



Fenland Monitoring Report

January 2015



Fenland Monitoring Report 2013 - 2014

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Introduction

- 1.1 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, Regulation 34 requires Local Planning Authorities to produce an Authorities' Monitoring Report (AMR). This AMR is structured around meeting the requirements of Regulation 34.
- 1.2 This will be the last monitoring report based on the 1993 Local Plan. The current Fenland District-Wide Local Plan adopted in August 1993 has now been replaced by the Fenland Local Plan, adopted in May 2014. However, this monitoring report covers the period between 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 and so the policies of the newly adopted Fenland Local Plan will be assessed in the next monitoring period (2014/15).
- 1.3 The source of the information used in this report is Fenland District Council or from the Cambridgeshire County Council Research and Monitoring team unless otherwise stated.

Period Covered

- 1.4 This AMR covers the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014, and thereafter refer to as the monitoring period.

Key findings of the 2014 Monitoring Report

- 1.5 The following summarises the key findings of this AMR:
 - Fenland Local Plan – during 2013/14, it completed public examination and the Inspector issued her report. (The Plan was subsequently adopted post AMR period, in May 2014);
 - A continued upward trend of net dwelling completions to 338, the highest net completion total since 2007-08, though well below peaks of last 10-15 years;
 - Average density of new housing development remains at around 30 dwellings per hectare;
 - There were 54 affordable housing completions (gross);
 - There was about 4,787 sq.m of additional business floor space created in the district in 2013/14.
 - Additional 7,113 sq m of “town centre uses” were built in the district.

Detailed Portrait of Fenland

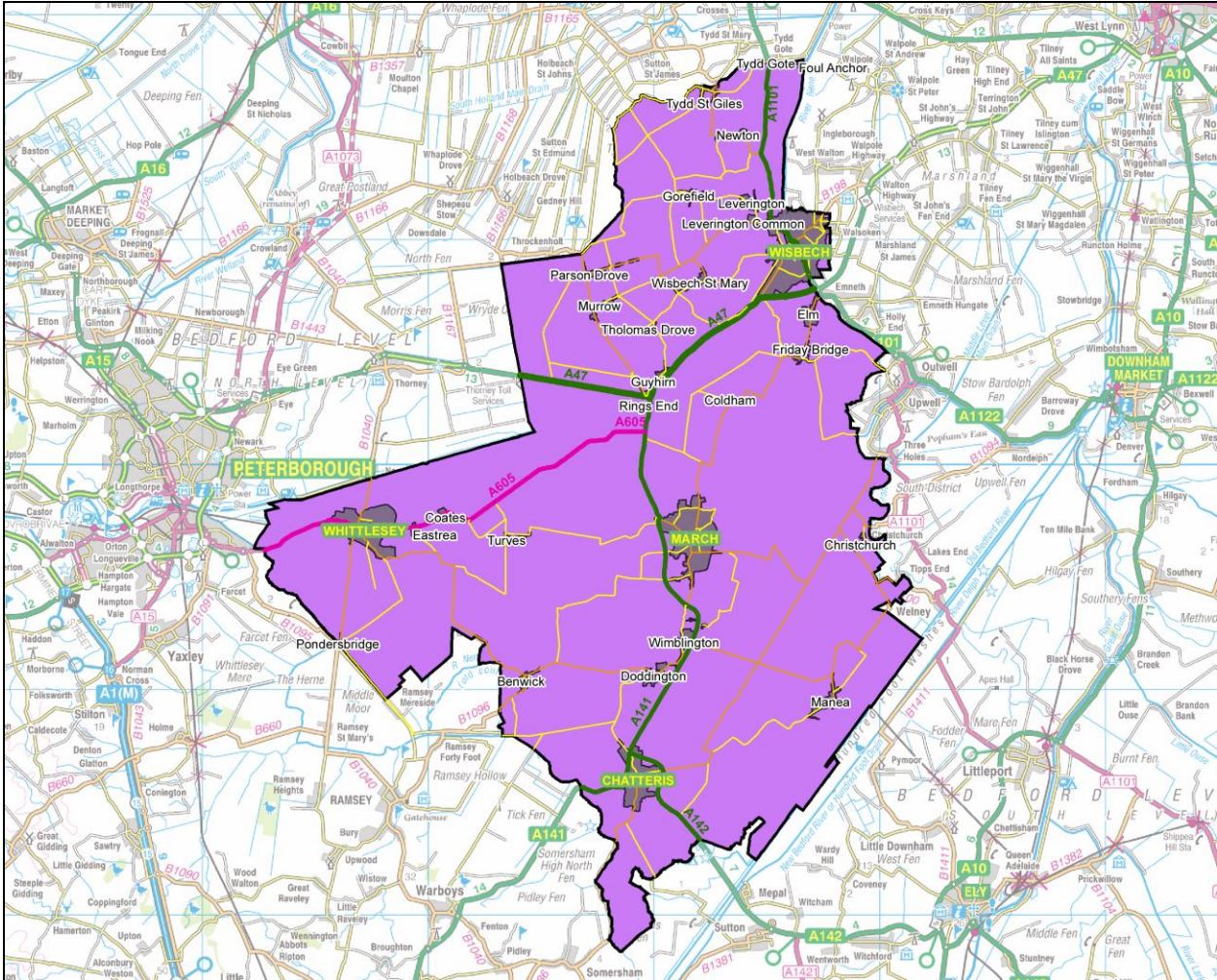
- 1.6 Detailed information on topics such as Population, Households, Economy, Health and Education can be found in the District Report¹ produced by the Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group on behalf of Fenland District Council. The research group report is updated each year and should be read alongside this AMR.

