



Greater Cambridge Burial Study (Interim)

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service



June 2026

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Study

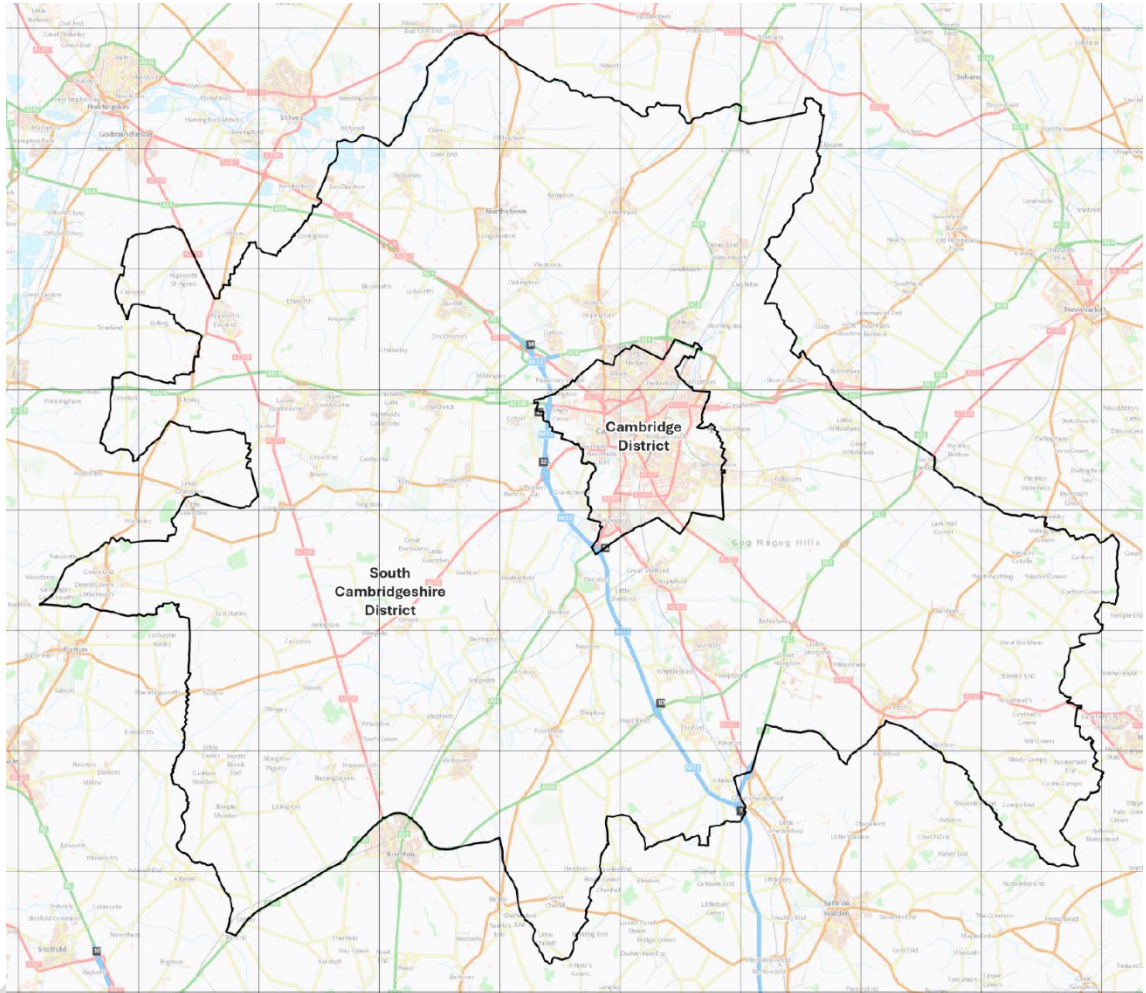
- 1.1.1 Lanpro Services has been instructed by the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service (GCSPS) to undertake a study of the provision of burial and funerary facilities and of future needs (the 'Study') within the areas of Cambridge City Council (Cambridge City) and South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) (the 'Councils').
- 1.1.2 The Councils have committed to work together to prepare a new Local Plan for "Greater Cambridge". It is intended that once adopted, this will replace the existing local plans for Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire and all adopted Area Action Plans. The Study will form part of the evidence base for the Greater Cambridge Local Plan and will assist the Councils in identifying any current and future funerary requirements; allowing the inclusion of appropriate policies related to funerary developments and in considering future infrastructure requirements and funding.
- 1.1.3 The Councils remain committed to submitting a Local Plan for examination under the current plan making system in December 2026, with the Proposed Submission Consultation (Reg 19) due to place in Summer/ Autumn 2026.
- 1.1.4 No previous study into burial spaces, capacity of funerary facilities and planning for future needs has previously been undertaken within Greater Cambridge. However, given a perceived lack of provision in some areas, and with significant growth planned, such a study was viewed as an important consideration in ensuring appropriate infrastructure provision in the area. This will both ensure that future needs are met and ensure that appropriate consideration has been given to delivery of new infrastructure.

1.2 Context

- 1.2.1 This Study has been prepared during 2026 to inform the draft Greater Cambridge Local Plan, that will be subject to public consultation in Summer/ Autumn 2026. The Councils' assumptions that have fed into the emerging Local Plan have been used within the Study.
- 1.2.2 The Study Area is the administrative areas of Cambridge City and SCDC, also referred to as Greater Cambridge. Facilities outside the Study Area have been considered by the Study if there is an identified use by residents of Greater Cambridge. Any significant use of facilities within the Study Area by residents of

neighbouring authorities has been noted, as far as is feasible. A diagram of the study area is below, a more detailed map is located at Figure 0.

Study area



1.3 Structure

1.3.1 The remainder of the Study is structured as follows:

- **Section 2** sets out a review of funerary legislation, policy and trends.
- **Section 3** considers the baseline position in terms of burial spaces and funerary facilities in the Study Area, as well as providing an understanding of the current demographic of the Study Area.
- **Section 4** considers the current needs and capacity.
- **Section 5** identifies opportunities and constraints.
- **Section 6** explores future demographic projections and mortality forecasting.

- **Section 7** sets out the study's findings and recommendations, establishing future needs.
- **Section 8** considers potential approaches for ensuring that existing and future funerary provision is delivered as needed and sustainably managed.

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2 Legislation, Policy and Trends Context

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 This section considers current legislation regarding burial law to ensure an understanding regarding the legal constraints and opportunities, as well as examining potential future changes to legislation. Environmental protection law is also considered. The existing planning policy framework is then considered.

2.2 Relevant Burial Law

- 2.2.1 The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) is responsible for burial law, and since the mid-19th century the responsibility for burial provision has been delegated to local authorities. However, there is currently no statutory duty upon local authorities to provide burial space for their residents, although there is a requirement for them to maintain existing cemeteries within their jurisdiction. Alongside this, cemetery and burial provision is also made by private companies.
- 2.2.2 Notwithstanding the above, there are several Acts of Parliament which provide local authorities with legislative powers relating to burial land provision. The Local Government Act 1972 recognises local authorities as burial authorities, along with the Cremations Act of 1902 and 1952 (Section 214 (1) and (5)). It allows burial authorities to provide and maintain cemeteries inside and outside of their administrative areas (Section 214 (2)) and to contribute towards any expenses incurred by third parties in providing or maintaining a cemetery in which the residents of the authority's area may be buried (Section 214 (6)). Local authorities also have regard to the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order (1977) which regulates current operation in England.
- 2.2.3 In London, Section 74 of the London Local Authorities Act (2007) allows the re-use of graves as 'where a burial authority has extinguished – (a) a right of burial in a grave space under section 6 (power to extinguish rights of burial in cemetery lands) of the Act of 1969; or (b) a right of interment in respect of a grave under section 9 of the Act of 1976, the burial authority may disturb or authorise the disturbance of human remains interred in the grave for the purpose of increasing the space for interments in the grave. No human remains may be disturbed under this section if they have been interred for a period less than 75 years'. This legislative provision does not relate to areas outside of London.
- 2.2.4 Legislation to permit reclamation of grave space was established under S9 of the Greater London (General Power) 1976. This permits burial authorities in London to

extinguish burial rights in graves where no burial has taken place for 75 years, where unused space within the grave could then be used for the purpose of further burials. This process does not disturb any existing remains in the grave; hence it is termed 'reclamation'.

2.3 Emerging Legislation

- 2.3.1 The Law Commission recently concluded a review into existing legislation surrounding burials, cremations, and other funerary methods in the context of a looming shortage of burial space nationwide and ashes being left with funeral directors in the absence of legislation which would allow them to lawfully deal with them.
- 2.3.2 They published the first of three reports for the Government to consider in March 2026, titled '[Burial and Cremation: Final Report](#)' (HC 1762, Law Com No 425). This included the following recommendations:
- New minimum burial depths, methods of record-keeping and maintenance of burial grounds;
 - All burial grounds being able to seek the re-use of existing graves (as set out above, current legislation relating to grave re-use only addresses those within London) subject to specific requirements and procedures being addressed by burial ground owners/operators;
 - Improved legal protections for war graves;
 - The ability to reopen burial grounds which have been closed for long periods of time;
 - Changes to the law so that there is greater transparency in relation to direct cremation, and other additional safeguards for users of crematoria; and
 - A scheme to allow funeral directors to return uncollected ashes to the crematoria they came from.
- 2.3.3 The remaining two Law Commission reports will address new funerary methods and rights and obligations relating to funerary methods, funerals, and remains. These are due to be published later in 2026 and at the end of 2027 respectively, with the final report and draft bill being published in mid-2028.
- 2.3.4 The published report identifies that over 80% of funerals take place by cremation, representing a significant shift from historic trends where the proportion of

deceased people who were buried was much higher. It notes that the majority of funerals took place by cremation from the mid-1960s.

- 2.3.5 One of the topics explored in the report is that of reusing and reclaiming existing graves. This is defined as burying an additional body in the same grave above an existing burial (grave reclamation) and moving existing remains to re-use the grave for a different burial (grave reuse). In England, grave reclamation is already lawful if no-one holds an exclusive right to be buried in a grave. Grave reuse however is only lawful if the relevant statutory or ecclesiastical procedure is followed to make it lawful, and often requires an exhumation license to be granted where it involves disturbing or removing existing buried remains. Only a select number of cemeteries in England – including all local authority cemeteries in London – have an exception for the need for an exhumation license to be granted to allow grave reuse. The report recommends allowing greater reuse and reclamation of existing graves subject to several safeguards and caveats, such as applications for grave reuse/reclamation being made for each burial ground individually, for such applications to be accompanied by a grave reuse and reclamation plan, and for further consultation to take place with the relevant next of kin.

2.4 Environmental Protection Legislation

- 2.4.1 The Environment Agency (EA) published guidance setting out their approach to groundwater protection in February 2018. Part L of this document discusses cemetery developments, which they explain can have effects on groundwater quality. Where the European Commission has identified that human remains cannot be classified as waste, the EA's guidance sets out that typical waste management principles do not apply and that in England, burials are therefore not controlled by waste legislation. The EA therefore controls the effects on groundwater from burials and/or cemeteries through commenting on planning applications in their capacity as a statutory consultee, and through a system of permits.
- 2.4.2 Policy L1 of the EA's guidance states that the EA "will normally object to the locating of any new cemetery or the extension of any existing cemetery, within SPZ1, or 250 metres from a well, borehole or spring used to supply water that is used for human consumption, whichever is the greater distance". Policy L3 goes on to state that "A high priority is placed on protecting groundwater within principal aquifers and groundwater catchments used for drinking water supply, and new larger cemetery developments in such areas might not be appropriate. Proposals for new cemetery developments for greater than 100 burials per year are considered to be high risk even in a lower sensitivity groundwater scenario and

that ‘all cemetery developments and burials must maintain an unsaturated zone below the level of the base of the grave(s)’.

- 2.4.3 Part L also references separate EA guidance on protecting groundwater from human burials from June 2025, where they have set out that the EA ‘encourages cemetery developers and operators not to propose developments in areas where the groundwater is highly vulnerable’, and that they ‘they should avoid development proposals that present a very high risk to the water environment’.
- 2.4.4 Water cremations, also known as aquamation, are an alternative to flame cremation whereby water, heat, and alkaline chemicals are used to break down human remains within a pressurised cylinder, typically over the course of 3-4 hours depending on the deceased person’s weight. The remaining bones are then dried and reduced to ash. Aquamation became legal in Scotland in March 2026, but it remains not lawful in England.
- 2.4.5 Human composting is another funerary method, which is also known as terramation. It involves the body being placed inside a vessel alongside a natural mixture of wood chips, straw, and wildflowers. Over roughly 30 to 50 days, oxygen and airflow stimulate natural microbes to break down the body completely. The resulting soil is screened for any inorganics (such as medical implants) and left to cure and cool for another 30 days. The nutrient-rich soil then is returned to the next of kin, who can use it to nourish gardens, trees, or scatter it on natural land. It is not currently lawful in England, but this could change following anticipated consultation by the Law Commission looking into the potential lawfulness of various alternative methods of funerals/cremations than burials.

2.5 Changing Trends

- 2.5.1 There has been a helpful study and various articles published by funeral directors, life insurers and charities in recent years which describe current attitudes and shifts in funeral practices in the UK. This section summarises some of these.

Legal and General (L&G): The Future of Funerals Survey (2023)

- 2.5.2 Legal & General Group plc (L&G) is a major British multinational financial services and asset management company. To understand changing attitudes to funerals, a survey of 2,000 UK adults (aged 16+) took place in November 2023, which explored public views on funeral practices, including cultural and environmental concerns around cremation and the potential acceptance of new technologies in the future of funerals.

- 2.5.3 Burial has been practiced for thousands of years, but declining availability of cemetery space in Britain is prompting renewed debate about its long-term viability. Burial was the traditional method of body disposal in Britain until cremation became more common in 1968. The shift towards cremation accelerated during the COVID-19 pandemic, with 2020 recording a significant increase and 2022 seeing nearly 80% of deaths result in cremation. The L&G survey findings broadly reflect this trend, with cremation the most preferred option overall. However, preferences vary by age, revealing notable generational differences.
- 2.5.4 Funeral preferences differ significantly by age. Younger adults (aged 16–24) are more likely to prefer traditional burial (41%) than cremation (35%). Preference for cremation increases steadily with age, becoming the dominant choice among those aged 45–54 (47%) and 55+ (59%). Conversely, preference for traditional burial declines with age, falling from 41% among 16–24-year-olds to 18% among those aged 55 and over. Overall, the data highlights a strong generational divide, with younger adults favouring burial while older adults show a clear preference for cremation.
- 2.5.5 Awareness of the environmental impact of funeral practices is increasing, particularly among younger people. While 40% of respondents said they are aware of the environmental effects of burial and cremation, awareness is higher among 16–24 year olds at 51%. Environmental concerns influence funeral choices for a minority overall, with 30% saying climate considerations would affect their decision; however, this rises to 43% among younger respondents. The findings indicate a growing generational divide in environmental awareness and the role sustainability plays in end-of-life preferences.
- 2.5.6 The survey suggests that attitudes towards cremation and burial in Britain are influenced not only by environmental considerations but also by religious and cultural beliefs. As many faiths prohibit cremation and favour burial, increasing religious and cultural diversity may contribute to a renewed interest in burial practices, potentially shaping future funeral preferences.
- 2.5.7 The survey indicates that religious and cultural beliefs play a particularly strong role in shaping funeral preferences among younger people. Nearly a quarter of respondents aged 16–24 said these beliefs strongly influence their choices, compared with only 12% of those aged over 55. Younger adults are also more likely to value traditional funeral ceremonies, with 60% considering them important.
- 2.5.8 The survey explores whether technological innovation could reshape future funeral practices, focusing on water cremation (aquamation), which is now available in Scotland and offers a lower-emission alternative to traditional

cremation. While current preference for aquamation is low, with only 4% selecting it as their preferred option, the findings suggest that uptake could increase as awareness and availability of the technology grows.

- 2.5.9 Beyond water cremation, the survey indicates growing openness to a range of modern and alternative funeral practices. Respondents expressed interest in options such as human composting, green burials, organ donation, and tree pod burials, reflecting increasing willingness to consider environmentally focused and non-traditional methods of body disposition.

Current UK Funeral Trends

- 2.5.10 The UK funeral sector has undergone significant change in recent years, with increasing emphasis on affordability, personalisation and celebration. Emerging trends such as themed ceremonies, eco-friendly and simple funeral options, and creative memorials reflect a broader cultural shift towards honouring individuality and celebrating life rather than adhering strictly to traditional conventions. As attitudes towards death continue to evolve, these more expressive and celebratory approaches are helping to make funerals more meaningful and supportive of the grieving process, highlighting a growing desire for final farewells that truly reflect a life well lived. Current funeral trends relevant to the Study include:
- 2.5.11 **Direct Funerals:** Minimalist funeral options are growing in popularity in the UK, particularly direct cremation and direct burial. Direct cremation involves a simple cremation without a formal ceremony, often soon after death, allowing families to commemorate their loved one privately and in their own time. Its rise reflects a cultural shift towards affordability, simplicity and separating the act of body disposal from remembrance. Similarly, direct burial offers a pared-back alternative for those who prefer burial, focusing on simplicity without public ceremonies or viewings. Both options appeal to individuals seeking low-cost, low-pressure arrangements and reflect changing attitudes towards death, where personal choice and understated farewells are increasingly valued. Direct funerals appeal due to the exhaustion of grief, and the strain of planning an elaborate funeral, bringing simplicity and peace.
- 2.5.12 **Celebration of Life Ceremonies:** Funeral practices in the UK are shifting away from traditional ceremonies towards “celebration of life” events that focus on remembering and celebrating the deceased rather than mourning their loss. These ceremonies often feature music, personal storytelling and informal elements, with less emphasis on conventional symbols such as black dress. In addition to

supporting the grieving process, this trend allows families to redirect spending away from formal funeral components towards meaningful personal commemorations, often alongside more affordable cremation options.

