

## Have your say on the future of your area

Help create the vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Spatial Framework

Start

[Find out more](#)



Your responses will help us shape policy

### Why we would like to hear from you

**The Oxford-Cambridge Arc (the Arc)** is a globally significant area, comprising five ceremonial counties: Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire. The Arc has the potential to be one of the most prosperous, innovative and sustainable economic areas in the world.

To achieve this ambition, in February 2021 the government announced the **intention to create a Spatial Framework, a long-term plan for sustainable growth in the Arc**, to help create thousands of jobs, drive investment, protect and enhance the environment, and provide infrastructure to the area. The government is now seeking views to help create a vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Spatial Framework.

On this website, you will have the **opportunity to provide your views** on what the vision for the future growth of the Arc should be to 2050, to be delivered through the Spatial Framework. You can also provide your views on the government's initial work to set the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal, which will place sustainability at the heart of the Spatial Framework.

You can find out more about the Arc and the government's ambition for it [here](#).

**Contribute to the future of the Oxford-Cambridge Arc now.**


Creating the vision for the Arc


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[Your vision for the Arc](#)

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What is your positive vision for the Arc in the future?

**1. What kind of place could it be? What words come to mind?**

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- Sustainable
- Sense of community
- Equal / Inclusive
- Progressive
- Collaborates for better outcomes
- More life opportunities
- Better environment
- Eco-friendly
- Connected
- Better transport
- Better infrastructure
- Thriving economy
- Better place
- Better homes
- More available homes
- More affordable homes
- Other - please specify below

**2. If you can, we would love you to tell us more about your vision for the Arc to 2050. (optional)**

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Share your aspirations for the area

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

**3. How do you feel overall about the future of the Arc? What are your hopes and fears? (optional)**

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Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

4. What do you think are the most important things that the Spatial Framework needs to do, as a strategic plan, to make the most of the area's unique potential for economic growth to 2050 and beyond?

Work at an Arc-wide level to tackle shared issues/ opportunities on:

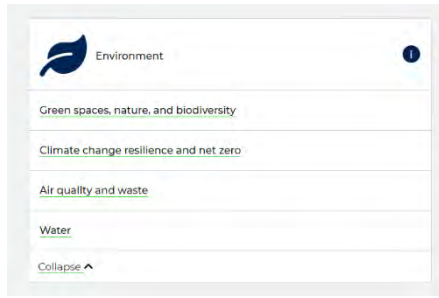
- Environment
- Economy
- Connectivity and growth
- Place-making
- Supporting monitoring and delivery

5. If there is anything you would like to add, we would love you to tell us.

(optional)

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review



## Green spaces, nature, and biodiversity

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

1. Making sure the natural environment is protected, restored, and improved.

For example, improving new and existing green spaces.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

2. Making sure the most is made of the natural environment and that all people can have access to it.

For example, making improvements to woodlands, wetland, green space and water and making sure people can visit them if they want to.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

3. Making sure new growth leaves the environment in a better state than before.

For example, keeping land in its natural state, and making it more wild, where appropriate.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

4. Anything else to add about your vision for green and blue spaces, nature, and biodiversity? (optional)

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic

## Climate change resilience and net zero

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

**1. Making sure new development helps to achieve net zero carbon at an Arc level towards national net zero targets.**

For example, through good design, sustainable travel choices, renewable energy and trapping carbon.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

**2. Making sure that new development can respond to the current and future effects of climate change.**

For example, through new carbon emissions, water use, waste disposal and renewable energy targets.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

**3. Anything else to add about your vision for climate change and/or the contribution to net zero? (optional)**

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic

## Air quality and waste

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

### 1. Making sure new development helps to improve air quality within the Arc.

For example, through high quality design, low emission zones and sustainable transport.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

### 2. Taking a combined approach to air quality across the Arc.

For example, through being careful about where each land uses should go, supporting journeys via public transport and active travel and enhancing green spaces and routes across the area.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

### 3. Making better use of resources and managing waste.

For example, promoting the re-use of materials, and protecting and improving soil quality and minerals.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

### 4. Anything else to add about your vision for air quality and waste?

(optional)

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic



## Water

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

1. Promoting a combined approach to managing water across the Arc, through protecting water resources, improving water quality and reducing the risk of flooding.