¹ <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/research/populationresearch/DistrictReports.htm>

Location

1.7 Fenland is a predominantly rural district located in the northern part of Cambridgeshire and to the east of the City of Peterborough. The district covers an area of about 550 square km (210 square miles). It contains four market towns, Chatteris, March, Whittlesey and Wisbech and a large number of villages and smaller settlements.

Figure 1 – The District of Fenland



Reproduced from OS material with permission. Fenland District Council 10023778, 2013

Population

1.8 The table below sets out essentially county wide information on population:

Table 1 – Cambridgeshire and Districts Population Estimates 2001 to mid-2012

Local Authority Area	2001 census	2011 census	2012 Mid-year estimate	% Change 2001-2012	% Change 2011-2012
Cambridge City	108,900	123,900	126,500	16.2%	2.1%
East Cambridgeshire	73,200	83,800	84,700	15.7%	1.1%
Fenland	83,500	95,300	95,600	14.5%	0.3%
Huntingdonshire	157,000	169,500	171,100	9.0%	0.9%
South Cambs	130,100	148,800	149,300	14.8%	0.3%
Cambridgeshire	552,700	621,200	627,200	13.5%	1.0%

Source: CCC R&P 2012 mid-year estimates & ONS 2001 & 2011 Census figures.
Totals may not add up due to rounding

- 1.9 About 75% of Fenland's population live within the four market towns of Wisbech, March, Chatteris and Whittlesey. Fenland's largest parish is Wisbech, with a population of around 22,820; March (excluding the prison population) is 22,390; Whittlesey is 16,240 and Chatteris is 10,580 respectively². This data is based on parish boundaries.

² Further information on the Census is available here:
<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/research/populationresearch/census/>

Authorities' Monitoring Report and the Local Planning Regulations 2012

Regulation 34(1) – Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Progress

34. (1) A local planning authority's monitoring report must contain the following information—

(a) the title of the local plans or supplementary planning documents specified in the local planning authority's local development scheme; .

(b) in relation to each of those documents— .

(i) the timetable specified in the local planning authority's local development scheme for the document's preparation; .

(ii) the stage the document has reached in its preparation; and .

(iii) if the document's preparation is behind the timetable mentioned in paragraph (i) the reasons for this; and .

(c) where any local plan or supplementary planning document specified in the local planning authority's local development scheme has been adopted or approved within the period in respect of which the report is made, a statement of that fact and of the date of adoption or approval.

- 1.10 A Local Development Scheme (LDS) is the project plan setting out the content and relevant timescales for the delivery of a council's Local Plan. Fenland's first LDS publication was in 2005, with several revisions since then. The latest version is dated March 2013, and therefore relevant to the Monitoring Period.
- 1.11 To meet Regulation 34(1) (a), the title of Local Plans (DPDs) and SPDs in the LDS are as follows:
- Fenland Core Strategy DPD
- 1.12 The current Fenland District-Wide Local Plan was adopted in 1993. The Fenland Core Strategy (later renamed Fenland Local Plan) was intended to (and subsequently has) replaced the 1993 plan.
- 1.13 To meet Regulation 34(1) (b) (i) and (ii), the LDS set out the following timetable for the Core Strategy production, together with the stage it reached during the Monitoring period:

	Draft Consultation	Further Draft Consultation	Proposed Submission Consultation	Submission to SofS	Hearing	Adoption
LDS March 2013:	July-Sept 2011 Completed	July-Sept 2012 Completed	Feb – April 2013	May 2013	Sept 2013	Dec 2013
Actual during Monitoring Period	July-Sept 2011 Completed	July-Sept 2012 Completed	Feb-April 2013, plus June-Aug 2013	September 2013	December 2013	(adopted post Monitoring period, in May 2014)

- 1.14 To meet Regulation 34(1)(b)(i), it is confirmed by the above table that the Local Plan preparation during the monitoring period did slip behind the LDS timetable, and the primary reason for this was due to the additional Proposed Submission Addendum consultation which took place between June-August 2013. The overall slippage which occurred during the monitoring period is about 3 months.
- 1.15 To meet Regulation 34(1)(c), it is confirmed that no Local Plan or Supplementary Planning Document was adopted in the Monitoring Period.

Regulation 34(2) Non-Implementation of a Policy

34. (2) Where a local planning authority are not implementing a policy specified in a local plan, the local planning authority's monitoring report must—

(a) identify that policy; and .

(b) include a statement of— .

(i) the reasons why the local planning authority are not implementing the policy; and

(ii) the steps (if any) that the local planning authority intend to take to secure that the policy is implemented.

- 1.16 To meet Regulation 34(2), it is confirmed that all 'saved' policies (i.e. policies saved by direction of the Secretary of State) in the 1993 Local Plan were being implemented during the monitoring period.

Regulation 34(3) – Net additional dwellings

34. (3) Where a policy specified in a local plan specifies an annual number, or a number relating to any other period of net additional dwellings or net additional affordable dwellings in any part of the local planning authority's area, the local planning authority's monitoring report must specify the relevant number for the part of the local planning authority's area concerned—

(a) in the period in respect of which the report is made, and

(b) since the policy was first published, adopted or approved.