- 2.5.13 **Eco-Friendly Funerals:** Eco-friendly funerals are gaining popularity as environmental pressures increase and cemetery space becomes more limited. Advances in the funeral industry now offer a range of sustainable options, including biodegradable coffins, natural burial sites (see below), and carbon offsetting initiatives, such as tree planting and support for environmental projects, enabling families to reduce the environmental impact of end-of-life arrangements. There is interest in water cremations, human composting and other sustainable funeral practices, but these are not yet permitted in England.
- 2.5.14 **Natural Burial Grounds:** Woodland, glade or meadow burial sites combine minimalism with environmental values, by offering funerals in natural settings using biodegradable coffins or shrouds and avoiding the use of embalming chemicals. These burial sites typically don't allow headstones, ornamentation or grave demarcation beyond a simple wooden plaque and once full, allow the burial site to return naturally to the landscape.
- 2.5.15 **Personalised Coffins and Urns:** Funeral personalisation is becoming increasingly common, with families moving beyond standard coffin designs to choose customised coffins and urns that reflect the personality and life of the deceased. Options such as bespoke colours, imagery and shapes allow funerals to feel more individual and meaningful. This trend reflects a broader shift towards personal expression in end-of-life arrangements, helping families create lasting and distinctive memorials despite the emotional difficulty of planning ahead.
- 2.5.16 **Themed Funerals:** Themed funerals are an emerging trend in the UK, allowing families to personalise ceremonies around the interests, hobbies or passions of the deceased. Themes may reflect favourite sports teams, films or pastimes, creating a memorable and meaningful tribute. This trend highlights growing demand for highly personalised funeral arrangements that celebrate individuality and offer a distinctive way to honour a life well lived.
- 2.5.17 **Live Streaming and Virtual Funerals:** The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the adoption of live streaming for funerals, allowing friends and family who are unable to attend in person to participate virtually. This has been meaningful to families whose loved ones live abroad or are unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances. As technology uptake continues throughout churches and crematoriums, even more innovative virtual offerings are likely to be developed that will bring consumers closer to services, despite being at home.

- 2.5.18 **Non-Traditional Venues:** Funeral practices are moving away from exclusively traditional settings towards more unconventional venues, reflecting a desire for less formal and more personalised ceremonies. Locations such as gardens, beaches, theatres and pubs are increasingly being chosen, allowing services to better reflect the personality and wishes of the deceased. This shift can also help create a more relaxed atmosphere, shaping the tone of the ceremony and making the farewell more personal and meaningful.
- 2.5.19 **Humanist and Secular Ceremonies:** Demand for humanist and non-religious funerals is increasing as society becomes more secular and individual preferences gain greater recognition. These ceremonies focus on celebrating the life of the deceased without religious elements and are typically led by celebrants who tailor services to reflect personal values and beliefs. This trend reflects a broader shift away from traditional conventions towards more personalised and inclusive end-of-life arrangements.

2.6 Planning Policy

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 2.6.1 The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. At its heart is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, which requires the planning system to pursue economic, social and environmental objectives in mutually supportive ways (paragraphs 7–9).
- 2.6.2 The NPPF does not contain detailed policy specifically relating to cemeteries or burial space, but the holistic-level policies relating to sustainable development are relevant. Achieving sustainable development is dependent on three objectives, taken below in turn with regards to cemeteries and/or burial grounds:
- 2.6.3 An economic objective (paragraph 8a): Development should help build a strong and competitive economy, ensuring land is used efficiently and in appropriate locations. When considering land for burial use, it is important to ensure that this does not compromise land required for other priority uses such as housing, employment, or strategic infrastructure.
- 2.6.4 A social objective (paragraph 8b): Planning should support strong, vibrant and healthy communities by ensuring access to services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support health, social and cultural wellbeing. Burial provision contributes to this objective by meeting essential community needs.

- 2.6.5 An environmental objective (paragraph 8c): Development should contribute to protecting and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment, including biodiversity and the efficient use of land.
- 2.6.6 The most direct references to cemeteries are contained within Green Belt policy. Paragraph 154 states that the construction of new buildings in the Green Belt should be regarded as inappropriate, subject to a closed list of exceptions. These include: “the provision of appropriate facilities (in connection with the existing use of land or a change of use) for... cemeteries and burial grounds... provided that the facilities preserve the openness of the Green Belt and do not conflict with the purposes of including land within it.”
- 2.6.7 Paragraph 155 confirms that certain other forms of development are not inappropriate in the Green Belt provided they preserve openness and do not conflict with Green Belt purposes. This includes: “material changes in the use of land (such as... for cemeteries and burial grounds).”

Housing and Economic Growth

- 2.6.8 Chapter 5 (Delivering a sufficient supply of homes) requires planning authorities to identify and maintain a sufficient supply of land for housing (paragraphs 60 onwards). Burial provision should not undermine the delivery of allocated housing sites.
- 2.6.9 Chapter 6 (Building a strong, competitive economy) requires planning policies to support economic growth, productivity, and innovation. The allocation of land for burial purposes should be balanced against economic development needs.

Town Centres

- 2.6.10 Chapter 7 (Ensuring the vitality of town centres) supports the growth and resilience of town centres. Proposals for burial uses should not conflict with land identified for town centre uses or undermine their vitality.

Healthy Communities and Open Space

- 2.6.11 Chapter 8 (Promoting healthy and safe communities) sets out that planning policies should promote social interaction, safe and accessible environments, and healthy lifestyles (paragraph 96 onwards).
- 2.6.12 Paragraphs 102–103 (Open space and recreation) emphasise the importance of access to high-quality open spaces and require assessments of current and future

needs. Cemeteries can contribute to open space provision, particularly where they offer accessible, landscaped environments.

Sustainable Transport

- 2.6.13 Chapter 9 (Promoting sustainable transport) notes that development should be located and designed to reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable transport modes (paragraphs 108–116). Accessibility is an important consideration for burial sites, particularly in relation to public transport, highways access and parking, and proximity to the communities they serve.

Effective Use of Land

- 2.6.14 Chapter 11 (Making effective use of land) identifies that planning policies should promote the efficient use of land while safeguarding environmental quality (paragraphs 124 onwards). The NPPF recognises that land can perform multiple functions, and opportunities to deliver multiple benefits should be considered. In the context of burial grounds and cemeteries, this could mean providing space for burials/cremations which also serves a natural/biodiversity-enhancing purpose.

Design

- 2.6.15 Chapter 12 (Achieving well-designed places) sets out that good design is a key aspect of sustainable development. Burial sites should be designed to a high standard, with appropriate landscaping, layout, and integration into the surrounding environment.

Climate Change and Flood Risk

- 2.6.16 Chapter 14 (Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change) requires development to minimise vulnerability to climate change and avoid areas at highest risk of flooding (paragraphs 165 onwards). For cemeteries, considerations such as groundwater protection, soil conditions, and flood risk are particularly important and are informed by guidance from bodies such as the Environment Agency, which is set out in further detail below.

Natural and Historic Environment

- 2.6.17 Chapter 15 (Conserving and enhancing the natural environment) sets out that the planning system should protect and enhance biodiversity, landscapes, and geodiversity (paragraphs 180 onwards).
- 2.6.18 Chapter 16 (Conserving and enhancing the historic environment) also sets out that the planning system should conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance (paragraphs 200 onwards).

Statutory Development Plan in Cambridgeshire

- 2.6.19 The adopted development plan in Greater Cambridgeshire comprises the following:
- Cambridge City Council (CCC):
 - Cambridge Local Plan (2018)
 - Adopted Policies Map (2018)
 - South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC):
 - South Cambridgeshire Local Plan (2018)
 - Adopted Policies Map (2018).
- 2.6.20 There are also a number of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) which support the adopted Local Plan. The most relevant to this study are listed below:
- Greater Cambridge Planning Obligations SPD (2026);
 - Greater Cambridge Biodiversity SPD (2022);
 - Greater Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (2020).
 - Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD (2016);
 - Planning Obligations Strategy SPD (2010).

Cambridge Local Plan (2018)

- 2.6.21 The adopted Cambridge Local Plan does not include a specific policy or provision for cemeteries and/or burial spaces. It includes cemeteries and churchyards as a form of protected open space however, with relevant policies seeking to safeguard and enhance open space being relevant.

- 2.6.22 Whilst not referring specifically to burials or cemeteries, Policy 85 is relevant where it governs the Council's approach towards infrastructure delivery, planning, and obligations.
- 2.6.23 There is no reference to cremation or crematoria other than to set out requirements for car parking provision for religious buildings and crematoria in Appendix L.

South Cambridgeshire Local Plan (2018)

- 2.6.24 Similar to the Cambridge Local Plan, the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan doesn't include a specific policy or reference to cemeteries, burial provision, or crematoria other than in Policy NH/1 which refers to cemeteries being an 'open land use' which will be appropriate to maintain a green buffer/separation between the towns of Longstanton and Northstowe.
- 2.6.25 In addition, Policy SC/4 will be relevant where it identifies that all housing developments will need to include, or contribute to, the provision of services and facilities which are necessary to meet the needs of the development. For sites which provide 200 or more homes, a detailed assessment is required which should be influenced by consultation with service providers and be approved by the Local Planning Authority. Part 4(h) of this policy makes specific reference to making provision for burials, though the inclusion of criteria for open space is relevant given that burial space can be categorised as open space.
- 2.6.26 The South Cambridgeshire Local Plan also includes a number of site allocations for new development, some of which have come forward and include provision for burial space. An example is Bourn Airfield, which was allocated through Local Plan Policy SS/7. Criteria 10a of this policy refers to the new village at Bourn Airfield ensuring that provision is made for the infrastructure, services, and facilities to meet the needs of the village. This would include open space, and by extension, cemeteries, crematoria, and/or burial provision.

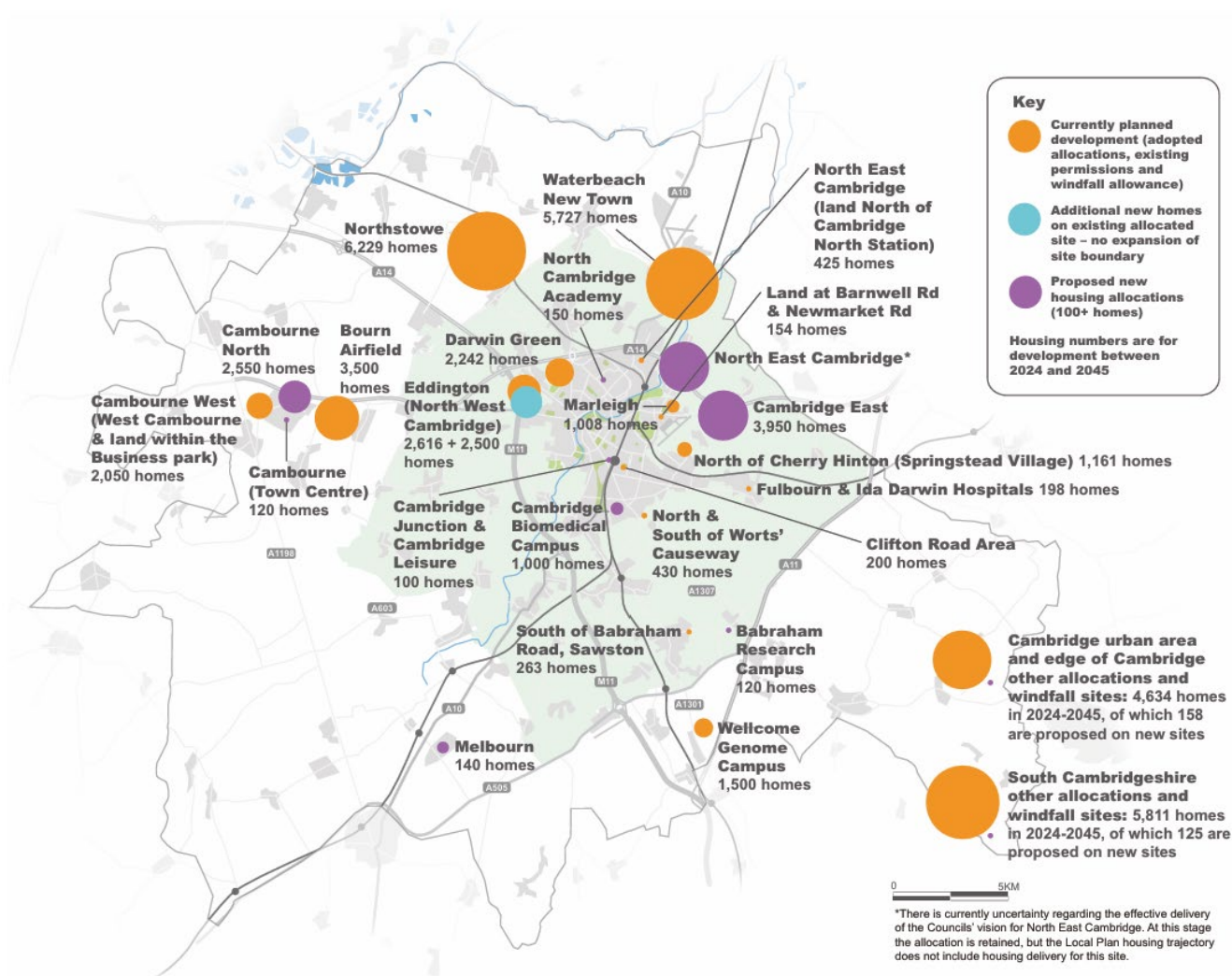
Emerging Joint Local Plan

- 2.6.27 CCC and SCDC are working together to prepare a joint Local Plan for Greater Cambridge. It is currently at Regulation 18 stage (which is a relatively early stage of the plan-making process whereby emerging policies can only be afforded limited weight in planning terms), with consultation having ended in January 2026. The next stage under Regulation 19 is due to commence in Summer 2026 where an updated version of the draft Local Plan will be consulted on ahead of its planned submission to the Secretary of State for examination in public by the end of 2026.

2.6.28 The current draft Local Plan does not make specific reference to cemeteries or burial provision, or to cremation or crematoria.

2.6.29 The draft Local Plan sets out a growth strategy for new settlements and housing growth areas. The figure below is an extract from the draft Local Plan which was consulted on between December 2025 and January 2026.

Illustrative map showing locations of proposed new housing development 2024 – 2045 (Figure 9 in the draft Local Plan December 2025)



2.6.30 The housing growth areas include:

- Northstowe – 6,229 homes
- Waterbeach – 5,727 homes
- Bourn Airfield – 3,500 homes
- Cambourne (North, West and town centre) – 4,720 homes

- Cambridge East – 3,959 homes
- Darwin Green – 2,242 homes
- Eddington – 5,116 homes
- Cambridge Biomedical Campus – 1,000 homes
- North of Cherry Hinton – 1,161 homes
- Wellcome Genome Campus – 1,500 homes

2.6.31 This significant number of new homes and the new population that they will accommodate will need to be supported by new community facilities and infrastructure. New local community facilities will also help in forming cohesive new communities, and will contribute to placemaking and identity.

2.6.32 To ensure that new community facilities and infrastructure will be provided, the emerging Local Plan includes draft Policy WS/NC. This states that:

“ Policy: WS/NC: Meeting the needs of new and growing communities

Identifying and addressing needs

1. New development will be required to include or contribute to the delivery of the services and facilities necessary to meet the needs of the development and mitigate the impact of development on existing local facilities.

2. The scale and range of facility and service provision or contribution must be appropriate to the level of need (including the specific needs of different demographic groups) generated by the development, and it must be adaptable to population growth and demographic changes. In making assessments of need and the timing of delivery of the facility or service, regard must be had to:

- a. the capacity, quality, and accessibility of existing facilities in the locality; and
- b. any local strategies recognised by the Local Planning Authorities that seek to improve public health, social and cultural wellbeing, and the sustainability of communities.

3. Developments of sufficient scale to generate the need for new on-site facilities will be required to do so, unless it can be demonstrated that there would be advantages in delivering the facilities off site. Acceptable provision and arrangements will be determined in consultation with service providers.

4. Proposals for residential sites of 200 or more dwellings (or groups of smaller sites which cumulatively exceed this figure) and employment development of over 5000m² must be informed by detailed assessments of community needs and include strategies that address identified needs. Submitted strategies to meet

community needs must demonstrate that the local community and stakeholder groups have been engaged to guide the provision of community facilities to be introduced as part of the site-wide development strategy. Measures may be required to assist the development of a new community, such as through community development workers.

Indoor community facilities

5. All housing developments will contribute towards the provision of indoor community facilities to meet the need generated by the development. Developments of sufficient scale to generate the need for new on-site facilities will be required to do so, unless it can be demonstrated that there would be advantages in off-site delivery. Other developments will contribute to off-site provision through planning obligations or through the Community Infrastructure Levy as appropriate. Contributions will be based on a standard of 129m² of such floorspace per 1,000 additional population.

