

4 landscape and conservation

The key points of the existing conservation programme include:

- retention of woodland plantations in parts of the public realm and wider landscape
- implementation of a sustainable drainage system incorporating balancing ponds that will help improve the quality of local watercourses
- creation of a Country Park involving the planting of new woodland
- creation of an Eco-park, proposed to be entrusted to the care of the Wildlife Trust
- retention and creation of wildlife habitat in the form of woodland, hedgerows and grassland helping to sustain populations of mammals, birds and insects



Alongside the development of a new neighbourhood is a programme of environmental conservation and enhancement. Significant landscape features will be incorporated into a landscape structure which connects different parts of the new neighbourhood to the countryside. In order to integrate development into the landscape the proposed revision aims to:

- Improve direct and visual connection with the countryside by cutting splays into the edges of the built areas at the end of the streets. This helps to integrate the settlement visually into the landscape. It physically extends the countryside into the settlement allowing access and views to the countryside from the settlement
- Deliberately vary the edge treatment but use long stretches of either built or planted edge to avoid fragmentation and help integrate development into the landscape by visual similarity with hedges and woodland
- Increase areas of woodland planting and include areas of rough grassland on the settlement edges. This would help integration of the development in the landscape and increase the range of plant species and area of habitat
- Provide new avenue planting along the main north south route of Upper Cambourne to emphasize its importance and extend planting into the settlement
- Provide views of the countryside or landscape features as the terminal view of most routes to reinforce connection with the wider landscape
- Connect the wider landscape with the main Green in Upper Cambourne with a number of Greenways with wide verges, hedges and tree planting
- Highlight the fine mature oak on the west end of the east-west Greenway in Upper Cambourne as the terminal feature looking down the route