- 1.17 The 1993 Local Plan specified that 9,220 additional dwellings should be built between mid-1990 and mid-2001. It was the intention of the 1993 Local Plan to have ended in 2001, and therefore only made housing provision to that date. The Local Plan did not specify a total net additional affordable housing target for any period.
- 1.18 Thus, to answer Regulation 34(3)(a) literally, the Local Plan does not specify an annual number (dwellings or affordable dwellings) for the monitoring period of 2013/14. However, it is confirmed that 338 net additional dwellings were completed in the monitoring period and in terms of affordable dwellings, it is confirmed that 54 **gross** affordable homes were completed (despite the terminology used in the regulations about 'net' affordable dwellings, it is not possible to monitor **net** affordable dwellings completed, as it is not possible to monitor affordable dwelling losses and indirect gains easily. For example, a dwelling may be 'affordable' one year, but then be converted to a non-affordable dwelling, something which the local planning authority does not monitor. Likewise, a non-affordable dwelling may be converted to an affordable dwelling by a Registered Social Landlord (RSL), without the local planning authority being involved in such a process).

- 1.19 In respect of Regulation 34(3)(b), the Local Plan was adopted in 1993, and it is confirmed that since July 1991 to June 2001, 5,189 net dwellings were completed, including 411 gross affordable dwellings between July 1991 and June 1998.
- 1.20 To break down the figures for more recent times in detail, the table below shows the total number of dwelling completions in Fenland for the period 1 April 2001 to 31 March 2014.

Table 2 - Fenland net completion totals

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Completions	624	697	733	635	781	757	921	308	243	295	209	319	338
Cumulative	624	1,321	2,054	2,689	3,470	4,227	5,148	5,456	5,699	5,994	6,203	6,522	6,859

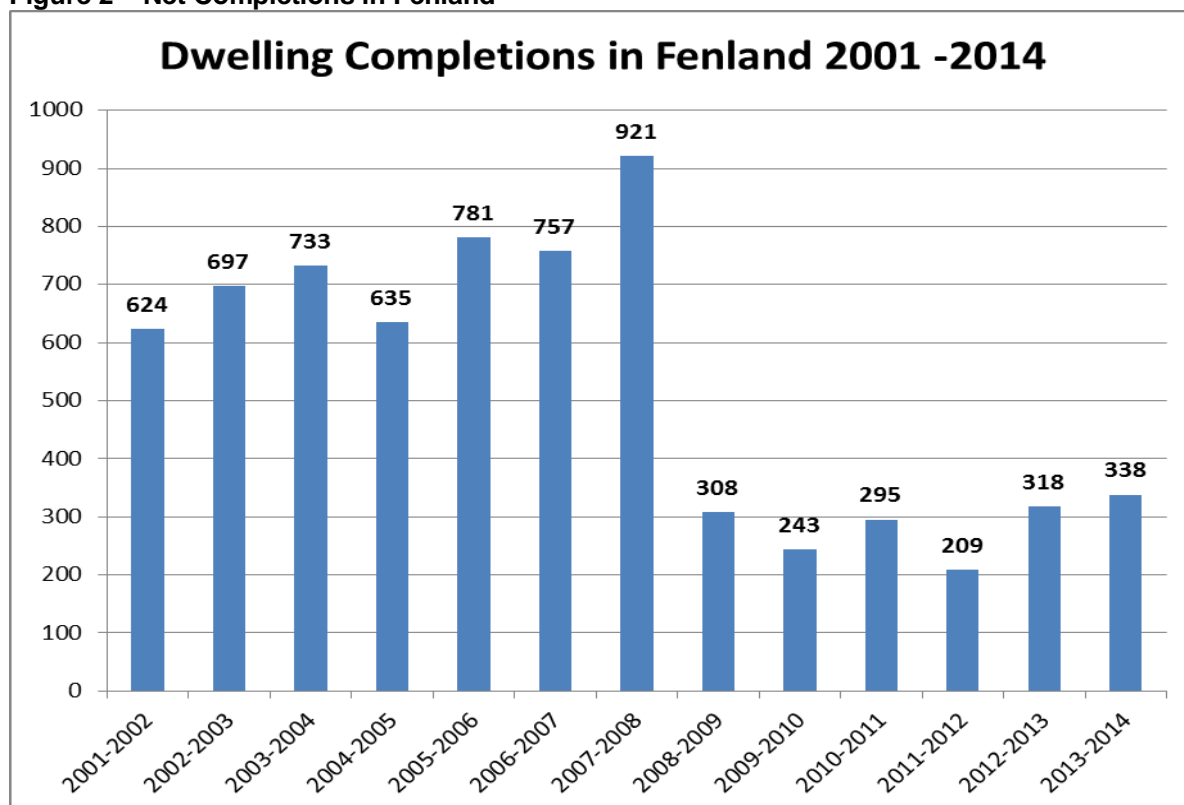
- 1.21 For information purposes, the total gross completions (e.g. it makes no allowance for demolitions or replacement dwellings) were as follows:

Table 3 - Fenland gross completion totals

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Completions	643	731	768	659	810	789	962	352	274	325	242	359	427
Cumulative	643	1,374	2,142	2,801	3,611	4,400	5,362	5,714	5,988	6,313	6,555	6,914	7,341

- 1.22 During the period 2001-2008 Fenland consistently delivered a high level of net housing. The downturn in the national economy in 2008 has seen a significant decline in building rates over the last five years. Completions in 13/14 have, however, increased to the highest level since 07/08, but remain well below peak levels achieved. Figure 2 helps illustrate the 'peaks' and troughs' of the past 13 years:

Figure 2 – Net Completions in Fenland



- 1.23 The cumulative total and annual average completions since 2001 is set out in Table 4 below. It shows that the annual average peaked at 718 during 2007/2008, has fallen since but still remains at 528 per annum.