Implementation

6. The timely delivery of services and facilities will be required, including the provision of key services and facilities in early phases of the development. Phasing will be established through planning obligations or conditions, and this may include requirements for the use of meanwhile or temporary uses to ensure local needs can be supported until permanent facilities are delivered.

7. As appropriate to the nature of facilities and services provided, the developer will prepare management and maintenance strategies, to be approved by the Local Planning Authority, to ensure robust and effective implementation, adoption and maintenance in the long term.”

- 2.6.33 This study will inform future stages of the plan preparation by identifying the current burial and crematoria capacity, as well as identifying current and future funerary needs.

Supplementary Policy & Supporting Evidence

Planning Obligations SPD (2026)

- 2.6.34 The Planning Obligations SPD (April 2026) includes a section on Burial Space (Chapter 13). This requires residential developments of 10 dwellings or more within South Cambridgeshire should seek early engagement with the Local Burial Authority concerning the availability or need for burial space. Proposals for sites of

over 200 dwellings should be accompanied by assessments of need and strategies regarding how the need will be addressed.

- 2.6.35 It outlines provisions for how much space is required per burial and helps inform the basis for determining the associated costs. The document states that each hectare of a cemetery can accommodate around 3,000 burial plots (equivalent to around 3.33sqm per plot). It also states that the ratio between cremations and burials is 80/20 (source: ONS Deaths Register & The Cremations Society for Great Britain) which equates to a standard of approximately 0.1ha per 1,000 people. The SPD requires that for major developments, where it can be demonstrated that existing burial provision is insufficient to meet the needs of the development, a planning obligation will be sought towards the improvement of existing or provision of new burial space.
- 2.6.36 Finally, the SPD states that the cost of acquiring new land for burials is around £240,000 per hectare and the cost of preparing that land for burials is £100,000 per hectare, equating to a cost of c. £34 per m² of burial space.

Green Infrastructure Strategy (2025)

- 2.6.37 The Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy (Volume 2, August 2025) is also relevant where it reviews the current open space standards (in defining burials and cemeteries as a form of open space) against future provision. As part of the evidence base supporting the emerging Joint Local Plan, it will influence the standards and requirements relating to open and green space.

Infrastructure Delivery Plan

- 2.6.38 In addition, the Council is preparing an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP). A draft was published as part of the evidence base supporting the emerging Joint Local Plan in December 2025. This identifies how infrastructure can be coordinated and delivered in order to meet the planned level of growth in Greater Cambridge. Section 13.3 covers Cemeteries and Burial Space. It provides a brief overview of existing provision and future needs. This study has been commissioned to provide more empirical data to feed into future versions of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, so that there can be more certainty around future needs,

3 Baseline Position

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 This section describes the methodology used to collect baseline data. The baseline data collected enables a picture to be built of the existing burial ground provision, as well as crematoria and other facilities, such as ash internment and memorial grounds. A profile of the area, including general population numbers, age profiles, death rates, and faith profiles, is also presented to provide an understanding of the current demographic of the Study Area, as well as recent changes.

3.2 Methodology

3.2.1 In the absence of a single reliable source of information on burial ground provision within the Study Area, a picture of current provision has been built up from a wide variety of sources, principally:

- Direct engagement with officers at Cambridge City and SCDC.
- Datasets and GIS information provided by Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service (GCSPS).
- Publicly available mapping data from Ordnance Survey, Open Street Map and the Church of England Church Heritage Record.
- An online survey sent to all parish councils and other providers of burial grounds, identified through desktop searches and information provided by Council officers, including:
 - Arbory Trust Barton Glebe Woodland Burial Ground;
 - Brinkley Woodland Cemetery;
 - Cam Valley Crematorium,
- An online survey of faith group leaders.
- Engagement with providers of related services, such as online surveys of local funeral directors.
- Information published by The Cremation Society.
- Publicly available sources of information such as parish council websites and Google Street View.

3.2.2 The following characteristics have been identified for each burial ground:

- Ownership and management (Parish, City, religious, independent);
- Current capacity (burials and ashes), including pre-purchased plots, available plots, double-depth plots;
- Potential future capacity within existing burial ground;
- Location and size of any land on hold for future provision;
- The communities served, including different religious groups and their requirements;
- Existing supporting facilities (e.g. for wakes, washing/ghusl facilities, Mecca orientation, toilets, parking, disabled access, etc.);
- Costs and fees and other economic considerations.

3.2.3 Survey responses have been received relating to 36 burial need and provision in 55 villages. Of the 51 burial grounds for which information was provided, 20 are managed by parish councils or the City Council, 30 are the graveyards of Church of England churches and are managed by parochial church councils, and one is managed by an independent Nonconformist charitable trust.

3.3 Burial Ground Provision

3.3.1 The nature of burial ground provision within Cambridge City and within the villages and towns of South Cambridgeshire is very different.

3.3.2 Within Cambridge City, the approximately 16 graveyards associated with churches had become full by the mid-19th century. A group of local Church of England churches established the Mill Road Cemetery in 1848, which reached capacity around 100 years later. The Nonconformist churches of Cambridge opened Histon Road Cemetery in 1843 for use by people belonging to any denomination. Management of Histon Road was taken over by Cambridge City Council in the 1930s, and it is now closed to new burials. Newmarket Road Cemetery was created in 1903 and is run by the City Council. It is also nearing capacity.

3.3.3 Cambridge City Council has also taken over management of two burial grounds with no further spaces: Trumpington Churchyard Extension and Ascension Parish Burial Ground.

3.3.4 In the 1990s, the City Council purchased land adjacent to the Cambridge Crematorium and created a new cemetery, known as Huntingdon Road Cemetery. It is located within the Parish of Dry Drayton approximately 5km from the city centre, and is not served by public transport. This cemetery has approximately 600 available burial plots, with further potential capacity to accommodate

approximately 600 burials in already occupied plots. This cemetery includes sections for Muslim and Jewish burials.

- 3.3.5 South Cambridgeshire is made up of over 100 villages of varying size, along with growing new settlements, of which two are now established as towns (Cambourne and Northstowe). There is a wide variety of burial provision across the villages of South Cambridgeshire.
- 3.3.6 Almost all villages contain a Church of England church with an associated graveyard. In the smaller villages, this graveyard continues to constitute the sole burial provision for the community. Of the burial grounds for which information has been provided, over half have more than 20 years' of burial capacity. Only one respondent said that the graveyard was nearly full, but added that additional space was available.
- 3.3.7 At least 32 Parish Councils have created municipal cemeteries over the last century or so, either adjacent to historic churchyards or on separate land, often outside the village. Almost all of the larger villages have a parish cemetery. According to the survey responses, these cemeteries have capacity for burials for many decades. Several villages have identified land for future expansion. Of the 22 parishes, six parishes reported immediate capacity concerns: Meldreth, Willingham, Linton, Duxford, Harston and Ickleton.
- 3.3.8 Most parish cemeteries are restricted to those who live or have a close connection to the village. Some have an indirect mechanism for achieving this, such as having significantly higher burial rates.
- 3.3.9 Of those villages searching for a new burial ground, two cited a high water table as the main constraint (Meldreth and Willingham) while one cited elevated land values (Linton).
- 3.3.10 In some villages, the principal non-Church of England burial ground was established by Nonconformist churches, including Cottenham, Swavesey, Over, Melbourn and Fulbourn, although the last two villages now also have parish cemeteries. Access to Nonconformist cemeteries is generally restricted by a requirement for a burial to be officiated by a Nonconformist minister.
- 3.3.11 Overall, there is no significant shortfall in future provision of plots for burials and ashes in the villages in South Cambridgeshire. Most of the larger villages, and many of the smaller ones, have both a parish council-run cemetery and a church graveyard. Parish councils generally monitor provision and are capable of purchasing land and creating new cemeteries.
- 3.3.12 Of the new towns, Cambourne includes a small cemetery (approved for 200 burial plots) , which opened in April 2016. The burial ground is multi-denominational and

the land is unconsecrated, however individual plots can be consecrated. In March 2022, the Town Council opened a section of the burial ground for Muslim burials. Graves are marked out to be perpendicular to Mecca, with the deceased's body positioned so their right side faces the Islamic holy city.

- 3.3.13 In April 2024, a planning application was submitted (LPA ref 24/01656/REM) for a burial ground as part of the West Cambourne development. This principally proposed a natural woodland burial ground, where a tree would be planted for each grave. The density of the site would therefore be low. The maximum number of burial plots was not specified in the planning application, but is estimated at 300-400 plots. This application was withdrawn in October 2024. Concerns regarding the suitability of groundwater conditions were raised, and it is not clear whether a planning application will be resubmitted.
- 3.3.14 Due to the high water table, a suitable location for a cemetery in Northstowe has not been found.
- 3.3.15 In 2000, a private cemetery was established in Barton, to the west of Cambridge, by the Arbory Trust. This is a low density woodland cemetery, open to all. This remains the only private cemetery in the Study Area. It is understood that the 1,800 grave space South Glebe is now full, with the North Glebe providing a further 1,600 plots, with unknown capacity. In 2020, a further consent (LPA ref 20/02454/FUL) was gained to extend further to the north by 4 hectares, bringing the total site area to around 20 hectares¹. It is assumed that this would provide a further 850 grave spaces, at a rate of 210 graves per hectare.
- 3.3.16 A private woodland cemetery, operated by Countryside Burials Limited, has also been created in the parish of Brinkley, lying just to the east outside the boundary of the Study Area. Planning permission for this was originally obtained in the late 1990's. A section of this cemetery is now reserved for the Muslim community of Cambridge. It is stated that this will provide 20,000 Muslim burial plots².
- 3.3.17 In June 2020, planning permission was granted on appeal for a private burial ground at land within the parish of Whittlesford (LPA ref S/1458/19/FL). A revised scheme was approved in April 2024 (LPA ref 23/02150/FUL). The approved scheme includes up to 3,318 burial plots as well as a remembrance hall. No information is available in regard to delivery of this burial ground.
- 3.3.18 In summary, the city has very little burial space capacity with only around 600 spaces available at the Huntingdon Road Cemetery, possibly with a further 600

¹ <https://www.cambridge-news.co.uk/news/local-news/barton-natural-woodland-burial-ground-19190632> accessed 12th June 2026.

² <https://gardensofrest.com/> accessed 12th June 2026.

assuming grave sharing. Similarly, there is little capacity in the new towns of South Cambridgeshire. With a few exceptions, the villages of South Cambridgeshire generally have sufficient capacity. There are potentially around 1,000 grave spaces available in the private Arbory Trust cemetery, and planning permission for a new, private cemetery at Whittlesford for 3,318 grave spaces, but this is not guaranteed to be delivered.

3.3.19 Figure 1 identifies all of the burial grounds in the Study Area and Appendix 1 tabulates information for each burial ground.

3.3.20 The table below presents identified cemeteries with capacity for burials that serve the Study Area as a whole.

Cemeteries that serve the Study Area

Name	Total maximum capacity	Estimated contribution to provision during the plan period	Notes
Huntingdon Road	1,200	900	Includes reuse of plots
Arbory Trust	Unknown	1,000	-
Brinkley Islamic Cemetery	20,000	2,323	-
Newton Road, Whittlesford	3,318	0	Delivery unclear
Cambourne	200	150	-

3.4 Crematoria Provision

3.4.1 The only crematorium located in the Study Area is Cambridge Crematorium located adjacent to the A14 in Dry Drayton, approximately 5km to the northwest of the city centre. This crematorium was opened in 1938. It provides faith-based or secular funerals. It has two chapels, a large garden area where memorials can be installed, and a variety of gardens and woodland in which to scatter ashes. Huntingdon Road Cemetery is nearby.

3.4.2 Both chapels have a music system, and audio or video recordings of services/ live streams can take place. The East Chapel can seat about 55 people. It has easy access throughout for wheelchair and mobility aid users. The West Chapel can seat about 190 people, some in a balcony area overlooking the main room. The

chapel has a screen that can display photos or videos during services. The chapels are both fitted with an induction loop system.

- 3.4.3 There are three cremators with a theoretical maximum capacity of 5,720 cremations per year. However, given the popularity of services, which are roughly 45 minutes in length, providing 12 to 14 services a day across the two chapels, the actual number of cremations is much lower. If each cremation was proceeded by a service, the maximum capacity would be around 3,500 per annum. In reality however, not all cremations will be proceeded by a 45-minute service. In 2024, 1,488 cremations were carried out. The operator reports that around 70% of cremations are of residents of the Study Area, with the remainder being from neighbouring districts.
- 3.4.4 In 2018, a private crematorium named Cam Valley was opened just to the south of the Study Area in Uttlesford District. This serves the Study area. In 2024, 1,257 cremations were carried out. The grounds of the crematorium include an area for the interment of ashes.
- 3.4.5 In 2022, Huntingdon Town Council built a crematorium to the north of the town. A very low proportion of cremations are of residents of Greater Cambridge.
- 3.4.6 In May 2025, East Cambridgeshire Council announced that work was set to begin on a major new bereavement centre in Mepal, near Ely, outside the Study Area to the north. The new centre will be known as 'Lake View' and will comprise a crematorium which is expected to handle 500 – 700 cremations a year. Unlike many other crematoriums which people only attend for a funeral, the intention is that Lake View Bereavement Centre will be a place people visit time and time again, to enjoy the grounds overlooking the lake, attending a coffee morning to meet others to support them in grief, visiting a planned event or simply appreciating the wildlife in the memorial gardens. Many of the materials being used in the build and landscaping are recycled, and there will be planting of native trees and wildflowers. The cremator is one of only a handful in the country to run on electricity, which will enable it to run on a green energy tariff. Solar panels, to help to reduce the site's carbon impact, are also planned. It is expected to complete in Summer 2026.
- 3.4.7 Figure 1 also identifies the location of crematoria.

3.5 Demographic Profile

- 3.5.1 A review of the demographic profile of Greater Cambridge has considered the overall population, age demographics, cultural-religious or faith demographics, and recorded mortality rates. This review has used data sources that record at the national level for England, local authority level for Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire, and at a localised level therein. Localised data has been based on mid-layer super output areas ('MSOAs'). MSOAs are medium-sized, consistent statistical geography used in England and Wales to report small-area statistics, containing roughly 5,000–15,000 residents. These have been used as they are consistently recorded across the Censuses from 2001, 2011, 2021, and ONS population estimates, and are therefore able to produce more reliably comparative analysis than district wards, the boundaries of which have changed in many locations during the assessed timeframe.

Population

- 3.5.2 The total population of the Greater Cambridge area has increased from approximately 272,600 as recorded in the 2011 Census³ to 307,900 in the 2021 Census⁴, representing a 12.9% increase over this period. From 2021 to 2026, population estimates made by Cambridgeshire County Council⁵ have predicted a population increase to approximately 331,000, representing a further 7.2% increase from the 2021 population.
- 3.5.3 Between 2011 and 2021, population change in MSOAs ranged between -4.1% and +116%, with Cambridge City growing at nearly twice the rate of South Cambridgeshire (+17.6% compared to +9.0%). Between 2021 and 2026 this has significantly changed, largely due to strategic settlement developments in South Cambridgeshire which has reversed the overall district-level change. Population growth between 2021 and 2026 has ranged from -0.8% to +29.8%, with the rate in South Cambridge (+10.0%) more than twice that of Cambridge City (+4.1%).

³ ONS (2012). 2011 Census: QS103EW – Age by single year. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 9 April 2026]

⁴ ONS (2022). 2021 Census: TS007 – Age by single year. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 7 April 2026]

⁵ Cambridgeshire County Council (2024). Cambridgeshire County Council's 2022-Based Population Forecasts. Available at cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/document-library/ [Accessed 7 April 2026]

- 3.5.4 Figure 2 shows the population in the study area at 2021, whereas Figure 4 shows the population in 2026. Figure 3 shows the population change 2011 to 2021, and Figure 5 shows the population change 2021 to 2026.
- 3.5.5 Figure 6 identifies the proportion of the population over 65 in the MSOAs in the study area. The areas with the greatest proportion of the population aged over 65 in the study area are located in the rural areas to the south and north, with the smallest proportions living in Cambridge City and the Cambourne area, and to a lesser extent, the north western areas.
- 3.5.6 Population projections for the emerging Local Plan period and anticipated housing completions over the Plan period, are presented in Section 6, below.

Mortality

- 3.5.7 The number of registered deaths in Greater Cambridge as recorded by ONS between 2021 and 2025 has totalled 11,299⁶. The annual quantity of registered deaths during this period has ranged from 2,179 to 2,339 per annum, representing an average rate of 6.8-7.5 annual deaths per 1,000 population. Over this period, this rate has been significantly higher in South Cambridgeshire compared to Cambridge City, largely attributed to the significant difference in age demographics between the two authority areas.
- 3.5.8 At a localised level, data for 2023 and 2024⁷ records registered deaths at a MSOA level of detail, demonstrating a substantial variation in average death rate across the Greater Cambridge area (from 1.9 to 12.6 annual deaths per 1,000 population). These largely correlate to local areas with younger than average populations, but also identify areas of health inequality within Greater Cambridge.
- 3.5.9 Figure 7 illustrates the variances in death rates across the Study Area.

⁶ ONS (2022-2026). Monthly provisional figures on deaths registered in England and Wales [years 2021-2025]. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 7 April 2026]

⁷ ONS (2026). Mortality statistics [all causes, all ages]. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 7 April 2026]

Faith Groups

3.5.10 Information on faith groups and religious affiliation within Greater Cambridge has been recorded in the 2011 and 2021 Censuses^{8 9}. The series of maps at Figure 8 illustrate the distribution of the various faith groups in 2021, the range of maps at Figure 9 illustrate the same faith groups distribution at 2011. The actual figures are identified in the table below.

