting that can grow to maturity

#### **Drainage strategy**



#### 246. Sustainable Drainage Strategy

6.5.15 The topography of the site falls from the existing watershed line that runs east/west through the centre of the site. Surface water to the north of the watershed line is directed to Washpit Brook to the north of Madingley Road and south of the line it is directed via the Southern Ecological Corridor to the Coton Brook. Key drainage principles include:

- Opportunity for road-side rain gardens to High Cross, JJ Thomson Avenue and Western Access Road:
- Opportunity for SUDs conveyance systems along the northsouth Green Links:
- Modifications to the existing lake, pond & canal to provide additional capacity, by lowering flow controls;
- Tanked permeable paving to be used for surface water collection:
- Opportunity for water features within The Green to create landscape features.

**Energy Strategy** 



Catchment areas draining directly to

Catchment areas utilising on-site

Catchment areas draining to public

Catchment areas draining to Coton

southern Canal/Swale

sewer on Madingley Road

Retained pipes

Proposed SW pipes

Proposed FW pipes

Existing watershed line

Brook via Payne's Pondpond

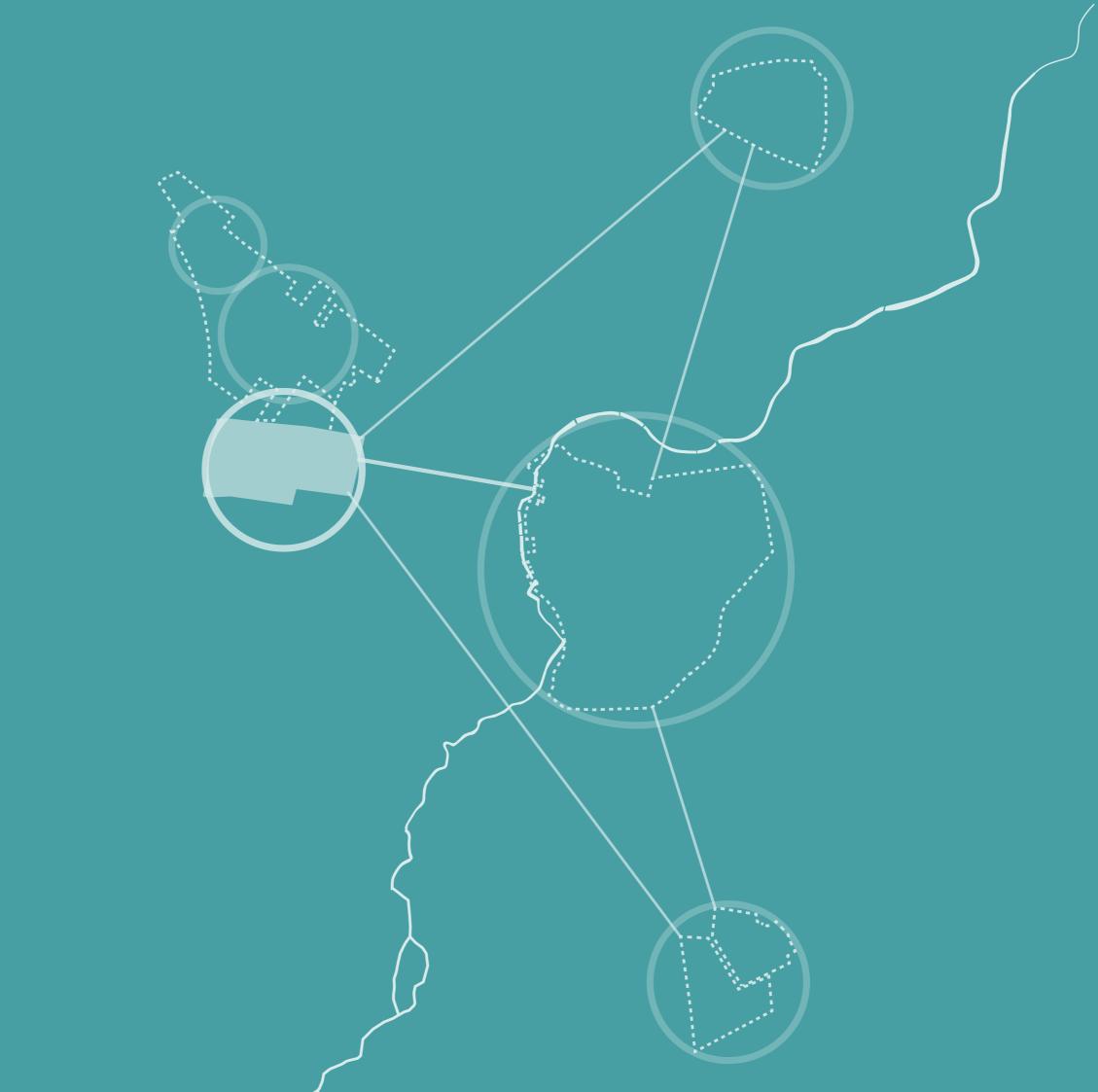
6.5.16 The preferred energy solution proposes a site wide CHP network and an energy centre delivering most of the required heat. This would be initially served by gas CHP, but with the option to replace this with another technology at a later date. Whilst the site wide CHP network remains the preferred solution, it is important to prepare for the possibility that it may not be deliverable. Other solutions that have been explored are:

- The cluster or precinct solution: which recognises the benefit of linking a number of buildings together. There could be options to serve these clusters either with gas CHP, air source or ground source heat pumps;
- Building by building solutions: this approach may make sense for some particular buildings which are further away from others and have very low energy demands. Again there could be options to serve these buildings with CHP, air source or ground source heat pumps.