Table 4 – Cumulative total and annual average

	Cumulative total	Annual Average
2001/2002	624	624
2002/2003	1,321	661
2003/2004	2,054	685
2004/2005	2,689	672
2005/2006	3,470	694
2006/2007	4,227	704
2007/2008	5,148	735
2008/2009	5,456	682
2009/2010	5,699	633
2010/2011	5,994	599
2011/2012	6,203	564
2012/2013	6,522	543
2013/2014	6,859	528

- 1.24 Table 5 below demonstrates that 264 net dwellings, or around 78% of total completions in 13/14, have come forward in the four market towns. Over the last 12 years, the majority of development, specifically about 62%, has been in these four main towns.

Table 5 – Net Dwelling Completions by Settlement

	2013-14	2001-14
Benwick	-1	96
Chatteris	107	950
Christchurch	0	50
Church End	3	17
Coates	1	21
Coldham	0	9
Colletts Bridge	0	2
Doddington	4	83
Eastrea	15	28
Elm	-21	94
Elm / Friday Bridge	0	3
Foul Anchor	0	1
Friday Bridge	3	130
Gorefield	0	106
Guyhim	3	62
Leverington	3	200
Manea	5	184
March	61	1596
Murrow	14	124
Newton	0	9
Parson Drove	1	92
Ponders Bridge	2	26
Tholomas Drove	0	8
Turves	0	35
Tydd Gote	0	4
Tydd St Giles	1	50

Whittlesey	24	462
Wimblington	0	201
Wisbech	72	1357
Wisbech St Mary	5	131
Outside	36	728
Grand Total	338	6859

Gypsy and Traveller pitches

- 1.25 This monitoring information relates to the delivery of pitches for Gypsy and Traveller families. For the purposes of monitoring, a pitch is defined as an “area of land demarked for the use as accommodation by a single Gypsy and Traveller household, sometimes including extended families which may require space, within one pitch, to provide for more than one caravan.” (Core Output Indicators - Update 2/2008).
- 1.26 Table 6 details the net total number of pitches that have been completed in each monitoring period since 2001. For a pitch to be considered completed it must be available for use. For the 2013/14 monitoring period there were no net additional pitches in the district.

Table 6 - Additional Pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show people

Additional Pitches for Gypsies and Travellers (Net)													
2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	11	2	0	0	18

Affordable housing completions (Gross)

- 1.27 Affordable housing is monitored as gross completions (see earlier commentary). Between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014 there were 54 affordable dwelling completions which represent approximately 15% of gross dwelling completions in that year.
- 1.28
- 1.29 Table 7 sets out completions over the past 13 years.
- 1.30 It is now clear that the drop in affordable completions in 11/12 was against trend. A possible explanation may be the high proportion of all dwelling completions being on small sites in that year which did not include an affordable housing element (almost 90% on sites under 5 dwellings). The now adopted Local Plan should improve the supply of affordable housing by bringing forward larger development schemes particularly in the market towns.

Table 7 – Affordable Housing Completions (Gross)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
Total Gross Completions (all homes)	513	731	768	659	810	789	962	352	274	325	242	359	427	7211
Affordable (Gross)	36	35	82	77	75	94	104	74	54	65	7	50	54	807
Percentage Affordable		4.8%	10.8%	11.1%	9.26%	11.9%	10.8%	21.0%	19.7%	20.0%	2.89%	13.9%	15.0%	11.19%

Housing densities

- 1.31 Table 8 below shows that the average density of development peaked in 2009-10. It then reduced considerably to just over 20 dwellings per hectare in 2011-12. This could be due to government's removal of the minimum density requirements, as well as a general downturn in the market for flatted developments. However, in the last two years there was an increase in average density reaching 39 dwellings per hectare in 2013-14.

Table 8 – Density of Completed Dwellings

Average Density of Completed Dwellings in Fenland (Dwellings Per Hectare)	
2001-01	19
2002-03	27
2003-04	25
2004-05	23
2005-06	32
2006-07	26
2007-08	38
2008-09	27
2009-10	64
2010-11	43
2011-12	21
2012-13	34
2013-14	39
2001-14	32

Dwelling Size

- 1.32 As illustrated in Table 9 - Dwelling Sizes, in the 13/14 monitoring year about 65% of total dwelling completions (gross) were of 2 or 3 Bed dwellings. This is consistent with the overall average since 2002 of 65%.