Faith groups in Greater Cambridge and England 2011-2021

Religion and Area	% of population in 2011	% of population in 2021	% point change 2011-2021
Christian-Greater Cambridge	52.45%	40.55%	-11.90
Christian-England	59.38%	46.32%	-13.06
Buddhist-Greater Cambridge	0.83%	0.80%	-0.03
Buddhist-England	0.45%	0.46%	+0.01
Hindu-Greater Cambridge	1.17%	1.86%	+0.69
Hindu-England	1.52%	1.81%	+0.29
Jewish-Greater Cambridge	0.45%	0.50%	+0.05
Jewish-England	0.49%	0.48%	-0.01
Muslim (Islam)-Greater Cambridge	2.33%	3.29%	+0.96
Muslim (Islam)-England	5.02%	6.73%	+1.71
Sikh-Greater Cambridge	0.15%	0.20%	+0.05
Sikh-England	0.79%	0.92%	+0.13
Other religion: Total-Greater Cambridge	0.47%	0.63%	+0.16

⁸ ONS (2012). 2011 Census: DC2107EQ – Religion by age. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 9 April 2026]

⁹ ONS (2023). 2021 Census: RM118 – Religion by age. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 9 April 2026]

Religion and Area	% of population in 2011	% of population in 2021	% point change 2011-2021
Other religion: Total-England	0.43%	0.59%	+0.16
No religion: Total-Greater Cambridge	33.59%	44.00%	+10.41
No religion: Total-England	24.74%	36.67%	+11.93
Religion not stated-Greater Cambridge	8.56%	8.17%	-0.39
Religion not stated-England	7.18%	6.02%	-1.16

- 3.5.11 From 2011 to 2021, the proportion of the population identifying as Christian in Greater Cambridge has fallen from 52.4% to 40.5%. Greater Cambridge has since 2011 had a smaller proportion of the population identify as Christian than the national rate for England, with urban parts of Cambridge being significantly lower. The reduction in proportion from 2011 to 2021 is similar to trends across England, albeit this is most greatly reducing in rural areas where the historic proportion of the Christian population is higher. In Greater Cambridge overall, from 2011 to 2021 Christianity has moved from being the largest faith group to the 2nd largest, behind those declaring no religion affiliation.
- 3.5.12 The proportion of Buddhists in the Greater Cambridge area is greater than the national average, and has stayed relatively consistent from 2011 to 2021. The proportion of Buddhists in the population is generally greatest within Cambridge City and the surrounding suburbs.
- 3.5.13 The proportion of the population in Greater Cambridge in 2021 whom are Hindu is consistent with the national average for England (1.86% compared to 1.81% nationally). However, this is as a result of a significantly greater increase (+0.70 percentage points) from the proportion recorded in the 2011 Census. At a localised level, there significant differences between MSOAs, with the greatest proportion of Hindus located in the southwest of Cambridge, and in Cambourne.
- 3.5.14 The Jewish population of Greater Cambridge is consistent with national rates (0.5% compared to 0.48%), and has slightly increased in proportion from 2011 to 2021 (+0.04 percentage points) compared to a slight decrease across England (-0.02 percentage points). However, this is very uneven across local areas with the

greatest proportion of Jewish people located in areas nearest the city centre of Cambridge.

- 3.5.15 Greater Cambridge has a far smaller Muslim population than compared to national proportions (3.29% compared to 6.73%), and from 2011 to 2021 grew proportionally slower than national rates (+0.96 percentage points compared to +1.71 percentage points). Cambridge City has a far greater proportion of people practicing Islam compared to South Cambridgeshire, with the sole exception of Cambourne. Within Cambridge, Arbury is the only area with a greater than national average proportion of Muslims within the population, which has increased at a far greater rate than any other location in Greater Cambridge.
- 3.5.16 The proportion of Sikhs in Greater Cambridge (0.20%) is significantly lower than the national average (0.92%), as was also recorded in 2011. In 2021, only one MSOA in Greater Cambridge had a proportion of Sikhs more than approximately one third of the national rate. As a proportion of the population, the Sikh communities in Greater Cambridge grew at a slower rate from 2011 to 2021 than the national trend (+0.05 percentage points compared to +0.13 percentage points).
- 3.5.17 The 2021 Census also records that 0.63% of the population in Greater Cambridge are affiliated with other religions to those identified above. This has increased from 0.47% in 2011, which is comparable to national trends from 2011 to 2021.
- 3.5.18 A total of 44.0% of the 2021 population in Greater Cambridge stated in the 2021 that they have no religion, up from 33.6% in 2011. This is a comparable trend to nationwide across England, albeit significantly skewed by a significantly higher proportion of the population in Cambridge City stating no religion compared to South Cambridgeshire. The only substantial exception to this is in Cherry Hinton. However, the rate of change from 2011 to 2021 of people stating no religion is much greater in South Cambridgeshire (+13.27 percentage points) than in Cambridge City (+6.91 percentage points).
- 3.5.19 Finally, the third largest response to the 2021 Census in Greater Cambridge was those who did not answer the question, at 8.17%. This is significantly greater than across England (6.02%), however is lower than the proportion who did not answer in 2011 (8.56%).

4 Needs and Capacity Assessment

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section explores the funerary practices and needs of different faiths, before assessing whether these needs are currently being met in the Study Area. It also examines the future capacity of burial grounds and crematoria at current levels.

4.2 Methodology

4.2.1 Using established inter-faith networks, a survey of funerary practices of faith groups was conducted. Responses were received from 41 Christian churches located within the study area (Church of England, other protestant, Orthodox). Responses have been received from five non-Christian groups (2 Jewish, 1 Hindu, 1 Bahá'i, 1 Jain). This local research was supplemented with research.

4.3 Burial Needs

4.3.1 Across the faith groups represented in the Greater Cambridge area, there are significant differences in the types of burials and faith-specific practices that are required for the deceased. Across England and Wales, the proportion of cremations for the deceased, as recorded by The Cremation Society, has risen from ~74% in 2000, to ~76% in 2010, and then up to ~81-83% between 2020 and ¹⁰[2]. This number may increase somewhat into the future. However, it is likely to peak or plateau as a result of increasing proportions of populations in faith groups where burials are preferred or strictly required, or as a result of greater environmentally conscious funerals.

4.3.2 The funeral and burial needs for the most prominent faith groups have been set out in the table below.

Funerary and burial needs by major faith groups

Religion	Burial Provisions	Supporting notes
Christian	Burial or cremation	In Roman Catholicism, burial is preferred.

¹⁰ The Cremation Society (2025). Progress of Cremation in the British Islands 1885-2024. Available at www.cremation.org.uk/progress-of-cremation-united-kingdom [Accessed 17 April 2024]

Religion	Burial Provisions	Supporting notes
		In Orthodox Christianity, burial is largely preferred over cremation. Generally, cremated remains are to be interred at a burial site.
Buddhist	Burial or cremation	Dependent on cultural group.
Hindu	Predominantly cremation	Cremation to be undertaken as soon as possible, except for infants who may be buried. Ashes preferably scattered in water such as a river.
Jewish	Predominantly burial	Cremation prohibited in Orthodox Judaism but may be permitted by other groups. Burial should be as soon as practical (within 24hr if available), with a guardian staying with the deceased prior to burial.
Muslim (Islam)	Burial	Burial as soon as possible (within 1-3 days) of death. Deceased persons should be washed and shrouded (thus needing facilities to do so) and buried with their body perpendicular to Mecca (thus requiring appropriately aligned burial plots with the head facing southwest in the UK).
Sikh	Predominantly cremation	Cremation to be undertaken as soon as possible. Ashes preferably scattered in water such as a river.
Jain	Cremation	Ritual cleaning followed by cremation.
Bahá'i	Burial	Ritual cleaning followed by burial within one hour's journey.
Other/no religion or those not stated	Burial or cremation	Assume 80% cremation

- 4.3.3 In the Greater Cambridge area, faith groups requiring burials instead of cremations are generally smaller than the national average, however, a provisional estimate of 80% cremations and 20% burials is anticipated to apply in the Greater Cambridge area. This estimate is a conservative estimate based on limited local-level information on burial preference.

4.4 Reported Needs

Christianity

- 4.4.1 In survey responses received, Christian churches generally reported being satisfied with available funerary facilities. Some responses noted the lack of local capacity for burials and the distance to crematoria. Almost all non-Orthodox churches practice both burials and cremations. Burials take place in a range of locations. The Arbory Trust Woodland Burial Ground is mentioned in 12 of the 41 responses.
- 4.4.2 The one Orthodox church that responded requested that a dedicated cemetery or separated part of a larger cemetery be provided for Orthodox burials. This would facilitate the 'rich practice of commemorations of the departed' of congregations.

Hinduism

- 4.4.3 The response from a Hindu group stated that needs are not currently being met locally. Hindu practice requires open-fire cremation which is generally not possible under UK law. Facilities that would allow this, along with associated rituals and worship, was requested.

Jainism

- 4.4.4 The small Jain group that responded to the survey stated that no place of worship is available to carry out the rituals and last rites prior to cremation. Consequently, deceased are 'mostly' taken to India or Leicester for cremation.

Judaism

- 4.4.5 Responses were received from a Reform Jewish group and from cross-denomination group. Both groups noted the challenges related to the requirement for burials within 1-2 days of death, including availability of medical examiners and

coroners, delays in obtaining a plot in a cemetery, delays in digging the grave. The Reform group, which does allow cremations, requested the ability to carry out cremations on a Sunday. Burials take place in Newmarket Road Cemetery, Huntingdon Road Cemetery and Arbory Trust Woodland Cemetery.

4.5 Current Capacity

- 4.5.1 As reported in Section 3, the recent death rate has varied between 2,179 and 2,339 deaths per annum, with the rate being significantly higher in South Cambridgeshire compared to Cambridge City. The current cremation/ burial ratio is approximately 80:20, so it can be assumed that, based on the worst-case higher death rate, the current requirement is for 1,871 cremations per annum and for 468 burials per annum.
- 4.5.2 Approximately 1,050 cremations of deceased residents a year takes place at Cambridge City Crematorium, a further 550 at Cam Valley and 200 at other crematoria, totalling 1,800. Cambridge City Crematorium is currently operating under its maximum capacity of 5,720 cremations per annum, or 3,500 with services. Therefore, there is ample current capacity at the current death rate, whilst also providing choice in terms of dates and times for services.
- 4.5.3 In relation to burial provision, the majority of villages in the Study Area have existing space for burials, as illustrated in Figure 1 and the table at Appendix 1. Provision for residents of Cambridge City and existing urban extensions is limited to approximately 600 plots in Huntingdon Road, with a potential for a further 600 for families sharing graves. It is also estimated that there is capacity for around 1,000 grave spaces at the Arbory Trust site. It is understood that there is capacity for general grave provision at Brinkley Wood, but the quantity is unknown. The site is also out of the Study Area. At present, there is therefore capacity for the estimated 468 burial requirements per annum at current rates. However, it is clear that capacity will be diminished within a matter of years for residents of Cambridge City and the new towns of South Cambridgeshire.
- 4.5.4 In terms of religious groups requiring burials (mainly Jewish and Muslim), there is current capacity with dedicated spaces at Newmarket Road Cemetery and Huntingdon Road Cemetery. Further, there are spaces at Arbory Trust Woodland Cemetery and a dedicated Muslim burial ground at Brinkley Wood. It is assumed that those of the Bahá’l faith use the general burial plots available. There is therefore current capacity to serve these faiths.

5 Opportunities and Constraints

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This section will identify opportunities and constraints based on the data received during the baseline survey and in the context of current and future trends in funerary requirements.

5.2 Opportunities

5.2.1 In terms of identified opportunities, the following could be considered:

- Opening the crematorium on a Sunday to serve the Reform Jewish community;
- Exploring the potential to provide cremation alternatives, such as aquamation or terramation, if they were to become legal, to offer more choice and take advantage of a potential new market;
- Providing aquamation or terramation services, if they were to become legal, to reduce pressure on burial plots by those who would otherwise not be cremated because of environmental concerns;
- Reusing existing graves, if legislation around this were to change;
- Providing a new, dedicated burial ground for Orthodox Christians;
- Providing further, dedicated burial space for Jews;
- Providing a Council-run natural woodland burial site.
- Adding an electric crematoria to Huntingdon Road Crematorium, and adding measures to reduce the carbon footprint of the site to compete with the new crematoria in East Cambridgeshire and to provide a lower carbon cremation option to those more environmentally conscious.

5.3 Constraints

5.3.1 The following constraints should be considered:

- Current legislation around environmentally friendly cremation alternatives;
- Current legislation around grave reuse;

- Ground conditions, agricultural land classification and accessibility constraints restricting the locations of new burial sites;
- The cost of delivering and maintaining new burial grounds or alternative funerary services.

INTERIM

6 Demographic Projections

6.1 Overview

- 6.1.1 To aid in the identification of future funerary and burial needs, this section examines the likely population changes associated with the Local Plan period 2024-2045. This section projects likely population change associated with proposed residential allocations, likely future mortality rates, and projected needs for specific faith groups.

6.2 Population Forecasting

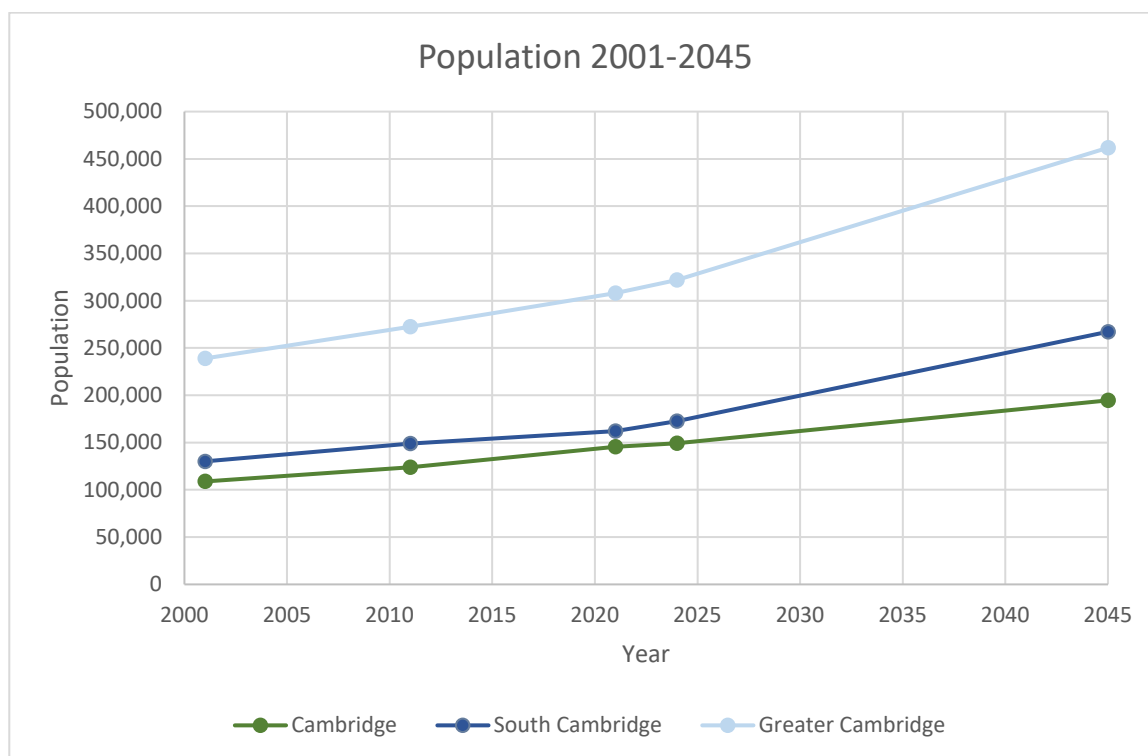
Overall Population

- 6.2.1 The Greater Cambridge Local Plan is proposing to allocate approximately 83,000 dwellings, of which approximately 54,300 are anticipated to be built within the Plan period 2024-2045. This is expected to correspond to a population increase of nearly 140,000 people, of whom 112,000 are anticipated to come from strategic sites and new settlements within the Plan period, and a further 77,900 thereafter where development of strategic sites extend beyond 2045. The resultant population of Greater Cambridge in 2045 is therefore anticipated to be in the region of 461,800, some 43.5% greater than as of 2024¹¹ ¹². Due to the nature of proposed allocations for large urban extensions or new settlements, this growth is uneven across the Greater Cambridge area, with Cambridge City expected to have a 30.3% population growth, while South Cambridgeshire is expected to have a 54.8% population growth. This is driven by new settlements at Northstowe, Waterbeach, and a significant urban extension to Cambourne. By MSOAs, the rate of change in population ranges from ~8.1% growth in parts of Cambridge City with no large-scale allocations, to an approximately 242% increase in population in Waterbeach (South Cambridgeshire 004) due to the proposed New Town in that location.
- 6.2.2 Figures 11 and 12 illustrate the anticipated population growth by MSOA across Greater Cambridge during the Plan period, while Figure 13 demonstrates the

¹¹ ONS (2022). 2021 Census: TS007 – Age by single year. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 7 April 2026]

¹² Cambridgeshire County Council (2024). Cambridgeshire County Council's 2022-Based Population Forecasts. Available at cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/document-library/ [Accessed 7 April 2026]