6.5.17 In the event that a cluster based solution is adopted, the analysis suggests that this would mean a shift to heat pumps and could retain a mix of air and ground source systems to provide maximum flexibility.

Energy centre

6.5.18 The eventual solution could be a mixture of these, as appropriate to the different clusters.



# ILLUSTRATIVE MASTERPLAN

Illustrative masterplan Illustrative phasing Masterplan setting	B1 Illustrative design principles	B2 Illustrative masterplan	B3 Transformation of key spaces
		Illustrative phasing	

# 7. ILLUSTRATIVE MASTERPLAN

# 7.1. Illustrative masterplan

# The potential of West Cambridge

7.1.1 The Illustrative Masterplan shown in Figure 249 provides a clear indication of the potential at West Cambridge. This indication of a different future for West Cambridge describes a gradually evolving new place which builds on the ethos and intention of the existing consented masterplan; incorporates existing elements and buildings; and forms a coherent urban structure connected and integrated into its existing and emerging context. The previously described approach to land use distribution, density, movement, public space, landscape and distribution of amenities has been developed to form a new site character which will change current perceptions, enable increased activity, encourage interaction between users, developing routes to knowledge transfer and eventually to commercialisation of knowledge.

#### Responsive to University need

- 7.1.2 A high quality environment of buildings, landscapes and public spaces, as indicated in the Illustrative Masterplan, will support the requirements of West Cambridge community well into the future. The more intensive use of the site will improve the viability of amenity spaces and sustainable transport provision, so making the site more attractive to potential users and occupiers, but also increase interaction between site users.
- 7.1.3 The increased interaction between commercial research and academic users is key to the University's development strategy, and the West Cambridge site provides an almost unique opportunity to bring benefits by securing the existing research institutes at West Cambridge; providing for the University's spin-out businesses and those businesses that it wishes to work with and support; and increasing mobility and interaction across the University and the city.
- 7.1.4 The development at North West Cambridge provides a new context for West Cambridge and offers synergies between the two sites. Strong physical and visual connections have been formed between the two developments with the intention that together, these two sites will form a greater University orientated urban quarter for the city, which not only provides homes for staff and students, but provides wider and more diverse local working, learning and employment opportunities.

#### **Responsive to Context**

7.1.5 The Illustrative Masterplan demonstrates how the new character and density of the site can be integrated sensitively with its surrounding context. Massing has been carefully moderated at all the edges of the site and strategies have been employed to promote variation and interest in the skyline, within the central, taller areas. The architecture framework sets out a character for the site which both builds on existing development and indicates a softer architectural character. Landscape planting has been employed to soften development, such as the retention and reinforcement of the woodland buffer; the introduction of major new green spaces; and the creation of open spaces that will allow trees to grow to maturity. There is a strong emphasis on greener, informal spaces within the masterplan, and both new and existing spaces have been developed to incorporate existing mature trees and other landscape elements allowing greater biodiversity and visual interest.

#### **Gradual Transformation**

- 7.1.6 Although low in density and with dispersed amenities, the existing site already has a significant amount of development. The key open spaces and infrastructure are already in place, establishing the urban structure as defined in the 1999 masterplan. Many of the buildings are of exceptional quality, loved by their users and are well functioning spaces for learning and research. However, the lack of overall critical mass and footfall, low and uneven density and consequent lack of shared amenities have resulted in a poor perception of the site.
- 7.1.7 The intention of this Illustrative Masterplan is to show how these issues could be addressed from the outset and to propose an illustrative scenario for gradual improvement of conditions on the site.
- 7.1.8 The Illustrative Masterplan provides one scenario for gradual growth and intensification of academic and commercial uses, population and amenities. The aim of this sequence is to show the opportunities for site improvements that are deliverable in early stages, and to follow with further interventions which are dependent on larger relocations, such as the Cavendish Laboratory or the Veterinary School.
- 7.1.9 The early stage developments demonstrate that the masterplan can accommodate the University's most immediately needed developments (Priority Projects), while also illustrating through the later stages of development, the ultimate potential of the site.