Table 9 - Dwelling Sizes (based on gross completions)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total	% Total
1 Bed	28	58	73	19	61	71	85	31	38	47	13	56	63	643	8.9%
2 Bed	138	203	141	179	255	269	330	154	102	112	89	100	148	2220	30.8%
3 Bed	161	237	292	217	289	262	340	95	75	103	88	129	130	2418	33.5%
4+ Bed	182	231	214	218	190	166	164	70	56	44	44	69	77	1725	23.9%
Unknown	4	2	48	26	15	21	43	2	3	19	8	5	9	205	2.8%
Total	513	731	768	659	810	789	962	352	274	325	242	359	427	7211	

Housing Land Supply in Fenland

- 1.33 The Council has published a separate report entitled Fenland's Five Year Housing Land Supply Report showing how Fenland is able to meet its five year land supply. The full report is available on our website here: <http://www.fenland.gov.uk/article/3043/Key-Facts-and-Monitoring-Reports>.

Regulation 34(4) – Neighbourhood Planning

34. (4) Where a local planning authority have made a neighbourhood development order or a neighbourhood development plan, the local planning authority's monitoring report must contain details of these documents.

- 1.34 To meet Regulation 34(4), it is confirmed that no neighbourhood development plans or orders were made ('adopted') in the monitoring period. Full details on neighbourhood planning in Fenland can be found here: <http://www.fenland.gov.uk/neighbourhood-planning>

Regulation 34(5) - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

34. (5) Where a local planning authority have prepared a report pursuant to regulation 62 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010(2), the local planning authority's monitoring report must contain the information specified in regulation 62(4) of those Regulations.

- 1.35 For the purpose of Regulation 34(5), it is confirmed that Fenland District Council does not have a CIL in place, nor is it currently preparing a CIL.

Regulation 34(6) – Duty to Cooperate

34. (6) Where a local planning authority have co-operated with another local planning authority, county council, or a body or person prescribed under section 33A of the Act, the local planning authority's monitoring report must give details of what action they have taken during the period covered by the report.

Duty to Cooperate: Joint Plans or other applicable Strategies

- 1.36 It is confirmed that no joint plans or other applicable strategies were adopted or under preparation during the monitoring period.

Duty to Cooperate: Joint work on evidence documents on matters of strategic importance

- 1.37 Fenland District Council cooperates fully on matters of cross-boundary strategic importance. Of particular note in the monitoring period were the following:
- Cambridge Sub-Region Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and associated Memorandum of Co-operation (May-13).
 - Various statements of common ground and evidence reports, prepared in association with the preparation and examination of the then emerging Fenland Core Strategy (Local Plan).

- 1.38 Full details of the above are available in our planning library: <http://www.fenland.gov.uk/article/7045/The-Planning-Policy-Library>

Other Items Reported On in this AMR

1.39 This section of the AMR sets out monitoring information on matters which the regulations do not expressly require to be monitored. However, such information is considered useful in decision making and future plan preparation.

Additional Employment Floor Space

1.40 This indicator relates to the amount of additional floor space completed within the monitoring period.

1.41 Secondary planning legislation – the Town and County Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended) and the Town and County Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as amended) groups types of use of premises into classes, so that no planning permission is required if a building is changed from one use to another within the same class. Employment floorspace for the purposes of this monitoring indicator is defined as uses B1, B2 and B8 (see table below for categories).

1.42 Table 10 shows the additional floor space created for employment in Fenland over the period 01 April 1999 to 31 March 2014.

Table 10 - Additional Employment Floor Space (net change)

	1999-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
B1 – Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	288	414	2,045	0	577	1,008	0	0	4,332
B1a – Offices	4,122	899	2,380	3,782	489	1,237	1,181	3,840	1,400	1,964	859	0	822	22,975
B1b – Research	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	63
B1c – Light Industry	5,715	1,379	2,218	836	3,580	560	1,088	1,973	3,055	354	576	897	1610	23,841
B2 – General Industry	45,777	10,598	4,733	27,992	11,907	5,079	3,868	15,605	5,721	6,148	3,277	2,240	1,262	144,207
B8 – Storage and Distribution	30,143	6,884	11,103	22,088	5,631	5,470	16,253	18,706	46,250	3,569	1,636	9,206	1,030	177,969
Total	85,757	19,760	20,434	54,698	21,607	12,634	22,804	42,169	56,426	12,363	7,356	12,343	4,787	373,138

1.43 For the period 2013-14 a total of 4,787 sq.m of additional employment floor space was created in Fenland. The total is significantly lower than the peak 2009/10 but this can be explained by the completion of two large proposals in that year namely; F/YR08/00403 which provided 18,000 sq.m for a new cold storage distribution unit in Wisbech, and F/YR98/01051 which provided about 26,200 sq.m in March. This monitoring period represents the lowest completions in employment floorspace in Fenland since 1999. .

Completed floor space for “town centre uses”

1.44 This information relates to the amount of floor space created for “Town Centre Uses”. For the purposes of this indicator, the town centre is defined as those shown in the Fenland District-Wide Local Plan 1993. Town centre uses are defined as Use Class Orders A1, A2, B1a and D2. Apart from a few years there has been a steady decline in “town centre uses” in Town Centre Areas within Fenland. Table 11 illustrates the steady decline in floorspace within the area defined as Town Centre.