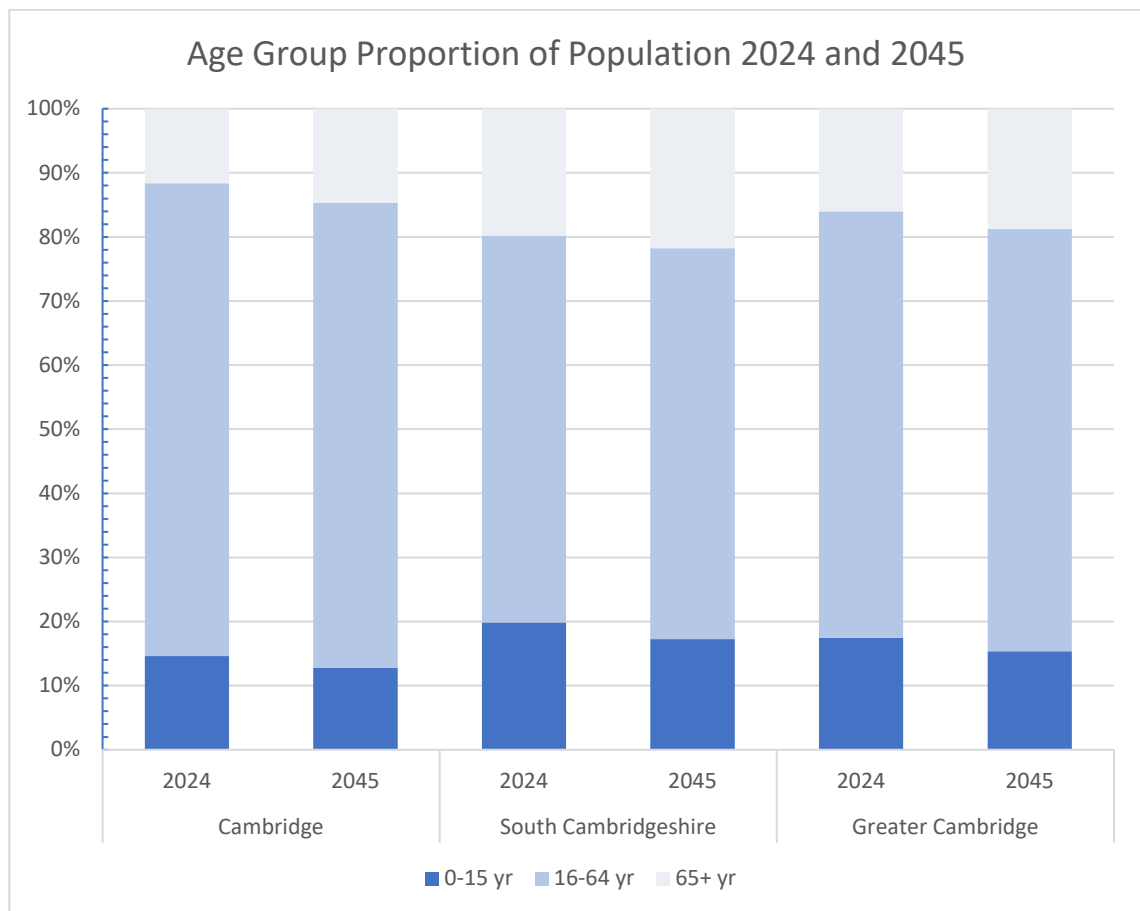
proposed population growth associated with emerging allocations anticipated to be developed after 2045.



6.2.3

ONS provides sub-national population projections for England based on recent population estimates. These include projections for age categories as well as the population overall. These predict likely change to major age groups (0-15, 16-64, and 64+ years of age), which have been used to predict population changes in MSOAs in Greater Cambridge up to 2045¹³. Based on ONS projections set against the population growth associated with the proposed residential allocations in the Local Plan, it is estimated that the proportion of 0-15 year olds will drop from 17.4% to 15.4% over the Plan period, while over 65 year olds will go from 16.0% to 18.8% of the population between 2024 and 2045. This trend is anticipated to be seen within Cambridge City and across South Cambridgeshire. This is shown in the chart below.

¹³ ONS (2023). Subnational population projections for England: 2022-based. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 8 May 2026]



6.2.4 Whilst population by age cannot be predicted with a good level of precision at the MSOA level, there are notable trends that are anticipated, largely based on previous trends in the Greater Cambridge area. While the population is anticipated to get proportionally older over the Plan period, new settlements and large-scale residential developments are likely to see a far greater proportion of people of working age and children. This is anticipated as a result of internal migration to access employment, and improved or new education access which will encourage families to move to these locations. Resultantly, it is anticipated that rural areas are likely to continue to see the population increasingly consist of those above 65 years of age.

Population Projection by Faith Groups

6.2.5 Population projections for England and sub-national areas by faith groups have not been undertaken by ONS. Therefore, previous trends in population proportion and growth by faith groups, as set out in Section 3.5 above, have been used to estimate the likely change in population by faith group during the Plan period 2024-2045. This has also been considered in the context of previous Burial Needs

Studies and Assessments undertaken across England, and of international projections for religious group population as undertaken by the Pew Research Center in 2015 (The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050). The projected population by faith group in Greater Cambridge is set out in the table below.

Faith groups in Greater Cambridge 2045

Religion	% of population in 2045- C.C.	% of population in 2045- S.C.	% of population in 2045- G.C.	% point change 2021- 2045- C.C.	% point change 2021- 2045- S.C.	% point change 2021- 2045- G.C.
Christian	24.03%	31.52%	27.84%	-11.21%	-13.80%	-12.71%
Buddhist	1.20%	0.59%	0.88%	0.05%	0.10%	0.08%
Hindu	2.81%	2.09%	2.44%	0.54%	0.59%	0.57%
Jewish	0.70%	0.32%	0.50%	-0.03%	0.03%	0.01%
Muslim (Islam)	6.39%	2.30%	4.26%	1.32%	0.61%	0.96%
Sikh	0.24%	0.21%	0.23%	0.02%	0.04%	0.03%
Other religion: Total	0.91%	0.64%	0.77%	0.14%	0.13%	0.14%
No religion: Total	53.79%	56.09%	55.08%	9.06%	12.74%	11.08%
Religion not stated	9.93%	6.25%	8.01%	0.11%	-0.44%	-0.16%

* C.C.: Cambridge City

* S.C.: South Cambridgeshire

* G.C.: Greater Cambridge

6.2.6 Estimates have been projected for each group at the district level. MSOA-level estimates have not been provided as localised conditions may not reflect national or wider trends, and predictions at that level of fidelity cannot be ascertained without a significant margin for error. Furthermore, the projections undertaken are based largely on previous trends and so it is recommended that they are reviewed throughout the Plan period to ensure any substantial changes to forecasts can be captured and addressed. It is acknowledged that new settlements and strategic

sites are more likely to have greater religious diversity than the surrounding rural areas and as such, this has been considered in how meeting religious or faith-based needs are met during the Plan period.

- 6.2.7 As captured in Section 3.5 above, the proportion of Christians in Greater Cambridge has fallen considerably from 2011 to 2021. This is consistent with the national trend for England of a falling Christian population albeit at a rate far greater within Greater Cambridge than England overall. This indicated that this trend is likely to continue through to 2045. This is consistent with findings by the Pew Research Centre which shows a trend for a falling proportion of the Christian population is relatively consistent across Western Europe, and in the UK is projected to fall from 64.3% to 45.4% from 2010-2050. Previous trends and future projections by the Pew Research Group show this is largely driven by an increase in population describing themselves as not religious or unaffiliated with a religion, which is projected to be by far the largest faith group in Greater Cambridge by 2045. It is anticipated that rural locations will retain a greater Christian population than urban locations or new settlements, while rates of no religious affiliation are likely to be somewhat more consistent across the Greater Cambridge area.
- 6.2.8 The proportion of Buddhists in Greater Cambridge has, up to 2021, been greater than the proportion for England, and as such, is projected to marginally increase up to 2045, based on previous trends. The Pew Research Center identifies that Buddhism is likely to be a growing religion in Europe from 2010-2050, with the UK population proportion growing from 0.4% to 0.9% from 2010-2050. This trend has not been realised as of the 2021 Census, and so a lower level of growth based on 2001-2021 Census trend has been considered more likely to be accurate, however this should be kept under review during the Plan period. Buddhist population concentrations are largest in Cambridge City, however growth in new settlements is likely to create greater dispersal, as a result of the anticipated increased religious diversity of new settlements.
- 6.2.9 The proportion of the population who are Hindu in Greater Cambridge is consistent with rates for England, but has grown significantly from 2001-2021. Applying this to 2045, it is likely that Greater Cambridge will have a higher proportion of Hindu people (~2.44%) than estimated by the Pew Research Center, which estimates a growth in proportion from 1.4 to 2.0% of the UK population by 2050. Notably, growth in the Hindu population is anticipated to be concentrated in new settlements, and within existing communities in the southwest of Cambridge.
- 6.2.10 Estimates by the Pew Research Center estimate the proportion of the UK's population identifying as Jewish will fall from 0.5% in 2010 to 0.3% in 2050. This has already been seen in the 2011 and 2021 Census. Conversely, the Jewish

population in Greater Cambridge has grown from 2001 to 2021, and is modelled to continue to do so in South Cambridgeshire up to 2045, resulting in the Jewish population representing 0.50% relatively consistently across the Plan period. That notwithstanding, there is a large amount of localised variation and as such, population models should be reviewed during the Plan period.

- 6.2.11 The Muslim population in Greater Cambridge is projected to grow from 3.29% in 2021 to 4.26% in 2045. This is driven by a significantly smaller Muslim population in Greater Cambridge than in England (6.73% in the 2021 Census). The Pew Research Center predicts the Muslim population of the UK to grow from 4.8% in 2010 to 11.3% in 2050. Given the significant difference between these estimates, it is recommended that the population model is reviewed during the Plan period to ensure changes to local population characteristics in Greater Cambridge are accurately captured through the Plan period. As with other religious groups included in this report, it is likely that population growth will be focussed on existing communities in Cambridge, Cambourne and in other new settlements.
- 6.2.12 The proportion of Sikhs in Greater Cambridge is anticipated to grow slightly from 0.20% in 2021 to 0.23% in 2045. This is anticipated to remain below national population proportions as a result of a small existing population. The Pew Research Center has not specifically modelled changes to the Sikh population in the UK, and as such, previous trends must be relied upon.
- 6.2.13 As captured in Section 3.5 above, the 2021 Census also records that 0.63% of the population in Greater Cambridge are affiliated with other religions to those identified above. This is estimated to increase to approximately 0.77% by 2045. This trend is consistent with projections from the Pew Research Center, which estimates the proportion of the UK population following religions excluding Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism, (but therefore including Sikhism) is to rise from ~0.8% in 2010 to ~1.1% in 2050. Based on the 2021 Census, the groups most likely to be included within this are Alevi, Bahá'í, Jain, Pagan (including Wicca), and Spiritual or Spiritualist. A total of 0.14% of the population of Greater Cambridge follow a religion not documented in detail by the 2021 Census.
- 6.2.14 In the 2001, 2011 and 2021 Censuses, 8.0-8.5% of the population across Greater Cambridge did not answer or state a religion. As such, a similar proportion (8.01%) has been projected for 2045 as likely not to state any religious affiliation (thus excluding those already covered as explicitly stating 'no religion').

6.3 Mortality Forecasting

- 6.3.1 As the population of Greater Cambridge grows, so too will the requirement for funeral services and burial provisions, including those based on specific religious or spiritual needs. This section therefore models the likely level of mortality within Greater Cambridge over the Plan period.

Population Estimates for Mortality

- 6.3.2 To provide a worst-case estimate for mortality rates in Greater Cambridge to ensure funerary and burial needs are fully met, existing population mortality for 2021-2025¹⁴ has been set against a model for projected population growth from 2024-2045. This is considered to be a reasonable methodology, as ONS projections for mortality estimate death rates by year of age¹⁵ are to decrease in England year by year up to 2045. The population model has been broken into three major age groups (0-15 year olds, 16-64 year olds, and 65+ year olds) to apply a weighted estimate for locations within Greater Cambridge likely to have younger (new settlements) or older populations (unallocated rural areas) over the Plan period.
- 6.3.3 In Greater Cambridge, the average annual mortality rate between 2021 and 2025 for 0-15 year olds was 0.21 deaths per 1,000 population, for 16-64 year olds was 1.40 deaths per 1,000 population, and for over 65 year olds was 38.55 deaths per 1,000 population. These have been applied to the population estimates for 2024 and modelled population for 2045 in the table below.

Mortality in Greater Cambridge 2045

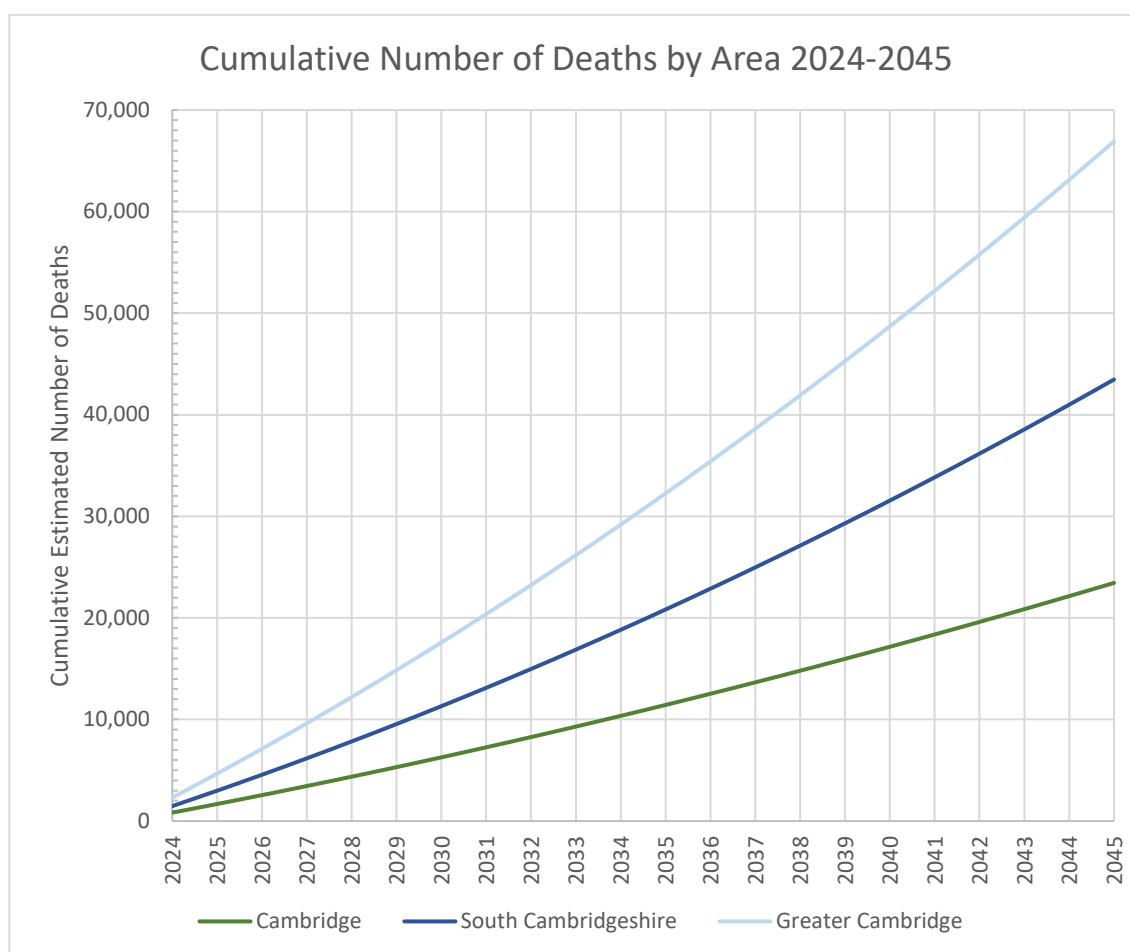
Year	Age Group	Cambridge City	South Cambridgeshire	Greater Cambridge
2024 Registered deaths in year	0-15	6	8	14
	16-64	132	172	304
	65+	693	1,244	1,937
	Total	831	1,424	2,255
2045 Population	0-15	24,855	46,092	70,947
	16-64	141,193	162,898	304,091
	65+	28,547	58,180	86,727

¹⁴ ONS (2022-2026). Monthly provisional figures on deaths registered in England and Wales [years 2021-2025]. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 7 April 2026]

¹⁵ ONS (2026). Past and projected mortality rates (q_x) from the 2024-based England and Wales life tables. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 20 May 2026]

Year	Age Group	Cambridge City	South Cambridgeshire	Greater Cambridge
	Total	194,595	267,171	461,766
2045 Modelled annual deaths (average mortality)	0-15	5	10	15
	16-64	197	228	425
	65+	1,101	2,243	3,344
	Total	1,303	2,481	3,784

- 6.3.4 The population model therefore estimates up to 3,784 people in Greater Cambridge are likely to pass away in the year 2045. This therefore represents an overall death rate in 2045 of 8.19 deaths per 1,000 population. This is not geographically even across the Greater Cambridge area, and is weighted towards MSOAs with both larger, and older populations. This is shown in Figure 15. The areas with the greatest change in annual deaths reflects areas anticipated for greatest population growth, the five largest areas of change being: Cambourne, Cambridge East, Grange Farm New Settlement, Northstowe, and Waterbeach New Town.
- 6.3.5 It is anticipated that the strategic allocations and new settlements alone will contribute up to an additional 840 deaths per year by the end of the Plan period. This equates to approximately 7.47 deaths per 1,000 population.
- 6.3.6 For the purposes of this study, population change between 2024 and 2045 based on growth driven by new housing allocations and development has been applied linearly to estimate a cumulative number of deaths over the Plan period. These are shown graphically in the chart below, and geographically by MSOA in Figure 16. Cumulatively, an upper estimated total of 66,900 deaths is anticipated to occur in Greater Cambridge during the Plan period, of which 23,400 are anticipated within Cambridge City, and 43,500 are expected in South Cambridgeshire. An estimated cumulative total of 9,240-9,380 of these are likely to be directly generated from strategic allocations and new settlements during the Plan period.



