

AECOM pbo

West Cambridge Community Forum – Planning Application Update 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016



1: To optimise
the amount of
development
on the site, to
help enhance the
position of the
City and Region
as a world leader
in Research and
Development



2: To support the commercialisation of knowledge through entrepreneurship and collaborations with industry



3: To create and suctain a high quality place by transforming the physical and social environment for site users and neighbours



exible and efficient space to support viability and long-term value creation



5: To deliver sustainable development by proactively investing in the quality of the estate and its integration within the City





Phase 1: Priority Projects – Connectivity and transforming access



Phase 3: Transformation at full capacity

#### **Planning Application Overview**

#### **Planning Application Update**

- 1. Heights and Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
- 2. Trees and Arboricultural Impact Assessment
- 3. Traffic and Transport
- 4. Drainage
- 5. Sustainability
- 6. Amenities Delivery
- 7. Parameter Plans and Statement
- 8. Design Guidelines

**Next Steps** 

- The planning application was submitted to Cambridge City Council in June 2016.
- The application is seeking outline planning permission for the redevelopment of West Cambridge which comprises:
  - up to 370,000m² of academic floorspace (Class D1 space), commercial / research institute floorspace (Class B1b and sui generis research uses), of which not more than 170,000m² will be commercial floorspace (Class B1b);
  - up to 2,500m<sup>2</sup> nursery floorspace (Class D1);
  - up to 1,000m<sup>2</sup> of retail/food and drink floorspace (Classes A1-A5);
  - up to 4,100m2 and not less than 3,000 m2 for assembly and leisure floorspace;
  - up to 5,700m2 of sui generis uses in cluding Energy Centre and Data Centre;
  - associated infrastructure including roads), pedestrian, cycle and vehicle routes, parking, drattage, open spaces, landscaping and earthworks; and demoktion of existing buildings and breaking up of hardstanding.



**Existing Site** 



Illustrative Masterplan

#### **Planning Application Documents – For Approval**

- The documents submitted for approval for are:
  - Planning application form
  - Parameter Plans and Statements comprising:
    - Planning Application Boundary
    - Demolition Plan
    - Development Building Zones Parameter Plan
    - Land Use Parameter Plan
    - Access and Movement Parameter Plan
    - Landscape and Public Ream Parameter Plan
    - Maximum Building Heights Parameter Plan
  - Design Guidelines

#### **Planning Application Documents – Supporting**

- The documents submitted to support the application are:
  - Design and Access Statement
  - Contextual Drawings
  - Planning Statement
  - Statement of Community Involvement
  - Environmental Statement
  - Transport Assessment / Travel Plan
  - Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy
  - Sustainability Statement
  - Energy Statement
  - Waste Management Plan
  - Utilities Statement
  - Construction and Environmental Management Plan

#### **Planning Application Consultation**

- Consultation on the planning application was held 28<sup>th</sup> June 2016 –25<sup>th</sup> July 2016.
- Consultation response were received from:
  - Cambridge City Council
  - Cambridgeshire County Council
  - Highways England
  - Historic England
  - Madingley Parish Council
  - Clerk Maxwell Road Residents' Association
  - Newnham Croft Residents Association
  - Cambridge Past Present and Future
  - Natural England
  - Seven local residents