Table 11 – Floor space available for “town centre uses” in Town Centre Areas

	1999-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
A1 Retail	-200	-284	-179	-384	676	-338	-1,299	-140	-358	-290	-385	-265	-340	-3,786
A2 Financial Services	166	230	0	140	221	170	189	401	404	-124	190	60	-107	1,940
B1a Offices	-780	684	164	952	-662	-198	-141	-871	-70	280	153	-187	-162	-838
D2 Assembly and Leisure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-262	0	-750	0	0	0	-1,012
Total m2	-814	630	-15	708	235	-366	-1251	-872	-24	-884	-42	-392	-609	-3,696

1.45 Below is a brief summary of the changes taking place in each of the market towns in the 2013-14 monitoring period.

- **Chatteris** - has seen a net growth in floorspace of 1,649 sq.m. One major retail development accounted for 864 sq.m. (change of use garage showroom to retail in Park Street).
- **March** - has seen a considerable decline in the amount of floorspace dedicated to town centre uses. There have been quite a number of small schemes, changes of use of B1a offices and retail to A2, beauty related activities, and D1 (civic and community). The loss of D2 floorspace is due to a change of use of a bingo hall to restaurant/take away.
- **Whittlesey** - has seen a loss of 2074sq.m. of town centre uses in its town centre. There has been some small scale retail development built in Whittlesey but overall there has been a loss with changes of use shops to other uses such as beauty related, offices, residential, and cafes/restaurants/takeaways. There has also been a loss of offices due to changes to other uses.
- **Wisbech** - has seen a very small loss of floorspace overall with losses of retail and leisure, but gains in the amount of A2 and B1a office floorspace. A number of shops have changed use to residential, offices, cafes/takeaways and beauty related. The growth in offices has been due to a number of changes of uses and extensions including 1,168 sq.m. at the former sorting office in Post Office Lane.

1.46 Across the district, the following figures apply:

Table 12 Completed Floor Space in Fenland Area

	1999-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
A1 Retail*	3,891	1,016	2,254	1,298	2,019	454	491	1,633	1,185	-27	-405	-262	3,025	16,572
A2 Financial Services	354	230	0	140	221	170	260	472	404	-326	278	60	-107	2,156
B1a Offices	1,418	-64	1,557	3,100	-654	746	666	178	350	1,158	-1,549	-433	660	7,133
D2 Assembly and Leisure	0	0	0	0	0	207	-14,273	4,320	-779	1,213	210	1,660	3,535	-3,907
Total m2	5,663	1,182	3,811	4,538	1,586	1,577	-12,856	6,603	1,160	2,018	-1,466	1,025	7,113	21,954

* A1 figures are for net tradable floor space (sales space). Floor space for the rest of the Uses Classes is gross.

- 1.47 Table 12 demonstrate that while there has been a decrease in floorspace within the market towns of nearly 3,700 sq m between 1999 and 2014, there has been an increase in floorspace in out of centre locations by nearly 22,000 sq m over the same period. The table also shows that apart from A2 use, there has been an increase in floorspace in other town centre uses in the 2013-14 monitoring year.

Environment Designated Sites and Renewable Energy

- 1.48 Appendix 1 contains a wealth of monitoring data relating to sites designated for environmental protection reasons, and renewable energy generation. All the information in this appendix is provided by Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Environmental Records Centre except for renewable energy generation (Tables 35 and 36) which is provided by Cambridgeshire County Council.

Appendix 1 - Environmental Quality - Statutory Sites

European or International Designations

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

SACs are sites designated under the EU Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora). Fenland contains two SACs:

Table 13 – SAC Fenland

SAC Name	Total area (ha)	Area in district (ha)
Nene Washes	86.19	78.95
Ouse Washes	332.62	95.47

Cambridgeshire contains six SACs:

Table 14 - SAC Cambridgeshire

SAC Name	Total area (ha)	Area in Cambs (ha)
Devils Dyke	8.25	6.02
Eversden and Wimpole Woods	66.55	66.55
Fenland	619.25	619.25
Nene Washes	86.19	78.95
Ouse Washes	332.62	234.02
Portholme	91.94	91.94

There has been no change in SACs in Fenland or Cambridgeshire during 2013/14.

Special Protection Areas (SPA)

SPAs are sites designated under the EU Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds). Fenland contains two SPAs:

Table 15 – Fenland SPA

SPA Name	Total area (ha)	Area in district (ha)
Nene Washes	1520.38	1343.26
Ouse Washes	2493.49	182.66

Cambridgeshire contains two SPAs:

Table 16 – Cambridgeshire SPA

SPA Name	Total area (ha)	Area in Cambs (ha)
Nene Washes	1520.38	1343.26
Ouse Washes	2493.49	1752.94

There has been no change in SPAs in Fenland or Cambridgeshire during 2013/14.

Ramsar Sites

Ramsar sites are sites designated under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance. Fenland contains two Ramsar sites:

Table 17 – Fenland Ramsar

Ramsar Name	Total area (ha)	Area in Cambs (ha)
Nene Washes	1520.18	1343.07

Ouse Washes	2513.54	182.63
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Cambridgeshire contains five Ramsar sites:

Table 18 – Cambridgeshire Ramsar

Ramsar Name	Total area (ha)	Area in Cambs (ha)
Chippenham Fen	112.42	112.42
Nene Washes	1520.18	1343.07
Ouse Washes	2513.54	1752.61
Wicken Fen	255.04	255.04
Woodwalton Fen	208.65	208.65

There has been no change in Ramsar sites in Fenland or Cambridgeshire during 2013/14.