Mortality by Faith Group

6.3.7 To understand a likely estimate for deaths by faith group over the Plan period, the average annual mortality rate for 2021-2025¹⁶ has been applied to the modelled proportion of population by faith group as set out in the previous section. This has been applied at a district level evenly across all faith groups, and does not account for any characteristics such as health or morbidity inequalities determined by faith group or location. The table below shows the estimated number of deaths by faith group in 2024 using this model, the likely annual deaths by faith group in 2045, and the estimated cumulative total over the Plan period. This table also identifies the modelled mortality by faith group attributed to strategic growth allocations and new settlements during the Plan Period. This is based on the population growth likely to be generated within the strategic sites over the Plan Period, and the modelled proportion of each faith group, as set out in paragraphs 6.2.5-6.2.14.

¹⁶ ONS (2026). Past and projected mortality rates (q_x) from the 2024-based England and Wales life tables. Available at www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed 20 May 2026]

Mortality in Greater Cambridge by Faith Groups up to 2045

Period	Faith Group	Cambridge City	South Cambs.	Greater Cambridge	of which, Strategic Sites
2024 Modelled annual deaths (average mortality)	Christian	281	638	919	n/a
	Buddhist	10	8	17	
	Hindu	20	24	44	
	Jewish	6	4	10	
	Muslim (Islam)	44	27	72	
	Sikh	2	3	5	
	Other religion: Total	7	8	15	
	No religion: Total	389	684	1,073	
	Religion not stated	83	99	182	
	Total	828	1,471	2,299	
2045 Population	Christian	46,761	84,214	130,976	32,951
	Buddhist	2,328	1,577	3,905	864
	Hindu	5,462	5,581	11,043	2,586
	Jewish	1,364	847	2,211	484
	Muslim (Islam)	12,444	6,156	18,600	3,946
	Sikh	466	567	1,033	248
	Other religion: Total	1,770	1,697	3,467	805
	No religion: Total	104,672	149,843	254,515	62,288
	Religion not stated	19,329	16,686	36,015	8,243
	Total	194,595	267,171	461,766	112,415
2045	Christian	313	782	1,095	248

Period	Faith Group	Cambridge City	South Cambs.	Greater Cambridge	of which, Strategic Sites
Modelled annual deaths (average mortality)	Buddhist	16	15	30	7
	Hindu	37	52	88	20
	Jewish	9	8	17	3
	Muslim (Islam)	83	57	140	31
	Sikh	3	5	8	2
	Other religion: Total	12	16	28	6
	No religion: Total	701	1,391	2,092	475
	Religion not stated	129	155	284	60
	Total	1,303	2,481	3,784	840
2024-2045 Estimated cumulative deaths	Christian	6,609	15,685	22,294	2,733
	Buddhist	278	244	522	77
	Hindu	618	832	1,450	210
	Jewish	168	135	302	38
	Muslim (Islam)	1,399	923	2,323	336
	Sikh	55	87	142	22
	Other religion: Total	203	260	463	71
	No religion: Total	11,940	22,774	34,714	5,226
	Religion not stated	2,336	2,792	5,128	665
	Total	23,446	43,470	66,915	9,378

6.3.8 Whilst modelling for faith groups has not been undertaken at a localised level, it can be anticipated that the majority of increased faith group deaths will be attributed to locations with larger existing faith group populations, and new

settlements that are anticipated to be more religiously diverse than the rest of the Greater Cambridge area. Given the specific funerary requirements of some religions, as has been described in Section 4.3 above, such as burials in the Muslim and Jewish faiths, it will therefore be that where these populations are set to grow, there will be proportionately more demand to accommodate these faiths' needs in strategic growth areas. It is not expected that this will affect the overall proportion between cremations and burials across the population, however. Where faith groups require specific funerary or burial requirements, the report recommendations for the quantity and location of future provision are set out in the next section.

7 Findings and Recommendations

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 This section builds on the findings of the previous section and sets out specific funerary needs based on demographic projections.

7.2 Cremations

- 7.2.1 The current cremation rate is approximately 80%, with around 1,050 cremations a year of deceased residents taking place at Cambridge City Crematorium, 550 at Cam Valley and 200 at other crematoria, totalling 1,800. Assuming that the cremation rate of approximately 80% remains stable, then the number of annual cremations of deceased residents of the Study Area will be up to 3,030 in the year 2045. Of these, an estimated 672 per annum in the year 2045 will be from residents of the strategic allocations and new settlements. If the estimated proportions of residents being cremated at the principal crematoria remains the same, then the annual number of cremations at Cambridge City will be 2,750 and at Cam Valley it will be 1,800. This is within the estimated capacity of each crematorium. It may be that the new Lake View Bereavement Centre may attract some cremations from inside the Study Area, particularly to the north. The new crematorium will be around 12 minutes north by car from the Study Area, and only around 20 minutes from Northstowe, a strategic growth area. As with the existing crematoriums outside of the study area, it is not expected that numbers to this crematorium would be high.
- 7.2.2 The existing crematoria are expected to meet the needs of the population of the Study Area during the Plan Period. However, there may be a perceived lack of availability and choice for particular times/ days of services as the number of cremations increases. Service capacity may be more limited in periods of higher death rates, such as Winter flu outbreaks and Summer heatwaves, for example. The capacity assessment assumes a consistent rate of deaths, which will not be the case in reality. The construction of an additional crematorium, whose catchment includes a significant part of the Study Area should not be needed during the Plan Period.
- 7.2.3 It is likely that further capacity, particularly for funeral service provision, either at a new site or through expansion of the existing crematoria, will be needed beyond the Plan Period. A number of factors might put pressure on crematorium capacity before then, such as an increase in cremation rates, an increase in mortality rates, an increase in total population, specific peaks in the rate of deaths or the closure

of a nearby crematorium. Therefore, usage of the existing crematoria should be reviewed during future local plan updates to ensure that need does not exceed capacity before then, as well as to plan for future capacity beyond the Plan Period. Further consideration should also be given to provision of alternative means of cremation, such as alkaline hydrolysis (also known as ‘water cremation’ or aquamation) or human composting (also known as ‘natural organic reduction’ or terramation), subject to regulatory amendments allowing these methods to be undertaken in England. A report by the Law Commission and accompanying draft Bill¹⁷ is due to be published on new funerary methods (including alkaline hydrolysis and human composting) in June 2026.

- 7.2.4 It is also worth noting that traditional cremation rates may drop in the future due to the younger population favouring burials, as reported at paragraph 2.5.4. It is not known however whether those attitudes will change as people age, or whether that attitude will remain with that generation always.
- 7.2.5 Ratios between cremations and burials should therefore be checked periodically with plan reviews.

7.3 Overall need for burial space

- 7.3.1 During the Plan Period, the mortality projection suggests that the cumulative number of deaths of residents will be up to approximately 66,900 (2024-2045). If 20% of these are anticipated to require burials, then a total of approximately 13,400 burial plots will be needed during the Plan Period, of which approximately 1,850 would be required specifically for residents of the strategic allocations and new settlements. The majority of villages in the Study Area have existing or potential future space for burials, which total around 6,250 burials during the plan period (South Cambridgeshire figures minus new settlements and existing urban extensions).
- 7.3.2 The exceptions to this, from the survey responses received, are that six parishes have immediate capacity concerns. These are Meldreth, Willingham, Linton, Duxford, Harston and Ickleton. Two of these villages searching for a new burial ground (Meldreth and Willingham) have cited a high water table as the main constraint to finding adequate additional provision, while Linton cited elevated land values as an issue.

¹⁷ Law Commission (2026). New funerary methods. Available at lawcom.gov.uk/project/new-funerary-methods/ [Accessed 28 May 2026]

7.3.3 Provision for residents of Cambridge City and existing urban extensions is limited to approximately 600 unused plots at Huntingdon Road, some reuse of plots at Huntingdon Road (estimated at 300 burials for this Study), 150 at Cambourne, along with approximately 1,000 plots at the Arbory Trust site, leaving a shortfall of around 3,250. Of these, approximately 1,980 are expected to be Muslim burials which are provided for at Huntingdon Road, Arbory Trust or at Brinkley (see Section 7.6.1 below). There is sufficient capacity to meet all Muslim needs during the Plan Period. This leaves a remaining general burial shortfall of 1,270 for residents of Cambridge City and the existing urban extensions.

7.3.4 The new settlements of Northstowe and Waterbeach have no provision for burials, while delivery of the allocated provision at West Cambourne is uncertain and is not relied on for the purposes of these recommendations. In summary, the shortfall for new settlements in the plan period is approximately 1,850. The final version of this study will include a finer grain analysis of the requirements from individual strategic sites.

Summary of deaths and burial capacity in the Plan Period (2024-2045)

Area	Number of Deaths (2024-2045)	Cremation need	Burial need	Burial Capacity	Need position
Study Area	66,900	53,500	13,400	-	Shortfall of 3,120
Strategic sites and allocations	9,250	7,400	1,850	None	Shortfall of 1,850
Cambridge City and existing urban extensions	26,500	21,200	5,300	2,050 plus sufficient provision at Brinkley to meet Muslim needs	Shortfall of 1,270
South Cambridgeshire District area minus strategic sites and allocations	31,250	25,000	6,250	Generally sufficient	Generally sufficient to meet demand

7.3.5 Therefore, the overall estimated shortfall in burial spaces during the Plan Period across the Study Area is approximately 3,120. These figures are preliminary and

the final version of this study will set out a finer grain analysis about the geographical distribution of this shortfall.

- 7.3.6 At standard plot sizes of 3.33m² (as referred to in the Developer Contributions SPD), this would occupy an area of approximately 1.39 hectares. The space required for new burial grounds would in reality be larger than this, as it would need to include paths, access roads, parking areas, landscaping and supporting facilities. More natural burial grounds would also likely be at lower densities and would therefore require more land.

7.4 Location and Provision of Future Burial Spaces

- 7.4.1 The shortfall identified is not focussed on one area but spread across Cambridge City and at new settlements separated from the City.
- 7.4.2 If it is delivered, the private burial site at Whittlesford with extant planning permission could take up some need, although it is not well related to Cambridge City or the strategic growth areas to the north.
- 7.4.3 The additional need created by new settlements should be provided within them, as part of the essential infrastructure provided by the developers. The number of burial spaces provided should extend beyond the expected requirement of the Plan Period to truly meet the needs of the new communities for a reasonable period of time. If the ground/water conditions are not suitable for onsite provision, in accordance with legislation and the Environment Agency's guidance¹⁸, developers should complete their own assessments to identify sites for locating suitable burial provision in an alternative location and to provide sufficient capacity at that location. This may include neighbouring parishes where more suitable burial ground conditions may exist.
- 7.4.4 On smaller allocated and windfall sites where onsite provision would not be appropriate, developers should make a financial contribution towards increasing capacity at existing burial grounds nearby, or to contribute towards new, larger cemeteries being established.
- 7.4.5 Additional provision will also be required in the plan period to meet the needs of the existing population in Cambridge City where a shortfall in existing provision exists. Additional provision could be provided as an extension to the existing Huntingdon Road cemetery, or for establishing a new burial space in an appropriate location, ideally which is well served by public transport.

¹⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-groundwater-from-human-burials>

7.5 Types of burial grounds

- 7.5.1 It is expected that the majority of demand for burial spaces will be for standard plots within a municipal-type cemetery. These can typically accommodate 1,976 plots per hectare¹⁹ (at a legislative maximum of 2,500 plots per hectare), although a lower density can enable much more attractive and inclusive designs.
- 7.5.2 Survey responses suggest that woodland burials are becoming increasingly sought-after by many across the Study Area, although higher costs will likely limit total demand. Green burial sites have an average density of 1,580 graves per hectare²⁰. The sole woodland burial site in the Study Area, at Barton (Arbory Trust), has adequate capacity for the foreseeable future. The need for additional provision should be reviewed during the preparation of future local plans.

7.6 Burial needs of faith groups

- 7.6.1 Demographic projections suggest that the burial needs of Muslim communities during the Plan Period will be significant. Islamic practice generally requires burial within 1-3 days, so it can be expected that there will be demand for almost all of the estimated 2,320 deaths during the Plan Period to require a burial plot. Of these, up to an estimated 340 will come from strategic allocations and new settlements. For the Plan Period, need can be met through existing designated areas within the cemeteries at Huntingdon Road and Cambourne, as well as the private cemetery owned by Cambridge Mosque at Brinkley, just outside the Study Area. The Brinkley cemetery's website indicates that it can accommodate up to 20,000 Islamic burials, which would meet need well beyond the plan period. However, some Muslims might wish to use other cemeteries. It is therefore preferable that any new provision of burial space that serves Cambridge City and new settlements can incorporate significant areas for Muslim burials.
- 7.6.2 The number of Jewish burials is much lower at approximately 300 over the plan period 2024-2045, and it is likely that future need will largely be met through existing specific provision. However, any new burial grounds that serve areas with Jewish populations should seek to provide a segregated area following engagement with Jewish communities.
- 7.6.3 Modelling of population and mortality rates have not considered denominations of other faith groups, due to detailed records not being published as part of the Census 2021. Nonetheless, specific funerary practices for Christian

¹⁹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cemeteries-and-burials-groundwater-risk-assessments>

²⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cemeteries-and-burials-groundwater-risk-assessments>

denominations, particularly for Orthodox Christians, are estimated based on national trends. While the proportion of people identifying as Christian is forecasted to fall over the Plan Period, the proportion of Orthodox Christians is anticipated to remain constant, or grow, consisting of up to 1% of the population. As such, over the Plan Period, there is likely to be a requirement for up to 670 burial plots for Orthodox Christians, of which approximately 92 are anticipated as a result of strategic housing allocations. Consideration should therefore be given for the designation of specific areas, which would ideally provide east-facing plots.

7.7 Other faith-based funerary services

7.7.1 This study has identified a number of challenges faced by some faith groups in meeting religious requirements for funerary services. Although it is beyond the scope of this study to address these, it is helpful to bring these needs together in one place. Hindus and Jains, for example, have specific requirements for cremation rituals that cannot be met in existing facilities. Jews, in particular Orthodox Jews, are sometimes not able to bury the deceased quickly enough.

7.7.2 Any future provision of burial grounds or any future modification of crematoria should, where possible legally, have regard for the needs of all faith groups with populations within the Study Area, seeking to accommodate unmet needs where feasible.

7.8 Ash Interment Plots

7.8.1 It is much more difficult to quantify demand and existing capacity for ash interments. Ash interment is generally permitted within existing graves. Some burial grounds and other designated spaces also make specific provision for ash interment, which can be marked with plaques. However, since it is personal choice as to whether remains are buried in a specific plot, or whether ashes are scattered, it is much more difficult to quantify demand or take up of ash interment space. Rather than quantify a specific requirement by measured area, we therefore suggest that new burial grounds make provision for separate ash interment plots, as well as creating areas for ashes to be scattered within.

7.9 Recommendations for Policy and Developer Contributions

7.9.1 It is important that burial space is provided for in meeting the needs of future housing developments, particularly in relation to larger and strategic sites. Appropriate sites for burials should be identified at the outset to ensure that

suitable land, in both size and technical suitability, is allocated within masterplans. The approach proposed in draft Local Plan Policy WS/NC: ‘Meeting the needs of new and growing Communities’, as set out at paragraph 2.6.32 above, is applicable to the provision of burial space. If Draft Policy WS/NC is carried through to the final Local Plan, no additional policy is required in relation to addressing and meeting future needs. The supporting text for this policy makes it clear that burial provision is included within the scope of the facilities and services that are subject to this policy.

7.9.2 Major housing developments, and in particular the strategic housing allocations and new settlements, are anticipated to generate significant population growth to the Greater Cambridge area in the Plan Period and beyond, which will result in additional need for funerals and additional burial plots. Such needs should be met on site, or where not possible, alternative nearby sites should be identified and provided by the developers. For smaller allocations and windfall sites where it is not possible to provide burial space on site, costs for providing new burial space will need to be collected through developer contributions. Further, contributions may need to be collected from all development to provide other funerary facilities, such as new crematoria. To ensure these can be proportionally provided by developers, a standardised developer contribution formula should be applied.

7.9.3 First, a standardised mortality rate and funeral need metric should be applied. This has been based on estimated occupancy of new dwellings in Cambridge City or South Cambridgeshire, the modelled death rate (as reported at paragraph 6.3.4-6.3.5), and an estimated funeral need of 80% cremations, 20% burials.

