

Bourn Airfield



Strategic support for local plan promotion and for the development of a planning application for a new settlement at Bourn Airfield, Cambridge

CLIENT

Countryside Properties (now part of the Vistry Group)

LPA

South Cambridgeshire District Council

STATUS

Planning permission granted

SERVICES

Planning, Sustainability, EIA

Our role

- We have been working with Countryside Properties (now part of the Vistry Group) to support the application for new development at Bourn Airfield comprising 3,500 new homes, primary and secondary schools, a village and local centre, areas of play and a linear park.
- Following the submission of the planning application in September 2018, we were appointed to lead the planning application process as well as continuing EIA support. This has included fortnightly meetings with the council and key stakeholders to work through the key elements of the proposed development.
- Our EIA team has been supporting the application and co-ordinating the Environmental Impact Assessment, with the Sustainability team providing climate change support.
- Our Sustainability team has been providing ongoing sustainability advice to the development, including preparation of a sustainability and energy strategy and climate change Environmental Statement assessment to set out key adaptation and mitigation measures incorporated into the proposed development.

Results

- The application received a resolution to grant planning permission from planning committee in February 2021 with the decision being formally issued in July 2024 following the signing of the Section 106 Agreement. We worked with the client and consultant team in this intervening period to finalise the permission, including the resolution of the water supply issues currently being experienced in Greater Cambridge.
- The sustainability and energy strategy proposed at Bourn Airfield aims to ensure the development incorporates a range of measures to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change, including consideration of the next generation of homes which aim to reduce carbon emissions through the use of electric heating, smart grid technologies and use modern methods of construction. This has included a presentation of the development's sustainability and energy strategy to the South Cambridgeshire Council's Climate and Environment Advisory Committee.