UK Designations

Local Nature Reserves (LNR)

LNRs are designated by Natural England and the relevant local authority. They all have public access. Fenland contains two LNRs:

Table 19 – Fenland LNRs

LNR Name	Total area (ha)	Area in district (ha)
Lattersey Field	11.86	11.86
Ring's End	8.54	8.54

Cambridgeshire contains 25 LNRs. There has been no change in LNRs in Fenland or Cambridgeshire during 2013/14.

The table below shows figures for LNR area per 1000 people in Fenland. There has been an increase in the population in Fenland and no change in the area of land designated as LNR during 2013/14. There has been no significant change in the LNR area per 1000 people figure.

Table 20 – Fenland LNRs per 1,000 people

	2013/14	2012/13
LNR area in Fenland (ha)	20.4	20.4
Population in Fenland*	96,700	96,000
LNR area per 1000 people (ha)	0.21	0.21

*Figures for population are mid-year estimates from the Office for National Statistics for 2013 and 2012 respectively rounded to the nearest 100.

The table below shows figures for LNR area per 1000 people in Cambridgeshire. There has been an increase in the population in Cambridgeshire and no change in the area of land designated as LNR during 2013/14, which has led to a slight decrease in the LNR area per 1000 people figure.

Table 21 – Cambridgeshire LNRs per 1,000 people

	2013/14	2012/13
LNR area in Cambridgeshire (ha)	211.25	211.25
Population in Cambridgeshire*	632,100	628,300
LNR area per 1000 people (ha)	0.33	0.34

*Figures for population are mid-year estimates from the Office for National Statistics for 2013 and 2012 respectively rounded to the nearest 100.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

SSSIs are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Fenland contains four SSSIs:

Table 22 - Fenland SSSIs

	2013/14	2012/13
No. SSSIs	4	4
Total area of the SSSIs (ha)	4055.2	4055.2
Number of SSSI units in district	15	15
Total area of SSSI land in district (ha)	1546.4	1546.4

Cambridgeshire contains 87 SSSIs:

Table 23 - Cambridgeshire SSSIs

	2013/14	2012/13
Number of SSSIs	87	87
Total area of the SSSIs (ha)	8512.6	8512.6
Number of SSSI units in county	211	211
Total area of SSSI land in county (ha)	7262.6	7262.6

There has been no change in SSSI numbers or area in Fenland or Cambridgeshire during 2013/14.

SSSI Condition Assessment

SSSIs are divided up into areas known as SSSI units and these units are monitored for their condition by Natural England. The condition of a SSSI unit is deemed to fall into one of five categories - favourable, unfavourable recovering, unfavourable no change, unfavourable declining and destroyed/part destroyed. The condition of SSSIs in the district and the county is shown below by percentage area of total SSSI land in the relevant authority area. There has been no change in assessed SSSI condition in Fenland during 2013/14, with the majority of SSSI land still in unfavourable recovering condition

Table 24 – SSSI Condition Assessment

SSSI Condition in Fenland	2013/14		2012/13	
	Area (ha)	%	Area (ha)	%
Favourable	379.5	24.5	379.5	24.5
Unfavourable recovering	1082.8	70.0	892.4	57.7
Unfavourable no change	84.2	5.4	274.6	17.8
Unfavourable declining	0	0	0	0
Destroyed/part destroyed	0	0	0	0