#### **Consultation Issues Raised**

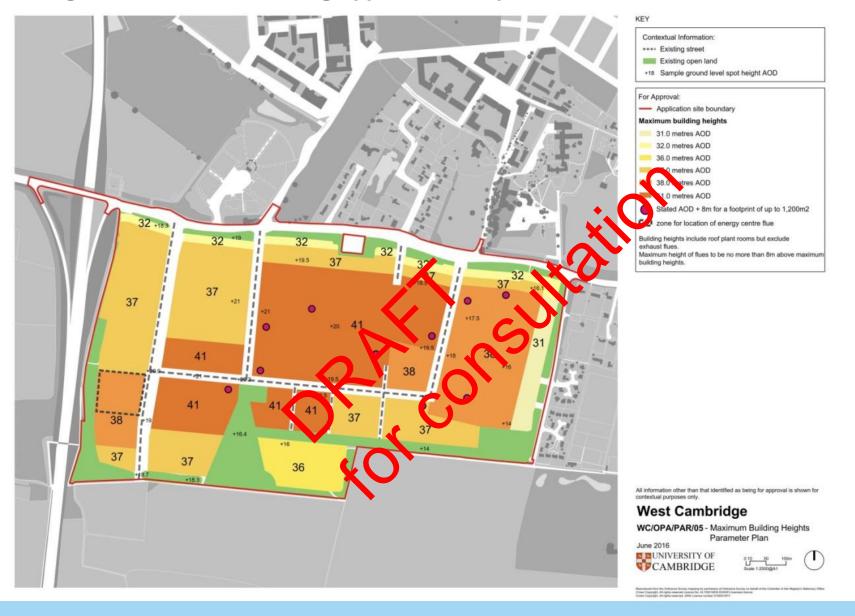
- The issues raised during the consultation include:
  - Transport impacts on highway network
  - Height / massing of the development / design of buildings
  - Information required to assess landscape impacts
  - Proposed demolition of Merton Hall Farmhouse
  - The number of trees to be retained / construction of trees to be retained
  - A clearer water quality strategy required
  - Greater clarity needed on divinage strategy implications for flood risk

- On 16<sup>th</sup> September the team met Cambridge City Council to discuss response to the planning application
- Comments provided on the following topics:
  - 1. Heights and Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)
  - 2. Trees and Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)
  - 3. Traffic and Transport
  - 4. Drainage
  - 5. Sustainability
  - 6. Amenities Delivery
  - 7. Parameter Plans and Statements.
  - Design Guidelines

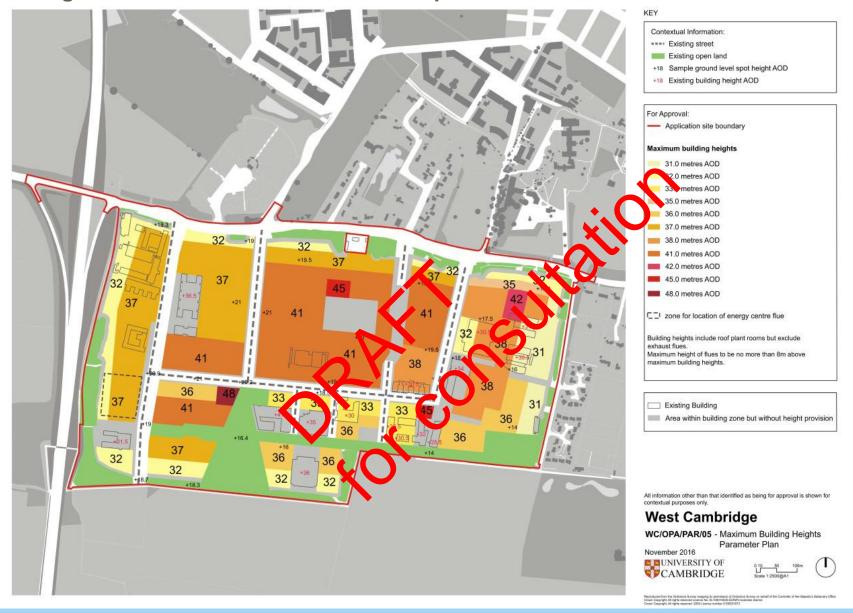
#### **Height Parameters**

- We are reviewing the proposed height parameters
- This includes reviewing:
  - general heights in key locations, particularly site (d)es
  - the number, location and scale of 'taller built clearents'
  - clarification of buffers between trees and proposed buildings
  - clarification of commitment to open spaces / green links

