

£22m INFRASTRUCTURE CASH BOOST FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Cambridgeshire Horizons and its partners have been successful in securing nearly £22million for 2006-8 from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) for early infrastructure to support the implementation of the Structure Plan.

Sir David Trippier, Chairman, Cambridgeshire Horizons said, "We are delighted that Cambridgeshire has received this funding boost. All the successful projects will mean that by 2008 we will have made real progress in putting transport and community infrastructure in place *before* housing development is complete. Whilst all the approved schemes bring benefits to the area, we are particularly pleased with the award of over £4 million for strategic greenspace schemes. The enjoyment of such schemes like Wicken Fen and the Forest of South Cambridgeshire will greatly improve quality of life in the area."

In April, ODPM invited local authorities to submit bids to the £235m Growth Areas Fund for 2006-2008, which was set up to provide housing and infrastructure in support of growth. This is a continuation of the Growth Area Delivery Grant (GADG) fund 2004-6, from which Cambridgeshire was previously awarded £23m. A bid for Cambridgeshire was co-ordinated and submitted by Cambridgeshire Horizons at the end of May. Following a 6-month appraisal process and a provisional award last summer, the government's final funding decision was announced today. The successful Cambridgeshire projects are:

| Funding Awarded | Project | Benefits |
|-----------------|--|--|
| £3.1m | Cowley Road Park and Ride Relocation | To relieve congestion, enable delivery of housing on the Cambridge Northern Fringe East site, upgrade the Park & Ride site and allow access to the proposed Chesterton Interchange/Station |
| £3.25m | Milton Road/Cowley Road Junction Improvement | To improve access for the Cambridge Business and Science Parks and reduce |

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| | | congestion |
| £6.89m | Addenbrooke's Access Rd – Phase 1 | Early funding for part of this road (with developer contributions expected later) to open up proposed housing development in the south of Cambridge and growth at Addenbrooke's Hospital |
| £1.55m | Riverside Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge | First new bridge over the River Cam for 40 years to link housing north of the river to commercial and retail areas and encourage walking and cycling |
| £0.73m | St Neots - Space for Creativity | Enterprise centre for creative industries providing training and development opportunities for business and the community |
| £1.45m | Northstowe and Oakington Community Project | New community facility for Oakington and early Northstowe residents, including community hall, indoor and outdoor sports and floodlit multi use games area |
| £0.8m | Northstowe Area Footpath and Cycleway Network | Pedestrian and cycling facilities linking to Northstowe |
| £1.06m | Wicken Fen Vision | Increased public access to Wicken Fen, including from Anglesey Abbey. Creation of large scale fenland habitat and landscape restoration. |
| £0.52m | Forest of South Cambridgeshire | Woodland habitat creation, protection and enhancement, community involvement, environmental education projects and public access. |
| £1.35m | Great Fen Project | Restoration of arable land, between Huntingdon and Peterborough, to new publicly accessible fenland wildlife habitats and improved visitor facilities. |
| £1.19m | Fen Drayton Lakes, Ouse Valley | Protection and enhancement of accessible countryside at Fen Drayton lakes, creation of habitats for wetland wildlife. |

About Cambridgeshire Horizons

Cambridgeshire Horizons has been established to implement the Cambridgeshire Structure Plan over the period to 2016, helping to build a better future for all the people of Cambridgeshire.

The Structure Plan sets out a vision of sustainable development in the Cambridge Sub-region including the provision of 47,500 new homes and £2.2 billion of infrastructure - roads, schools, hospitals, leisure and community facilities etc - needed to support its development.

Cambridgeshire Horizons will drive this economic and community development forward and ensure the proper infrastructure is in place to support businesses and the public in their everyday lives.

Cambridgeshire Horizons includes the County Council, the five district councils, the East of England Development Agency, Greater Cambridge Partnership, The Housing Corporation, English Partnerships and representatives from the health, business, development sectors. Website: <http://www.cambridgeshirehorizons.co.uk/>

For more information contact: Zoisa Pugh or Kerris Macauley on 01223 566212 or email: zoisa.pugh@war.uk.com or kerris.macauley@war.uk.com