For example, treating wastewater, improving water storage, and reusing surface runoff.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

2. Making sure new development reduces existing flood risk and is resilient to future flooding.

For example, through tree planting and multifunctional sustainable drainage.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

3. Improving water availability and cutting the risk of drought.

For example, through new sustainable water resources and infrastructure, and measures which reduce water use.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

4. Anything else to add about your vision for water? (optional)

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic



Economy



Education and training

Jobs and businesses

Collapse ^

## Education and training

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

1. Making sure the Arc keeps growing as a place of educational excellence, partnership and research.

For example, through growth which helps existing universities and colleges.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

2. Making sure the economic benefits of growth are felt by all communities within the Arc.

For example, through putting new education and training facilities in places where more people can easily get to go to them.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

3. Anything else to add about your vision for education and training?

(optional)

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic



## Jobs and businesses

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

**1. Making sure that the Arc keeps growing as a place for business, science and technology, and innovation.**

For example, through putting these types of new workspaces in places where they can make the most of cross-sector collaboration.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

**2. Making sure that existing industries keep growing within the Arc.**

For example, through putting industries in the best places to suit their needs.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

**3. Making sure the Arc builds upon and grows its skills, expertise and capabilities.**

For example, through making sure people can get around easily to bring the right people to the right job locations.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

**4. Making sure that the right types of buildings are provided in the Arc so that businesses can keep growing as well as supporting the green economy.**

For example, through building new flexible and adaptable workspaces meeting the needs of a range of different businesses of different sizes.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

**5. Anything else to add about your vision for jobs and businesses?**

(optional)

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic

Connectivity and Infrastructure i

[Infrastructure](#)

[New development](#)

[Getting around](#)

[Collapse ^](#)

## Infrastructure

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

**1. Making sure planning takes a combined approach to new development by providing the infrastructure and services required at the right time to support growth.**

For example, by planning for the need for utilities (e.g. water, energy, waste) and community infrastructure (e.g. schools, hospitals GP surgeries).



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

**2. Making sure new development makes the most of existing resources.**

For example, through making sure that materials are reused, renewable energy supplies are used, and waste is properly planned for.



Not



Less



Neutral



Important



Very

**3. Making sure that digital infrastructure is put in at the same time as other development takes place.**

For example, speeding up the fitting of high-speed broadband to support home-based work and help new ways of learning.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

**4. Anything else to add about your vision for infrastructure?** (optional)

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic

## New development

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

### 1. Making sure growth within the Arc is place around areas with better transport links.

For example, through having more development around stations and bus routes, supported by cycling and walking tracks.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

### 2. Making sure new development cuts down the need to travel around the local area.

For example, through promoting safe and easy walking and cycling routes to town centres, shops and schools.



Not



Less



Neutral



Important



Very

### 3. Making sure new developments reduce existing and future infrastructure demand and resources used.

For example, making sure that designs leave enough space for existing and future measures which reduce energy and water use, and cut down on waste.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

### 4. Making sure sustainable transport principles are included in the design of new developments.

For example, by designing new developments in a way that enables people to walk or cycle all or part of their journeys.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

### 5. Anything else to add about new developments in the context of connectivity and infrastructure? (optional)

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic

## Getting around

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

**1. Creating better transport connections across the Arc and making sure they are provided in a way which supports sustainable new growth.**

For example, planning for public transport and physical transport infrastructure requirements.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

**2. Making sure there are more opportunities for active travel such as walking and cycling across the Arc.**

For example, wider pavements, segregated cycle lanes, improved network of cycle lanes, and better pedestrian crossings.



Not



Less



Neutral



Important



Very

**3. Making sure that there is the right form of public transport in the right areas across the Arc and can be used by all travellers, including people with any particular needs.**



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

**4. Cutting down on the impact of cars and other private vehicles within the Arc.**

For example, by supporting more sustainable forms of private travel like cycling.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important



**5. Anything else to add about your vision of getting around? (optional)**

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic


Place-making


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[Location of growth](#)

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[Homes in your area](#)

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[Design of new developments and streets](#)

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[Collapse](#) ^

## Location of growth

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

1. Making sure new developments are built in the most sustainable locations, for the environment, the economy and communities.