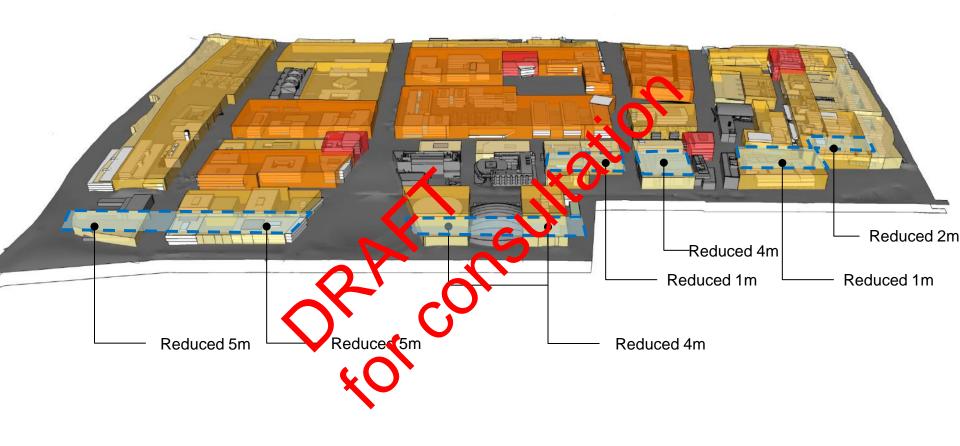
# **Height Parameters – Planning Application Proposal**



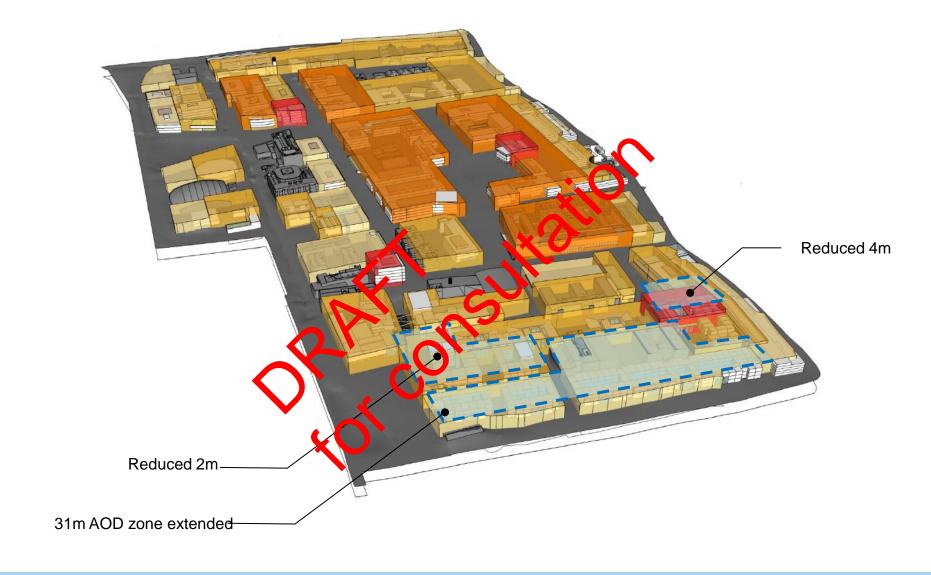
### **Height Parameters – Draft Amended Proposal**



#### Heights along the southern edge



#### Heights along the eastern edge



#### Heights along the western edge



#### **Heights along Charles Babbage Road**



1. Heights and Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

#### **Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment**

- Revised Height Parameter Plan will be subject to a revised LVIA.
- Workshop to be held with Cambridge City to agree the proposed amendments to the Height Parameter Plan and LVIA.

 Revised Height Parameter Plan and LVIA will be submitted as part of the planning resubmission.



#### **Tree Retention**

- Reconsidered potential for retention of existing trees onsite - revised Tree Retention Plan.
- Identifying appropriate buffer zones between existing trees and the proposed built development.

 A Workshop was held with Cambridge City on 1<sup>st</sup> November where the revised Tree Retention Plan was discussed.