248. West Cambridge Masterplan - View of the West Forum (West Lake)

KEY

**NEW DEVELOPMENT** 

**EXISTING BUILDINGS RETAINED** 

EAST FORUM SPACES

EAST POND

WEST FORUM SPACES

WEST LAKE

THE GREEN

SOUTHERN ECOLOGICAL CORRIDOR

SHARED FACILITIES BUILDINGS

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

CAVENDISH III LABORATORY

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

COMMERCIAL LED DEVELOPMENT

SCHLUMBERGER BUILDING

BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY

SPORTS CENTRE

DATA CENTRE

PARKING STRUCTURES

**ENERGY CENTRE** 

**UKCRIC BUILDING** 



249. West Cambridge - Illustrative Masterplan 2017

# 7.2. Illustrative phasing

# Incremental development of West Cambridge



250. Aerial view of Existing Site Condition

#### **Existing Site**

7.2.1 The site already has a number of high quality buildings in place, as well as roads and key open spaces, such as the East (A) and West Forum (B).

7.2.2 Higher density academic developments are located along southern edge (C). The low density Veterinary School (D) occupies the central part of the site, and the existing Cavendish Laboratory complex occupies the south eastern corner (E).



251. Aerial view of Phase 1: Priority Projects

#### **Priority Projects**

7.2.3 The University aims to deliver noticeable improvements from the earliest stage of development. The key capital project at this stage is the new Cavendish III Laboratory, the development of which will be joined by delivery of shared teaching and catering facilities to the south and will be used as a catalyst for improvement of existing and formation of new open spaces.

7.2.4 This stage of development is envisaged to include:

- Over 85,000m2 of departmental academic space, including Cavendish III Laboratory (A) and the Department of Engineering's initial phases (B);
- First phase of shared facilities (C);
- Reinforcement of existing facilities to form an Entrepreneurship Hub at the East Forum, with innovation and scale-up centres (D);
- Approximately 50,000m2 of commercial research development at the Western Cluster (E);
- Potentially, a multi-storey car parking structure (F).



252. Aerial view of Interim Condition

#### Interim Condition

7.2.5 This interim condition follows after completion of priority projects and clearance of the current Cavendish site. It shows developments not dependant on relocation of Veterinary School.

- Completion of the East Forum, with additional shared facilities and new public realm (A);
- 18,000m2 of departmental academic space, with expansion for Department of Engineering (B), as well as possible expansion for Material Science and Metallurgy (C) and Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology (D);
- Further 38,000m2 of commercial research development and near-completion of the Western Cluster, with possible Innovation Centre to the north of West Forum (E);
- Nursery (F);
- An additional multi storey car parking structure (G).



253. Aerial view of at Full Capacity

#### **Full Capacity**

7.2.6 The relocation of Veterinary School would allow for:

- Over 60,000m2 of departmental academic space, with more academic space (H) and possible expansion space for Cavendish III Laboratory (I);
- The Green completed in entirety and including the central cycling and pedestrian route linking site East-West (J);
- An additional multi storey car parking structure (K).

7.2.7 The final stage could include:

- Over 80,000m2 of academic and commercial development in the former paddocks area (A) and in the Western commercial cluster (B);
- Completion of sports centre (C);
- This would be supported by an additional car parking structure (D)



254. Existing Site Condition



255. Phase 1: Priority Projects



256. Interim Condition



257. Full Capacity

# 7.3. Interim activities

# Interim activities & programme testing

7.3.1 As West Cambridge develops there is opportunity within the site to begin to meet the needs of present users and those newly arrived. There is a pressing need to bring activity and interest and to start building a new place within the city. The role of interim activities and meanwhile uses on vacant plots and spaces is vital to begin to redefine the perception of the site.

7.3.2 The transitional plots (for example, the areas vacated by the Veterinary School once relocated) could be used for interim activities and also as means to determine what kind of programmes are successful and should be permanently provided in some of the public open spaces which are due to be delivered in subsequent phases. In addition, there are spaces around the Sports Centre that could be occupied in an interim condition until the later phases of the building are implemented.

7.3.3 The interim activities will introduce vibrancy and serve as vehicles for socialisation from the early stages of the project.

7.3.4 The activities listed below are based on ideas from benchmark studies, but the interim uses could also be informed by community participation and/or local idea contests. Activities of wider appeal could be considered, that would bring people from outside the site and help integrate the site better into the city.

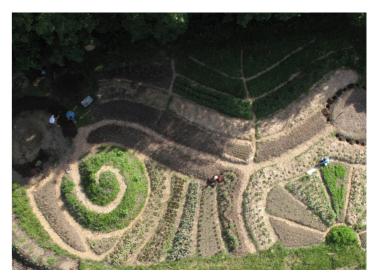
7.3.5 Interim activities could include:

- Family programme: science fairs and workshops for adults and children;
- Recreation: informal kick-about areas, table tennis or petanque (boules), giant chess, workout stations;
- Services: bike servicing or Dr Bike;
- Food and beverage: food vans, pop up stalls and coffee points.

7.3.6 Interim activities could serve as a testing ground for public realm uses which could continue into future on a temporary or periodical basis, such as street fairs, festivals and markets. Together with innovation spaces (such as ideaSpace) and prototype workshops, these informal, but knowledge and science oriented activities could help develop an identity that is complementary to the historic centre, and experimental and informal.



















258. Interim Activities



 ${\bf 259. \ The \ West \ Cambridge \ Masterplan \ - view \ of \ The \ Green \ open \ space}$ 