Standardised Annual Burial Need Calculation

Formula value	Metric	Multiplier
A	Number of dwellings	As defined by planning permission or allocation
B	Estimated dwelling occupancy	Cambridge City: 2.40 South Cambridgeshire: 2.85
C	Modelled death rate (~8 per 1,000 population)	0.008
D	Funeral type multiplier	Cremation: 0.8 Burial: 0.2

7.9.4 The annual cremation or burial need for any given development therefore follows the formula:

$$A \times B \times C \times D$$

7.9.5 Where a cumulative burial need is required to ascertain burial plot requirement over the Plan Period, the annual rate of burial need should be multiplied by the number of years between the first year of occupation on the relevant site, and the Plan Period end (2045). This approach could also be used to collect contributions over a specified period of time, say a 50 year period from the occupation of a development.

7.9.6 Of burial plots, the following estimate should be used for specific faith group burial provision:

- ~20% should be for Muslim burials,
- ~2% for Jewish burials, and
- ~5% for Orthodox Christian burials.

7.9.7 For each burial space required, a cemetery area requirement of 5.06m² should be applied for municipal-type cemeteries (at a density of 1,967 graves per hectare) and 6.32m² for green burial sites (at a density of 1,580 graves per hectare).

7.9.8 Off-site contributions in lieu of on-site provision, should be calculated based on the cost of providing each burial plot and maintaining it over a given period of time.

8 Delivery and Sustainable Management

8.1.1 Stage 3 will be added in due course

INTERIM

FIGURES

INTERIM

Appendix 1 Burial Grounds within the Study Area

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
CEM 003	Newmarket Road Cemetery	Cambridge	Abbey	Cambridge City Council	7.72	Limited
CEM 005	Histon Road Cemetery	Cambridge	Arbury	Cambridge City Council	1.38	Full
CEM 008	Ascension Parish Burial Ground	Cambridge	Castle	Cambridge City Council	0.85	Full
CEM 004	St Andrew's Church	Cambridge	Cherry Hinton		1.08	
CEM 007	St Andrew's Church	Cambridge	East Chesterton		1.01	
CEM 006	Mill Road Cemetery	Cambridge	Petersfield	Cambridge City Council	4.06	Full
CEM 002	St Mary and St Michael's Church	Cambridge	Trumpington		0.45	Full
CEM 001	Trumpington Churchyard Extension	Cambridge	Trumpington	Cambridge City Council	0.39	Full
ZCE M 003	Holy Trinity Church	Balsham	Balsham		1.28	
ZCE M 015	St Peter's Church	Carlton	Balsham	Church of England	0.29	50+ years
ZCE M 123	St Mary's Church	West Wickham	Balsham	Church of England	0.54	50+ years
ZCE M 124	St Andrew's Church	West Wrattling	Balsham		0.66	

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
ZCE M 125	St Mary's Church	Weston Colville	Balsham		0.67	
ZCE M 005	All Saints' Church	Barrington	Barrington		0.33	
ZCE M 049	St Mary's Church	Great Eversden	Barrington		0.31	
ZCE M 081	St Helen's Church	Little Eversden	Barrington		0.15	
ZCE M 102	St Andrew's Church	Orwell	Barrington	Orwell Parish Council	0.55	50+ years
ZCE M 131	St Andrew's Church	Wimpole	Barrington		0.33	
ZCE M 009	Bassingbourn Cemetery	Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth	Bassingbourn	Bassingbourn Parish Council	1.01	
ZCE M 010	St Peter and St Paul	Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth	Bassingbourn		0.34	
ZCE M 144	St Catherine's Church	Litlington	Bassingbourn		0.38	
ZCE M 079	Litlington Churchyard	Litlington	Bassingbourn		0.17	
ZCE M 011	St Mary's Church	Bourn	Caldecote		0.58	
ZCE M 013	St Michael's Church	Caldecote	Caldecote	Church of England	0.23	10-20 years

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
ZCE M 073	All Saints and St Andrew's Church	Kingston	Caldecote		0.19	
ZCE M 082	St Peter and St Paul's Church	Little Gransden	Caldecote		0.33	
ZCE M 145	Great Gransden Cemetery	Little Gransden	Caldecote	Great Gransden Parish Council	0.25	n/a
ZCE M 089	St Mary's Church	Longstowe	Caldecote		0.40	
ZCE M 014	Cambourne Cemetery	Cambourne	Cambourne	Cambourne Parish Council	0.26	
ZCE M 012	St Peter's Church	Boxworth	Caxton & Papworth	Church of England	0.52	50+ years
ZCE M 019	St Andrew's Church	Caxton	Caxton & Papworth		0.43	
ZCE M 139	St Mary's Church	Conington	Caxton & Papworth		0.37	
ZCE M 024	St James's Church	Croxton	Caxton & Papworth	Church of England	0.49	20-50 years
ZCE M 029	Holy Trinity Church	Elsworth	Caxton & Papworth		0.77	
ZCE M 030	St John the Baptist's Church	Eltisley	Caxton & Papworth	Church of England	0.60	50+ years

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
ZCE M 046	St Botolph's Church	Graveley	Caxton & Papworth		0.31	
ZCE M 074	All Saint's Church	Knapwell	Caxton & Papworth		0.41	
ZCE M 106	St Peter's Church	Papworth Everard	Caxton & Papworth	Papworth Everard Parish Council	0.66	20-50 years
ZCE M 107	St John the Baptist's Church	Papworth St Agnes	Caxton & Papworth		0.26	
ZCE M 023	All Saints' Church	Cottenham	Cottenham		0.81	
ZCE M 022	Cottenham Dissenters' Cemetery	Cottenham	Cottenham	[Voluntary Group]	0.55	
ZCE M 108	All Saints' Church	Rampton	Cottenham		0.40	
ZCE M 002	St Peter's Church	Babraham	Duxford		0.38	
ZCE M 140	St John's Church	Duxford	Duxford		0.21	
ZCE M 028	St Peter's Church	Duxford	Duxford		0.17	
ZCE M 027	Duxford Parish Cemetery	Duxford	Duxford	Duxford Parish Council	0.55	5-10 years

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
ZCE M 064	St Mary and St John's Church	Hinxton	Duxford		0.43	
ZCE M 071	St Mary Magdalene Church	Ickleton	Duxford		0.39	
ZCE M 070	Ickleton Cemetery	Ickleton	Duxford	Ickleton Parish Council	0.40	1-5 years
ZCE M 105	St John the Baptist's Church	Pampisford	Duxford		0.38	
ZCE M 032	Church of St Mary the Virgin	Fen Ditton	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn		0.25	
ZCE M 031	Fen Ditton Cemetery	Fen Ditton	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn	Fen Ditton Parish Council	0.21	
ZCE M 038	St Vigor's Church	Fulbourn	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn		0.65	
ZCE M 039	Fulbourn Cemetery	Fulbourn	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn	Fulbourn Parish Council	0.83	20-50 years
ZCE M 052	St Nicholas's Church	Great Wilbraham	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn		0.67	
ZCE M 132	Great Wilbraham Parish Cemetery	Great Wilbraham	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn	Great Wilbraham Parish Council	0.36	50+ years
ZCE M 068	St Peter's Church	Horningsea	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn		0.40	

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
ZCE M 067	Horningsea Cemetery	Horningsea	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn	Horningsea Parish Council	0.10	
ZCE M 084	St John's Church	Little Wilbraham	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn		0.68	
ZCE M 116	St Mary's Church	Stow-cum-Quy	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn	Stow Cum Quy Parish Council	0.65	50+ years
ZCE M 119	All Saints' Church	Teversham	Fen Ditton & Fulbourn		0.25	
ZCE M 034	St Mary's Church	Fowlmere	Foxton		0.36	
ZCE M 035	Fowlmere Village Cemetery	Fowlmere	Foxton	Fowlmere Parish Council	0.39	50+ years
ZCE M 037	St Laurence's Church	Foxton	Foxton		0.46	
ZCE M 142	St Nicholas's Church, Little Chishill	Great and Little Chishill	Foxton		0.44	
ZCE M 047	St Swithun's Church, Great Chishill	Great and Little Chishill	Foxton		0.40	
ZCE M 062	Holy Trinity Church	Heydon	Foxton		0.55	
ZCE M 041	St Mary the Virgin Church	Gamlingay	Gamlingay		0.40	
ZCE M 129	St Marys Cemetery	Gamlingay	Gamlingay	Gamlingay Parish Council	2.63	50+ years

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
ZCE M 042	Stocks Lane Cemetery	Gamlingay	Gamlingay	Gamlingay Parish Council	0.80	No capacity
ZCE M 136	Huntingdon Road Cemetery and Crematorium	Dry Drayton	Girton	Cambridge City Council	6.55	Approximately 600 new grave spaces, with a further approximately 600 in existing graves
ZCE M 026	St Peter and St Paul's Church	Dry Drayton	Girton	Church of England	0.38	10-20 years
ZCE M 044	St Andrew's Church	Girton	Girton	Church of England	0.68	10-20 years
ZCE M 091	St Mary Magdalene Church	Madingley	Girton	Church of England	0.48	10-20 years
ZCE M 143	St Mary's Church	Hardwick	Hardwick	Church of England	0.25	50+ years
ZCE M 121	St Andrew's Church	Toft	Hardwick		0.24	
ZCE M 007	The Arbory Trust Woodland Burial Ground	Barton	Harston & Comberton	Arbory Trust	20.0	Circa 1,000 graves
ZCE M 138	St Mark's Burial Ground	Barton	Harston & Comberton		0.60	
ZCE M 008	St Peter's Church	Barton	Harston & Comberton	Church of England	0.38	10-20 years

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
ZCE M 020	St Mary's Church	Comberton	Harston & Comberton		0.92	
ZCE M 021	St Peter's Church	Coton	Harston & Comberton		0.29	
ZCE M 045	St Andrew and St Mary Church	Grantchester	Harston & Comberton	Church of England	0.60	50+ years
ZCE M 055	St Mary's Church	Harlton	Harston & Comberton	Church of England	0.45	50+ years
ZCE M 056	All Saints' Church	Harston	Harston & Comberton		0.33	
ZCE M 057	Harston Burial Ground	Harston	Harston & Comberton	Harston Parish Council	0.42	10-20 years
ZCE M 060	All Saints' Church	Haslingfield	Harston & Comberton	Church of England	0.70	1-5 years
ZCE M 059	St Edmund's Church	Hauxton	Harston & Comberton		0.26	
ZCE M 065	Histon & Impington Burial Ground	Histon	Histon & Impington	Histon & Impington Parish Council	1.10	
ZCE M 066	St Andrew's Church, Histon	Histon	Histon & Impington		0.35	
ZCE M 072	St Andrew's Church, Impington	Impington	Histon & Impington		0.38	

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
ZCE M 006	St Mary's Church	Bartlow	Linton	Church of England	0.44	50+ years
ZCE M 016	All Saints' Church	Castle Camps	Linton	Church of England	0.38	10-20 years
ZCE M 017	Castle Camps United Reformed Church	Castle Camps	Linton	Private	0.11	n/a
ZCE M 141	St Mary's Church	Great Abington	Linton		0.26	
ZCE M 063	Holy Trinity Church	Hildersham	Linton		0.30	
ZCE M 069	All Saints' Church	Horseheath	Linton	Horseheath Parish Council	0.41	50+ years
ZCE M 076	St Mary's Church	Linton	Linton		0.73	
ZCE M 077	Linton Cemetery	Linton	Linton	Linton Parish Council	1.21	5-10 years
ZCE M 080	St Mary's Church	Little Abington	Linton		0.46	
ZCE M 112	St Mary's Church	Shudy Camps	Linton		0.44	
ZCE M 086	All Saints Church	Longstanton	Longstanton		0.41	

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
ZCE M 088	St Michael's Church	Longstanton	Longstanton		0.17	
ZCE M 087	Longstanton Cemetery	Longstanton	Longstanton	Longstanton Parish Council	0.20	50+ years
ZCE M 101	St Andrew's Church	Oakington & Westwick	Longstanton		0.40	
ZCE M 100	Oakington Cemetery	Oakington & Westwick	Longstanton	Oakington & Westwick Parish Council	0.76	50+ years
ZCE M 092	All Saints' Church	Melbourn	Melbourn		0.46	
ZCE M 094	Melbourn URC South	Melbourn	Melbourn	Melbourn United Reformed Church	0.45	
ZCE M 134	New Road Cemetery	Melbourn	Melbourn	Melbourn Parish Council	1.10	50+ years
ZCE M 097	Holy Trinity Church	Meldreth	Melbourn		0.39	
ZCE M 096	Meldreth Cemetery	Meldreth	Melbourn	Meldreth Parish Council	0.37	5-10 years
ZCE M 111	All Saints' Church	Shepreth	Melbourn	Church of England	0.38	5-10 years
ZCE M 126	St Mary's Church	Whaddon	Melbourn		0.46	

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
ZCE M 075	All Saints' Church	Landbeach	Milton & Waterbeach		0.42	
ZCE M 099	All Saints' Church	Milton	Milton & Waterbeach		0.24	
ZCE M 098	Milton Cemetery	Milton	Milton & Waterbeach	Milton Parish Council	0.60	20-50 years
ZCE M 133	St John's Church	Waterbeach	Milton & Waterbeach		0.23	
ZCE M 122	Waterbeach Cemetery	Waterbeach	Milton & Waterbeach	Waterbeach Parish Council	1.43	50+ years
ZCE M 104	St Mary's Church	Over	Over & Willingham		0.42	
ZCE M 103	Over Baptist Cemetery	Over	Over & Willingham		0.38	
ZCE M 130	St Mary and All Saints Church	Willingham	Over & Willingham	Willingham Parish Council	1.08	5-10 years
ZCE M 109	Cambridge Road Cemetery	Sawston	Sawston	Sawston Parish Council	1.04	
ZCE M 110	St Mary's Church	Sawston	Sawston		0.63	
ZCE M 051	St Mary's Church	Great Shelford	Shelford		0.53	
ZCE M 050	Great Shelford Cemetery	Great Shelford	Shelford	Great Shelford	0.58	10-20 years

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
				Parish Council		
ZCE M 083	All Saints' Church	Little Shelford	Shelford		0.54	
ZCE M 113	Stapleford Cemetery	Stapleford	Shelford	Stapleford Parish Council	0.80	
ZCE M 114	St Andrews Church	Stapleford	Shelford		0.27	
ZCE M 033	St Mary's Church	Fen Drayton	Swavesey	Church of England	0.29	20-50 years
ZCE M 085	All Saints' Church	Lolworth	Swavesey	Church of England	0.32	20-50 years
ZCE M 135	Nonconformist Cemetery	Swavesey	Swavesey	Swavesey Nonconformist Cemetery Trustees	0.22	50+ years
ZCE M 117	St Andrew's Church	Swavesey	Swavesey	Church of England	0.59	5-10 years
ZCE M 137	St Michael's Church	Abington Pigotts	The Mordens		0.25	
ZCE M 001	St Nicholas's Church	Arrington	The Mordens		0.32	
ZCE M 025	All Saint's Church	Croydon	The Mordens		0.25	
ZCE M 053	Guilden Morden Cemetery	Guilden Morden	The Mordens	Guilden Morden	0.57	

Ref	Name	Place	Ward	Manager	Area (hectares)	Estimated capacity
				Parish Council		
ZCE M 054	St Mary's Church	Guilden Morden	The Mordens		0.34	
ZCE M 115	St Peter and St Paul's Church	Steeple Morden	The Mordens		0.65	
ZCE M 118	St Giles's Church	Tadlow	The Mordens		0.57	
ZCE M 061	All Saints' Churchyard	Wendy	The Mordens		0.22	
ZCE M 147	St Margaret's Church	Newton	Whittlesford		0.27	
ZCE M 120	St George's Church	Thriplow	Whittlesford		0.45	
ZCE M 128	St Mary and St Andrew's Church	Whittlesford	Whittlesford		0.61	
ZCE M 127	Whittlesford Parish Cemetery	Whittlesford	Whittlesford	Whittlesford Parish Council	0.23	10-20 years

Appendix 2 Consultation Statement

Statement of Consultation: Greater Cambridge Burial Study

Background:

The first part of the Burial Grounds Study required us to establish a baseline of burial space provision across Greater Cambridge. With no prior study completed to indicate who managed burial spaces across the study area, an engagement strategy needed to be developed to ensure the different type of stakeholders were identified to help inform existing capacity and current needs for burial space in Greater Cambridge. An understanding of what management models have been applied in different circumstances also had to be developed to support stage 3 of the project. The engagement scoping exercise identified the need to contact Parish Councils, churches and other faith related facilities, trusts, Local Authorities, and other private sector organisations who maintained these spaces.

Stakeholder Engagement:

Before any wider engagement with services providers had commenced, meetings were held with GCSP, Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Officers to finalise the engagement strategy and collate contact information for burial grounds. During the data collection period bespoke surveys were sent out to Parish Councils, Churches, Trusts, Local Authority, and Private Sector organisations (See Appendix A) to source information on the current capacity of existing burial and grounds along with the levels of funerary services and other requirement for these spaces. In the city, the majority of burial spaces are managed by the City Council with officers providing information around the existing capacity and management of these spaces. In South Cambridgeshire, the majority of Parishes have burial ground provision including churchyards, cemeteries. Surveys were therefore distributed to Parish Councils, church leaders to obtain information around the capacity and management of their respective burial grounds. A survey was also distributed to Faith leaders across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to gain an understanding of the burial and funerary requirements of these faiths' groups and the capacity of existing facilities for burial, cremation or interment.

During the data collection period surveys were also distributed to various non-religious burial space providers, crematoria and funeral directors, including those located outside of the administrative boundary of Greater Cambridge. This allowed for the study to take into account the current levels of residents of Greater Cambridge who may rely on surrounding administrative areas for particular burial services along with their management arrangements.