#### **Design Guidelines**

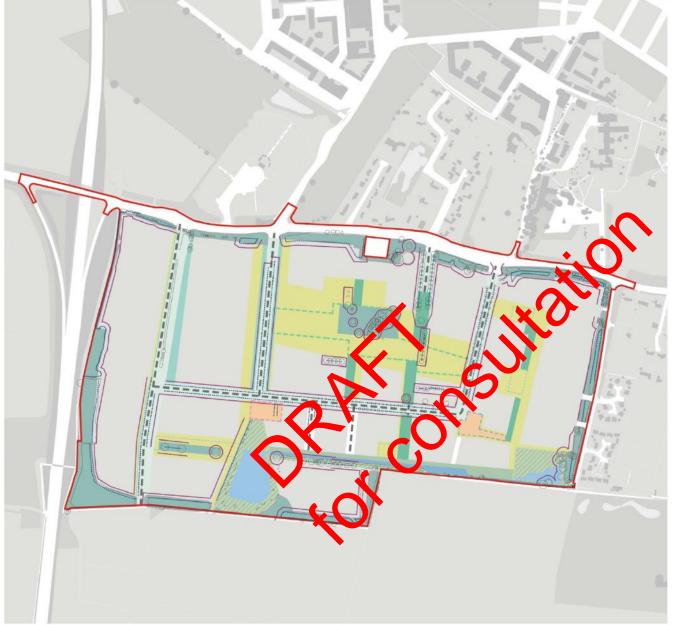
 The Design Guidelines will be reviewed and revised to make it clearer which existing trees must be retained.

#### AIA

 A revised AIA will be submitted as part of the planning resubmission.

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#### 2. Trees and Arboricultural Impact Assessment



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Contextual Information:

- === Existing street/ Pedestrian link
- ZZZ Existing open land
- Retention & Reinforcement of existing woodland edge
- Water Bodies
- Canal / swale

#### For Approval:

Application site boundary

Primary public realm:

East Forum (Indicative boundary)

West Forum (Indicative boundary)

The Green (Indicative boundary)

- Secondary landscape and public realm (Indicative boundary)
- Tertiary landscape and public realm (Indicative boundary)
- The area within proposed landscape and Public realm with trees to be retained
- Existing street trees to be retained wherever possible
- Additional landscaping corridor
- Flexible zone for landscape and public realm

#### Tree Study:

Buffer from tree stem to building edge

---- Tree stem line

Existing trees to be retained

All information other than that identified as being for approval is shown for contextual purposes only.

#### **West Cambridge**

WC/OPA/PAR/04 - Landscape and Public Realm Parameter Plan

June 2016







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#### **Tree Management Strategy**

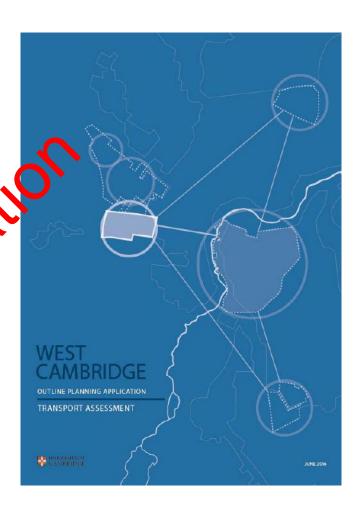
- University is considering preparation of woodland management strategy for boundary woodland and tree groups recorded on the West Cambridge site, to:
  - Define long-term management principles for the woodland or group
  - Assess the relevant aspects of the woodland or group resource e.g. species, age, vitality, spacing, current management
  - Identify any special characteristics and sensitivities of the woodland or group and appropriate treatments
  - Set and priories objectives
  - Set out rational for management prescriptions
  - Outline the planned felling and regeneration over the next 20 years
  - Provide appropriate mapping information
  - Establish a programme of monitoring for the management prescriptions against the objectives

#### 2. Trees and Arboricultural Impact Assessment

#### **Transport Strategy – Review**

Aspirations for the transport strategy are to:

- reduce reliance on the private car
- provide lower levels of parking and offer local management
- promote extensive travel planning
- encourage involvement in travel behaviour change initiatives
- mitigate local highway impacts
- promote walking and cycling
- deliver enhanced public transport provision and lead on area-wide improvements



#### **Transport Background – Review**

West Cambridge is being brought forward with:

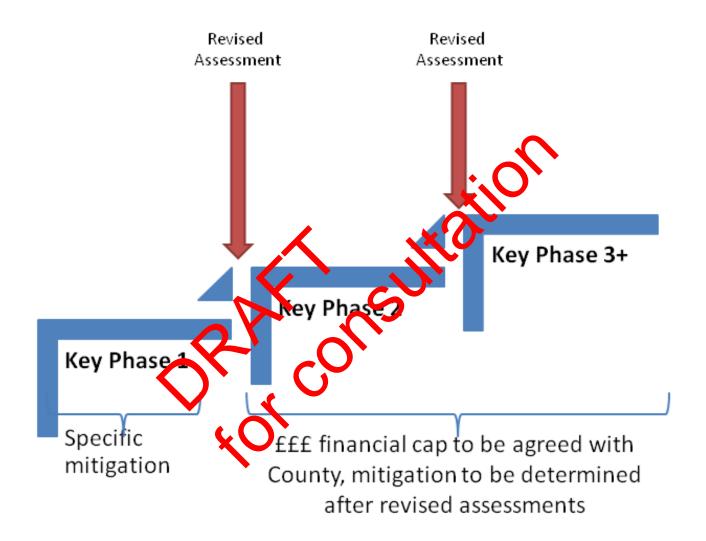
- A14 Huntingdon Cambridge: reported in May 2016
- Highway England's need to review M11 capacity: unlikely to report in 2017
- City Deal: details are emerging



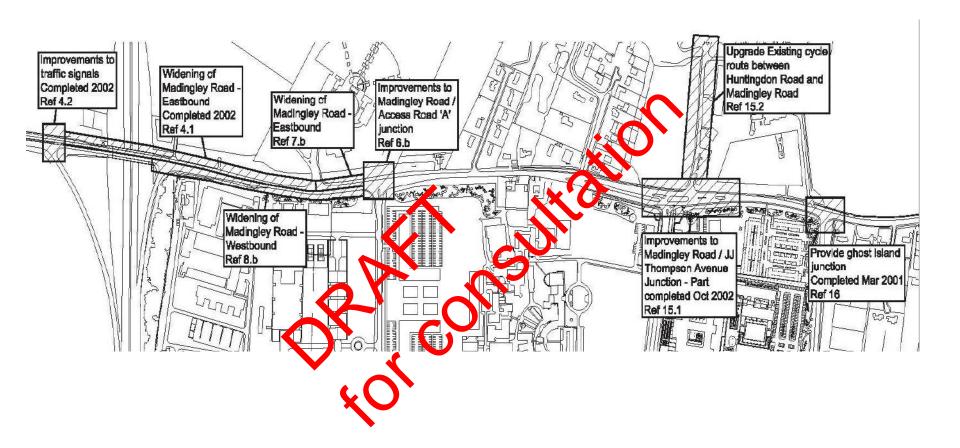
# **Phase 1 Priority Projects**



#### **Response – Adaptive Phased Approach**



# 1999 Masterplan – Committed Improvements



#### **Response to Pre-App Consultation**

- Submitted Transport Assessment, Environmental Statement and Framework Travel
   Plan reflected the agreed work requirements of the Joint Authorities
- Responded to comments received from Cambridge City and Cambridgeshire County to focus walking, cycling and public transport mitigations
- Mitigation identified measures to address many issues it is fied by the Cycling Forum.
- Committed to review the access to the Clerk Maxwell Road car park considering alternative access from JJ Thomson Avenue, reducing number of spaces, or reviewing junction

#### **Response to submitted Transport Assessment**

• Highways England – subject to conditions, they have raised no objection to the Phase 1Development – "likely to generate less traffic than the full permitted site".

Given the site already has planning permission the comparative datum for the new key phase 1 proposal is the anticipated trip levels of that perhission as if fully built out. With a robust sustainable transport strategy key phase 1 is likely to generate less traffic than the full permitted site. The developer the University of Cambridge, has an enviable track record of delivering the objectives of ambitious travel plans across their estate in Cambridge and, therefore, we consider it sufficient in this case to recommend a condition is attached to any planning permission requiring the travel plan accompanying this application (dated June 2016, or any subsequent version approved in writing by the local planning authority in consultation with the strategic highway authority) to be implemented in full as set out in its implementation plan.