For example, by developing brownfield redevelopment and making sure they have good access to town centres, shops and schools.

Not important

Less important

Neutral

Important

Very important

2. Anything else to add about your vision for location of growth? (optional)

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

## Homes in your area

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

### 1. Ensuring the right types of housing are delivered in the right locations to meet the needs of both renters and buyers.

For example, family houses, first-time buyers, specialist housing, student accommodation and opportunities for people to build their own homes.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

### 2. Increasing the amount and availability of affordable homes within the Arc.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

### 3. Anything else to add about your vision for homes in your area? (optional)

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic



## Design of new developments and streets

Thinking about your vision for the future of the area, how important is it that the Spatial Framework focuses on:

1. Making sure a coordinated approach is taken to the design and delivery of new developments to ensure they are supported by new and existing infrastructure.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

2. Making sure the environment and sustainability is at the heart of new developments.

For example, by improving the built and natural environment, making sure development complements surrounding areas, and is supported by the right level of infrastructure.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

3. Making sure there is the right mix of uses in new developments to help make high quality and thriving new places.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

4. Making sure new developments help support healthy lifestyles for existing and future communities.

For example, through walking and cycling, high quality green spaces, and accessible streets.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important

5. Making sure new developments promote resilience to climate change.

For example, through green roofs, managing surface water, tree planting, storing rainwater and new green spaces.



Not important



Less important



Neutral



Important



Very important


6. Anything else to add about your vision for the design of new developments and streets? *(optional)*

Why do you feel this way? What ideas do you have?

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic

 Delivering the Spatial Framework 1

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[Engaging communities](#)

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[Our commitment to data, evidence and digital tools](#)

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[How we will monitor and deliver the Framework](#)

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[Collapse ^](#)

## Engaging communities

Please answer the following questions:

1. How can government engage with the public better? Rank these by dragging the boxes in priority order or by assigning an order number in the drop-down (1=highest priority).

- Communication materials
- Social listening
- Focus groups
- 1-1 interviews and experiments
- Ethnography
- Citizen assemblies and citizen juries
- Other types of engagement

2. Before this consultation, I was familiar with the area known as the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.

- Yes  
 No

3. Do you have anything else to add on engaging communities? (optional)

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

## Our commitment to data, evidence and digital tools

Please answer the following questions:

1. To what extent do you agree with our proposed approach on data and evidence?



Strongly disagree



Disagree



Neutral



Agree



Strongly agree

2. Do you have anything else to add on data, evidence and digital tools?  
(optional)

## How we will monitor and deliver the Framework

Please answer the following questions:

1. To what extent do you agree with our proposed approach on delivery and funding?



Strongly disagree



Disagree



Neutral



Agree



Strongly agree

2. Do you have anything else to add on delivery and funding? (optional)

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

3. To what extent do you agree with our proposed approach on monitoring and evaluation?



Strongly disagree



Disagree



Neutral



Agree




Strongly agree

4. Do you have anything else to add on monitoring and evaluation? (optional)

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

Save and review

+ Add another topic

 Scoping report for Sustainability Appraisal 1

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[Scoping report for Sustainability Appraisal](#)

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[Collapse ^](#)

## Scoping report for Sustainability Appraisal

Please answer the following questions:

1. To what extent do you agree with the key strategic issues and opportunities in the proposed scope for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Spatial Framework?



Strongly disagree



Disagree



Neutral



Agree



Strongly agree

2. Are there any other strategic issues and/or opportunities that need to be considered in the appraisal? *(optional)*

3. Are you aware of any additional strategic data that we should take into account as part of the sustainability appraisal? *(optional)*

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)

4. Are you aware of any additional plans or programmes you think will be important to consider within the sustainability appraisal? *(optional)*

Maximum 500 characters (500 left)



5. To what extent do you agree with our approach to the Sustainability Appraisal?



Strongly disagree



Disagree



Neutral



Agree



Strongly agree

Save and review