

Meeting the demand for quality school places in Cambridgeshire

Cambridgeshire is facing a period of unprecedented growth as a result of both demographic change resulting from increased birth rates and significant new housing development, with the prospect of some 74,000 new homes in total across its five districts by 2031. The largest of these will be the new town of Northstowe (9,500 homes) a few miles to the north of Cambridge. Building schools to support brand new communities is an exciting opportunity. However, this level of growth poses significant challenge for the Council as it has a number of statutory duties towards children and young people in the 0-19 age range which include

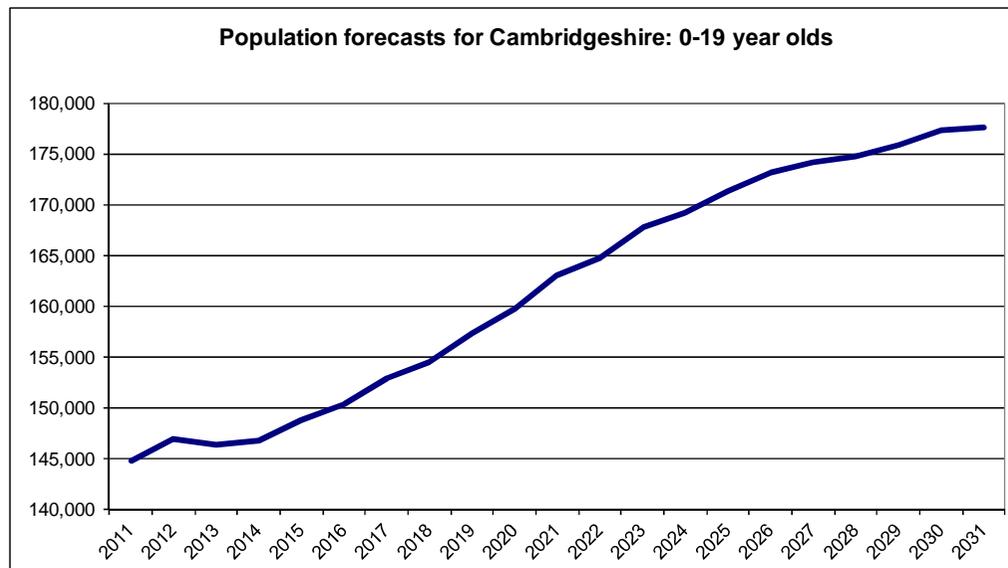
- ensuring there is sufficient early years education for pre-school children to access their free entitlement
- ensuring that there is sufficient childcare to enable parents/carers of pre-school and school –aged children to work and train
- providing a school place for every child who is of school age and whose parents want their child educated in the state funded sector
- securing sufficient suitable education and training opportunities for young people aged 16-19 years (16-25 subject to a learning disability assessment).

Housing growth in Cambridgeshire to 2031

District	Number of homes
Cambridge City	14,000
East Cambridgeshire	13,000
Fenland	11,000
Huntingdonshire	17,000
South Cambridgeshire	19,000

Cambridgeshire Education Organisation plan sets out current and planned education provision in Cambridgeshire across the whole 0-19 age range.

http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/520/education_organisation_plan



Based on current understanding of growth of existing and new communities, the projected number of new schools required over the next 15 years is 42:

26 primary, 12 secondary, 4 special

The 0-19 Place Planning & Sufficiency Team can be contacted at

PlacePlanningReferrals0-19@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Or for specific areas

Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire 01223 699789

Huntingdonshire 01223 507123

East Cambridgeshire and Fenland 01223 699803

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Huntingdonshire

There are 3 strategic expansion locations planned in the district.

Alconbury Weald, a new community of at least 5,000 homes which will also include:

- A secondary school (1200 places, opening approx 2020)
- 3 primary schools (first opening September 2016, 630 places)
- Site for an area special school

St Neots Eastern Expansion, which includes Loves Farm 2 and Wintringham Park, totalling approx 4000 new homes and will also include:

- A total of 3 primary schools
- Expansion of the two existing secondary schools in St Neots

RAF Wyton, a new community of approx 4,500 homes which would require:

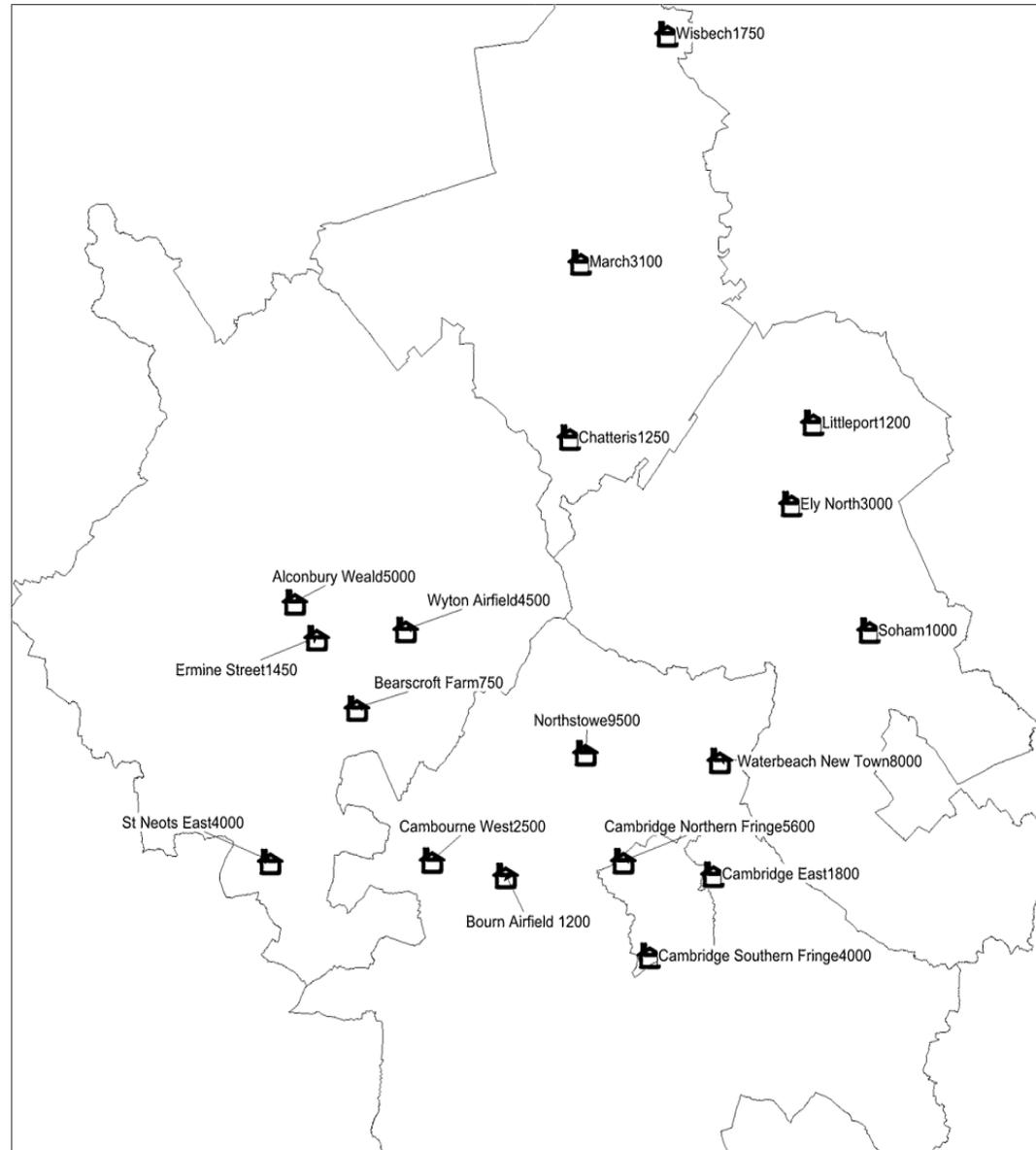
- a new secondary school (approx 1200 places)
- 2 or 3 new primary schools

South Cambs

The new town at Northstowe (north of Oakington) will be the largest new settlement since Milton Keynes and will include:

- 1 secondary school (1800 places, opening approx 2019)
- 6 primary schools (first opening 2017)
- An area special school

Other proposed major housing developments are planned at Bourn Airfield (up to 3,500) and Waterbeach (at least 8,000 homes) and further expansion at Cambridge (2,500).



Fenland

Mainly urban extensions to the market towns which will include the need for

- a new primary school at Wisbech
- a new primary school at Chatteris
- a review of secondary provision across the district

East Cambs

Development in this district is largely centred on the existing market towns. Plans are well progressed for a new secondary, special and primary schools in Littleport. A further new primary school will also be required in Ely.

Cambridge City

The majority of the growth in Cambridge City is comprised of major development sites on the fringes of the City.

Southern fringe - a new 750 place secondary school at Trumpington has already opened. A new primary school at Clay Farm is scheduled to open in 2017 with at least 420 places.

The Wing development north of Newmarket Road - a new primary school

Northern fringe – 2 new primary schools and a secondary school at Darwin Green