#### **Response to submitted Transport Assessment**

Highways England – subject to conditions, they have raised no objection to the Phase
 Development – "likely to generate less traffic than the full permitted site".

 Cambridgeshire County Council generally accept the approach, but seek further clarification. CCC 'welcome' many of the pedestrian, cycling public transport and travel demand management measures.

 Cambridge City Council comments relating to transport were incorporated within the Cambridgeshire County response.

#### **Transport Progress**

#### The University has:

- Commissioned further surveys to update information.
- Met with Joint Authorities to review the Transport Assessment and modelling.
- Provided extensive further information to support the modelling work.
- Commissioned further onsite surveys to provide additional information to support the modelling.
- Will attend further meetings with the Joint Authorities to progress towards agreement
- Transport Assessment documentation to be reliabled responding to comments.

#### **Drainage / Flood Risk**

- City Council has requested further justification of drainage strategy / approach to sustainable drainage
- Further clarity requested on the water attenuation capacity of proposed development
- Limited potential to introduce further sustainable drainage infrastructure as drainage infrastructure is already in place across most of the site – strategy makes efficient use of existing assets
- To be discussed further with City Council



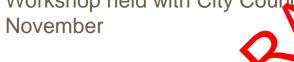
#### **Sustainability / Energy**

 Support from City Council for University's bespoke Sustainability Framework

 Planning conditions suggested to guide sustainability of future detailed proposals

Clarity sought on deliver of site-wide Energy
 Centre or alternative strategy for low carbon energy

Workshop held with City Council on 11<sup>th</sup>





#### **Onsite Amenities**

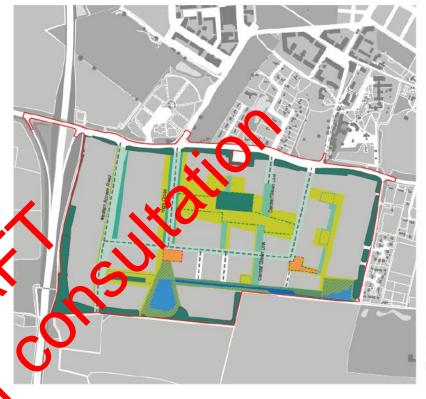
- Planning application included an 'Amenities Delivery Strategy' setting out proposed approach to delivering enhanced amenities
- University is committed to early delivery of a Shared Amenities Hub
- City Council welcome commitment to deliver enhanced amenities on site.

Further discussions to be held with City Council on



#### **Parameter Plans and Statements**

- Cambridge City raised some issues regarding the Plans and Statements, including:
  - revising the Statements to provide greater clarity/certainty
  - Including key open spaces on building heights plan
- Revised Parameter Plans and Statements will be discussed with the City Council prior to planning resubmission





Contestual Information:

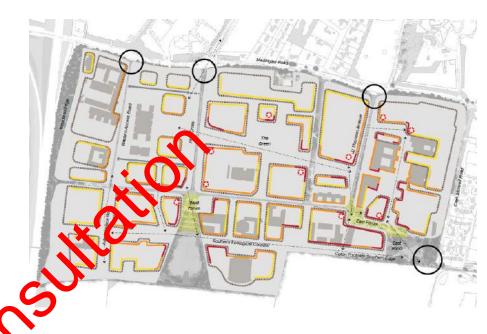
Existing street/ Pedestrian link

Existing open land

#### **Design Guidelines**

- Design Guidelines will be revised to:
  - provide greater clarity on mandatory elements
  - Provide greater clarity over essential design elements to control
  - Simplify the Guidelines, including removal of some 'non-mandate'v' material.

 Revised Design Guidelines vill be considered at a workshep with City Council prior to planning resubmission



#### **Planning Application Resubmission**

- A revised planning application is to be submitted at the end of 2016
- This will be subject to further public / stakeholder consultation in early 2017
- The application resubmission package is expected to include:
  - revised Parameter Plans and Statements
  - revised Design Guideline
  - Design and Access Scalement Addengtor
  - revised Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
  - revised Transport \szessment
  - revised Arboricultural Improce Assessment
  - Flood Risk Assessment Asgendum
  - Heritage Assessment





**Questions / Discussion**