Provided below is a more in-depth overview of the various surveys that were circulated during the data collection period and a summary of the responses received.

Burial Grounds Survey:

The purpose of the burial grounds survey was to allow for respective Parish Councils, Churches, Trusts, Local Authority, and Private Sector organisations to provide updated information on the existing and potential future capacity for the burial grounds they manage as well as providing further detail around the maintenance and management of these spaces. In late March, the GCSP emailed all of the Parish Councils to ask them to complete a short survey around the burial provision in their Parish. A short article was also published in the March 2026 Parish E-Bulletin that provided further detail about the study. The City Council, which manages the majority of burial spaces in Cambridge, including Cambridge Crematorium, was asked to complete surveys for each of their respective active burial spaces.

The initial deadline was set for Parishes to respond on the 10th of April. In total, 20 responded by this date. It was agreed with GCSP that the data collection period would be extended until the end of April to allow for further responses to be received. To support in collating further responses, the SCDC Town and Parish Council Liaison Officer also contacted all outstanding Parish Councils to request for them to respond. Following this we received an additional 35 representations, meaning we had a total response from 54% of Parishes. It was raised by some Parish Councils in response to this consultation that they did not complete the survey due to the not having any burial grounds within their parish boundaries. The Parishes who notified us of this were Thriplow and Heathfield, South Trumpington and Orchard Park. The Parish Council had indicated that they were not responsible for managing burial grounds in the Parish and had provided alternative Parochial Church Council and Reverend contacts for the Churchyards within their parish. Emails were also sent to the Arbory Trust, Barton and Brinkley Woodland Cemetery to request information around their woodland burial grounds, but no responses have been received.

Burial Requirements Survey:

In order to gain a greater understanding of the burial practices and funeral practices of all faiths across Greater Cambridge, and to understand whether the needs of these different faiths were being met locally, it was agreed to widen the survey to include the regional offices of all known faith groups to find out their requirements for the residents within Greater Cambridge.

Using a directory of faith group contacts covering not just Greater Cambridge but also Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, a survey was sent out 24th of April to all interfaith contacts as listed in Appendix A. Where a direct email address was not available, response forms were completed on their respective websites. The reason for contacting faith leaders across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough was to establish whether the groups they manage have members within the Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire areas. Following the circulation of the survey requesting for faith leaders' inputs there were some responses

indicating that they were not responsible for any burial or funeral services, to which records were updated reflect this. As a result of us circulating this contact with faith leaders we received five responses. These allowed a deeper understanding of burial requirements of Jewish communities and some understanding of Hindu groups and Jains.

Undertakers and Crematoria Survey:

During the course of the data collection period, Undertakers were also contacted across the city and South Cambridgeshire and surrounding authorities including Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, East Cambridgeshire to complete a short survey to establish the needs of residents and trends in burial practices (see appendix A). Unfortunately, we did not receive any responses from these during the course of the data collection period.

Cambridge City Council were able to provide updated information on the existing capacity at Cambridge Crematorium and Huntingdon Road Cemetery and future capacity at these sites. Three crematoria that fall outside of Greater Cambridge including Huntingdon Cemetery & Crematorium, Cam Valley Crematorium and North Hertfordshire Memorial Park and Crematorium were also contacted to confirm whether any of their existing provision serves Greater Cambridge. Responses were received from Huntingdon Crematorium and Cambridge Crematorium and this supported the study in establishing approximate numbers of cremations from the Greater Cambridge area, as well as information on reasons for choice and potential future trends.

Conclusion:

The data collected throughout the completion of stage 1 allowed for a detailed review to be conducted that looks at the current provision of burial grounds in Greater Cambridge and the capacity to meet current and future needs (see Section 3). The outputs of the study have provided useful evidence to support the policy requirement for burial space in the Greater Cambridge Local Plan and requirements to deliver this space at specific strategic sites. The Greater Cambridge Local Plan Infrastructure Delivery Plan has also been updated to reflect identified site-specific requirements that have been identified as part of the strategy and set out detailed costs to provide these facilities.

Appendix A- List of Consultees

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service

- Bruce Waller- Principal Planning Policy Officer
- Alfie Gibbs- Policy Planner, Planning Strategy and Economy Team

Cambridge City Council

- Alistair Wilson- Assistant Director, Public Realm and Environment
- Karen Jeckell- Deputy Operations Manager

South Cambridgeshire District Council

- Clare Gibbons (CG) (Growth Manager – Communities SCDC)
- Ryan Coetsee (RC) (Growth Project Officer SCDC)
- Jack Bullimore- Town and Parish Council Liaison Officer

South Cambridgeshire Parish Councils

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| • Abington Piggotts | • Caxton |
| • Arrington | • Childerley |
| • Babraham | • Comberton |
| • Balsham | • Conington |
| • Bar Hill | • Coton |
| • Barrington | • Cottenham |
| • Bartlow | • Croxton |
| • Barton | • Croydon |
| • Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth | • Dry Drayton |
| • Bourn | • Duxford |
| • Boxworth | • Elsworth |
| • Caldecote | • Eltisley |
| • Cambourne | • Fen Ditton |
| • Carlton-cum-Willingham | • Fen Drayton |
| • Castle Camps | • Fowlmere |

- Foxton
- Fulbourn
- Gamlingay
- Girton
- Grantchester
- Graveley
- Great Abington
- Great & Little Chishill
- Great & Little Eversden
- Great Shelford
- Great Wilbraham
- Guilden Morden
- Hardwick
- Harlton
- Harston
- Haslingfield
- Hatley
- Hauxton
- Heydon
- Hildersham
- Hinxton
- Histon & Impington
- Horningsea
- Horseheath
- Ickleton
- Kingston
- Knapwell
- Landbeach
- Linton
- Litlington
- Little Abington
- Little Gransden
- Little Shelford
- Little Wilbraham & Six-Mile-Bottom
- Lolworth
- Longstanton
- Longstowe
- Madingley
- Melbourn
- Meldreth
- Milton
- Newton
- Northstowe
- Oakington & Westwick
- Orchard Park
- Orwell
- Over
- Pampisford
- Papworth Everard
- Papworth St Agnes
- Rampton
- Sawston
- Shepreth
- Shingay-cum-Wendy
- Shudy Camps
- South Trumpington
- Stapleford
- Steeple Morden
- Stow-cum-Quy
- Swavesey
- Tadlow
- Teversham

- Thriplow & Heathfield
- Toft
- Waterbeach
- West Wickham
- West Wratting
- Weston Colville
- Whaddon
- Whittlesford
- Willingham
- Wimpole

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Interfaith Directory Contact List

City Church Directory

- Mill Road Baptist Church
- Iglesia Ni Cristo
- St Clement's
- St Thomas' Cambridge
- City of Zion
- St Philip Howard
- Grace Church
- Rock Baptist Church
- The Greater Bibleway Gospel Church, Cambridge
- Hope Church Chesterton (St Georges)
- St Mary and Michael, Trumpington, Cambridge
- St Bene't's
- St James
- Wesley Methodist Church
- St Paul's
- Castle Street Methodist Church
- St Johns Orchard Park
- St Augustine
- St Giles'
- St Luke's
- St Vincent de Paul
- Kingsgate Community Church
- Queen Edith Chapel
- St Andrew the Great
- St Mark's
- Great St Mary's
- The Salvation Army
- Christ Church, Cambridge
- Christ the Redeemer
- City of David Church
- St Matthew's
- St John the Apostle Romanian Orthodox Church
- Faith Community Church
- St Barnabas
- Arbury Road Baptist Church
- Barnwell Baptist Church
- C3 Church
- Cambridge Hartington Grove Quaker meeting
- Cambridge Jesus Lane Quaker Meeting
- Cambridge Vineyard
- Cherry Hinton Baptist Church
- Chesterton Methodist Church

- Church of the Good Shepherd
- Downing Place United Reformed Church
- Eden Baptist Church
- Fulbourn United Reformed Church
- Kings Church
- New Life Church
- Our Lady and the English Martyrs
- St Andrew's Cherry Hinton
- St Andrew's, Chesterton
- St Botolph's
- St John the Evangelist
- St Martin's and St Thomas's
- St Philip's
- United Christian church
- Zion Baptist Church
- St Andrew's Street Baptist Church
- St George's
- Holy Trinity
- Little Saint Mary's Church, Cambridge
- St Laurence's
- Faith Life Church
- Christ Church, Trumpington
- Apostolic Church of United Nations
- North Arbury Chapel (Calvary Chapel Cambridge)
- Roseford Chapel
- Cambridge Bethel Pentecostal Church
- Cambridge Chinese Christian Church
- Cambridge Korean Church
- Cambridge Alliance Church
- Cambridge Oast House Worshipping group
- Memorial Unitarian Church
- Cambridge Presbyterian Church
- Cambridge Open Church (translation)
- Ebenezer Pentecostal Church Cambridge
- Indian Pentecostal Church Cambridge
- Orthodox Church of St Athanasios
- Christadelphian Hall
- Arbury Community Church
- German Lutheran Church
- St Edward King and Martyr
- Cambridge Seventh-Day Adventist Church

South Cambridgeshire Church Directory

- Holy Trinity, Hildersham
- St Andrew, West Wrattling
- St Mary the Virgin, Great Abington
- St Mary, Little Abington
- St Mary, West Wickham
- St Mary, Weston Colville
- Holy Trinity, Balsham
- All Saints, Wendy
- St Catherine, Litlington
- St Mary and St Giles, Guilden Morden
- St Michael & All Angels, Abington Pigotts

- St Peter & Paul, Steeple Morden
- All Saints, Longstanton
- St Andrew, Swavesey
- St Mary's, Over
- St Mary & All Saints, Willingham
- St Mary the Virgin, Sawston
- St Peter, Babraham
- Haslingfield Methodist Church
- St John the Evangelist, Little Wilbraham
- St Vigor, Fulbourn
- St Nicholas, Great Wilbraham
- All Saints, Teversham
- Church of St. Peter, Horningsea
- St Mary the Virgin, Fen Ditton
- Orwell Methodist Church
- St Andrew & Mary, Grantchester
- Histon Methodist Church
- All Saints, Barrington
- All Saints, Croydon-cum-Clopton
- St Andrew, Orwell
- St Nicholas, Arrington
- Church of St Andrew, Wimpole
- All Saints, Harston
- St Edmund, Hauxton
- St Margaret of Antioch, Newton
- All Saints & St Andrew, Kingston
- All Saints, Knapwell
- All Saints, Lolworth
- Holy Trinity, Elsworth
- St Andrew, Caxton
- St Helena & Mary, Bourn
- St Mary the Virgin, Longstowe
- St Mary, Conington
- St Peter, Boxworth
- St Peter, Papworth Everard
- St Mary and St John Church, Hinxton
- St Mary Magdalene Church, Ickleton
- St Peter, Duxford
- All Saints, Castle Camps
- All Saints, Horseheath
- St Mary, Shudy Camps
- St Mary the Virgin, Great Shelford
- All Saints, Melbourn
- Holy Trinity, Meldreth
- All Saints, Shepreth
- St George, Thriplow
- St Laurence, Foxton
- St Mary, Fowlmere
- All Saints, Landbeach
- St John the Evangelist, Waterbeach
- Girton Baptist Church
- St Mary & Andrew, Whittlesford
- Melbourn United Reformed
- Bassingbourne United Reformed Church
- Buntingford United Reformed Church
- Great Chishill United Reformed Church
- Harston Baptist Church
- All Saints, Little Shelford
- St Andrew, Oakington
- All Saints, Cottenham
- St Mary's, Linton

- Chapels of St James the Greater, Hatley St George
- St Mary the Virgin, Gamlingay
- St Mary's, Everton
- Over Methodist Church
- St Andrew, Histon
- St Andrew, Impington
- St Peter & Paul, Little Gransden
- St Bartholomew, Great Gransden
- St James, Waresley
- St Margaret of Antioch, Abbotsley
- Christ Church South Cambs
- Great Shelford Free Church (Baptist)
- Bethel Baptist Church, Swavesey
- Linton Free Church
- Cottenham Baptist Church
- St John the Baptist, Pampisford
- Peacehaven Baptist Church
- Histon Baptist Church
- St Mary Magdalene, Madingley
- St Andrew, Girton
- Whittlesford United Reformed Church
- Sawston Free Church
- St Mary's, Bartlow
- Comberton Baptist Church
- Guilden Morden Cong. Church
- St Andrew, Stapleford
- Waterbeach Salvation Army
- Great Chishill United Reformed
- Melbourn Baptist Church
- Christ Church Cambourne
- St Peter, Carlton
- St Augustine, Burrough Green
- St Mary's, Brinkley
- St Mary's, Dullingham
- St Peter's, Stetchworth
- St Mary-the-Less, Westley Waterless
- Willingham Baptist Church
- Cambridge New Apostolic Church
- Waterbeach Baptist Church
- Hardwick Evangelical Church
- Litlington Congregational Church
- St Mary, Stow-cum-Quy
- Holy Trinity, Bottisham
- St James, Lode with Longmeadow
- St Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck
- St Mary's, Swaffham Prior
- Gamlingay Baptist Church
- All Saints, Milton
- St Mary, Whaddon
- St Peter & Paul, Bassingbourn
- Cambourne Church
- Barton Baptist Church
- All Saints, Rampton
- Bar Hill Church
- Hope Community Church, Teversham
- Oakington Baptist Chapel
- Our Lady of Lourdes, Sawston
- Over Baptist Church
- Swavesey Particular Baptist Chapel
- St Andrew, Toft
- All Saints, Haslingfield

- Assumption of Mary, Harlton
- St Peter, Barton
- St Peter, Coton
- Childerley Hall Chapel
- St Mary's, Comberton
- St Michael & All Angels, Caldecote
- St Mary, Hardwick
- St Peter & Paul, Dry Drayton
- St Helen's, Little Eversden
- St Mary, Great Eversden

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Interfaith Directory

- Cambridge Bahá'í Community
- Cambridge University Bahá'í Society
- Cambridge Amaravati Group
- Cambridge Buddhist Centre
- Cambridge Gaia House Meditation Groups
- Cambridge Serene Reflection Meditation Group
- Cambridge University Buddhist Society
- Drolma Buddhist Centre
- Ely Diamond Way Buddhist Group
- Peterborough Gaia House Meditation Groups
- Samatha Buddhist Meditation Group
- Thich Nhat Hanh Group (Community of Interbeings) Cambridgeshire
- Wake up Cambridge
- Cambridge Gurdwara
- Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara Peterborough
- Bharat Hindu Samaj
- Cambridge Hindu Association
- Cambridge Hindu Forum (CHF)
- Cambridge University Hindu Cultural Society
- Indian Cultural Society, Cambridge
- Zion Pentecostal Church
- CamCare UK
- Hindu Society of Northstowe
- Cambourne Vedic Heritage
- 62 Gladstone Street
- Abu Bakr Siddiq Jamia Mosque
- Ahmadi Muslim Peterborough
- Ahmadiyya Muslims of Cambridge
- Cambridge Muslim College
- Cambourne Crescent
- Cambridge Central Mosque
- Cambridge Crescent
- Cambridge Muslim Academy
- Cambridge University Islamic Society
- Ely Islamic Centre
- Jamia Masjid Faizan E Madina Mosque
- Huntingdon Muslim Community Association
- Husaini Islamic Centre
- Imam Ridha Center
- ARU Islamic Society Cambridge
- Jamia Mosque Huntingdon
- Masjid Darassalaam (& Madina Madrassa and Spiritual Centre)
- Madina Madrassa and Spiritual Centre

- Cambridge Islamic Centre and Masjid Al-Ikhlās
- Masjid Ghousia
- Masjid Khadijah
- Prayer and Education Centre of St Ives & Huntingdon
- Salah ad-Din Mosque
- University of Cambridge Islamic Society
- ICC Peterborough Mosque and Islamic Centre
- Qasimani Madrassa
- Newmarket Islamic Cultural Centre (Five Bells Mosque)
- Omar Faruque Mosque
- Kingdom Hall Stanley Road
- Beth Shalom Reform Synagogue
- Cambridge Jewish Residents Association
- Cambridge Jewish Community Support
- Cambridge Traditional Jewish Congregation
- Cambridge University Jewish Society
- Chabad of Cambridge
- Peterborough Liberal Jewish Community
- Indian Pentecostal Church Zion

Undertakers

- Jeremy Rule, Royston
- Newlings, Royston
- Peasgood and Skeates, Cambridge
- H J Paintin, Linton
- Woodland Wishes, Fulbourn
- Waterbeach Funeral Service, Willingham
- R J Pepper, Cottenham
- F W Cook, Willingham
- Willingham Funeral Service, Willingham
- Richard Stebbings, Impington
- Woodman/ Dignity, Biggleswade
- E H Crouch/ Dignity, Baldock
- Shires/ CPJ Field, Baldock
- Shire / CPJ Field, Sandy
- T L Cobbold/ Dignity St Neots
- Kingfisher St Neots
- Co-op Mill Road, Cambridge
- Weyman/ Dignity, Petersfield, Cambridge
- Dennis Easton/Central Coop, St Ives
- William Peacock/ Dignity, Huntingdon
- Co-op, Newmarket
- Central Co-op, St Neots

Crematoria

- Cam Valley
- Huntingdon

- Hitchin

Natural Burial Ground

- Arbury Trust, Barton
- Brinkley Woodland Cemetery