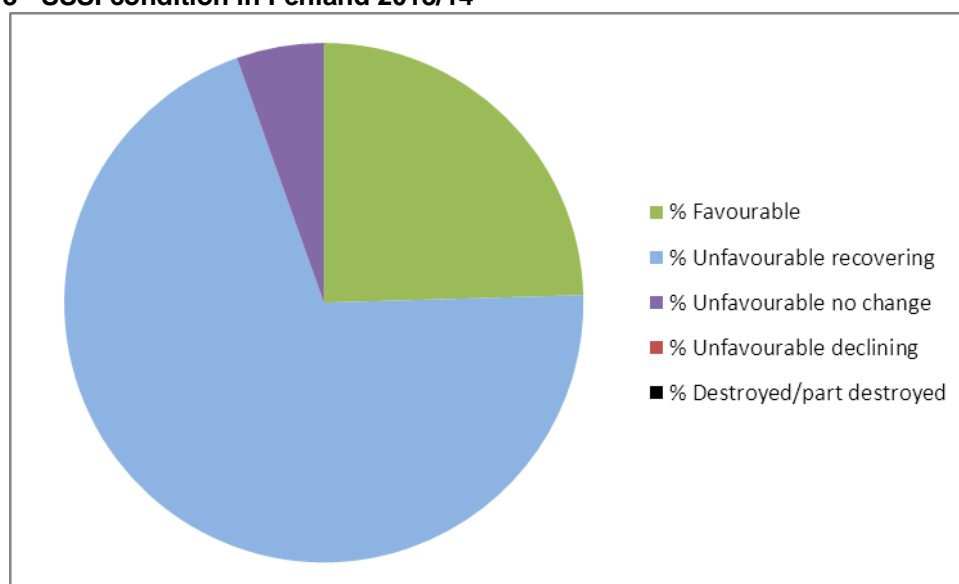
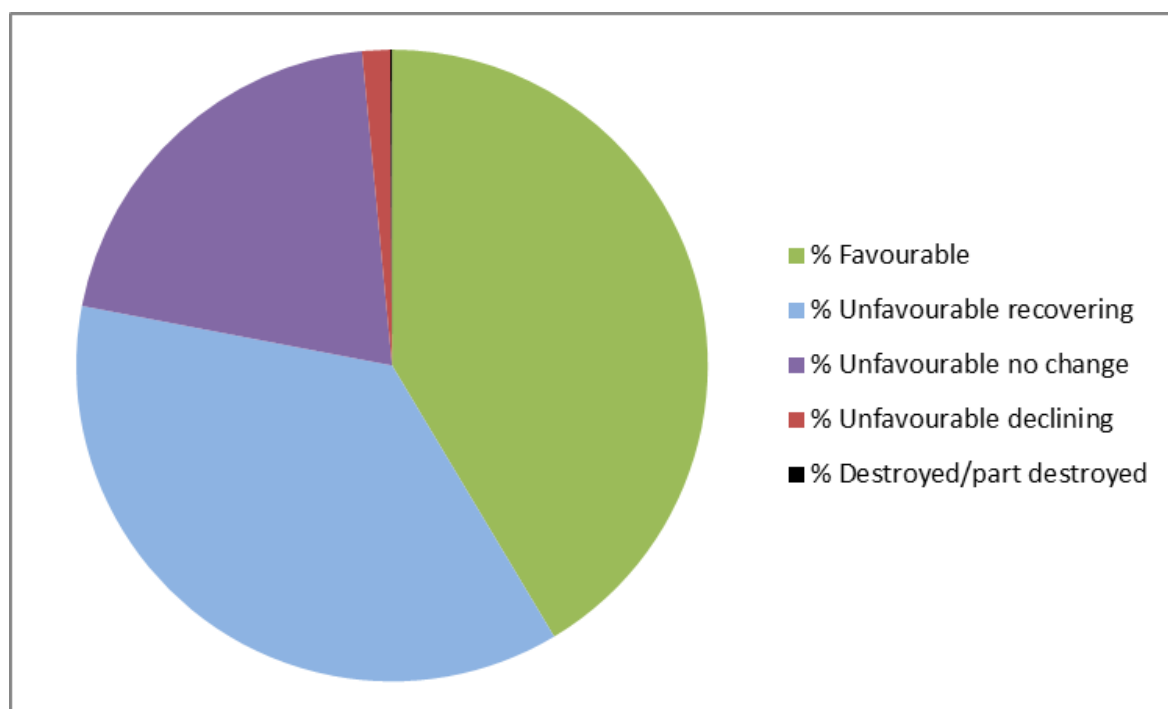
Figure 3 - SSSI condition in Fenland 2013/14

Table 25 - SSSI Condition Cambridgeshire 2013/14

SSSI Condition in Cambridgeshire	2013/14		2012/13	
	Area (ha)	%	Area (ha)	%
Favourable	3007.8	41.4	3001.8	41.3
Unfavourable recovering	2658.5	36.6	2642.1	36.4
Unfavourable no change	1485.9	20.5	1454.4	20.0
Unfavourable declining	103.2	1.4	157.1	2.2
Destroyed/part destroyed	7.1	0.1	7.1	0.1

Figure 4 - SSSI condition in Cambridgeshire 2013/14

Non-Statutory Sites

County Wildlife Sites (CWS) in Fenland

County Wildlife Sites are sites selected by the CWS Group (a group of partnership organisations and individuals affiliated to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biodiversity Partnership). CWSs have no statutory protection but are recognised in the planning system.

Table 26 - CWS in Fenland

CWSs in Fenland	2013/14	Change 12/13 - 13/14
o. CWSs	31	0
Total area of the CWSs (ha)	381.50ha	-28.76ha
Total length of linear sites (km)*	44.47km	0
Total area of CWS land in district (ha)	372.22ha	-28.76ha
Total length of linear sites in district (km)*	18.17km	0

* Please note that CWSs that are major rivers are not considered to have an area but are instead considered to be linear sites and are given a length in km. The boundaries of major river CWSs in Cambridgeshire are not strictly defined and are considered to be 'the river and adjacent semi-natural habitat'.

One County Wildlife Site has been deleted in the period 2013/14 (see below)

Site Name	Change	Area
Whitemoor Marshalling Yard	Major boundary change to exclude areas recently developed and include areas with the greatest wildlife interest	-28.76ha

CWSs and CiWS are 'Local Sites' as defined by DEFRA. Local Sites have been assessed in terms of their management for the Local nature conservation/biodiversity data requirement on the Single Data List (Ref 160, formerly known as NI197). This is the proportion of Local Sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented (Local Sites also include Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites and there is one of these in Fenland).

Table 27- Local Sites Fenland

	2013/14	Change 12/13 – 13/14
Total number of Local Sites in Fenland used in analysis	32	0
Number of Local Sites in Fenland where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented during the last five years	15	+3
% sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented during the last five years	46.9%	+9.4%

There has been an increase in the percentage of sites deemed to be in positive conservation management during 2013/14.

County Wildlife Sites (CWS) and City Wildlife Sites (CiWS) in Cambridgeshire

Table 28 - CWS in Cambridgeshire

CWSs in Cambridgeshire	2013/14	Change 12/13 – 13/14
No. CWSs	371	+3
Total area of the CWSs (ha)	5689.27	-8.19
Total length of linear sites (km)*	267.86	0
Total area of CWS land in authority area (ha)	5650.75	-8.19
Total length of linear sites in authority area (km)*	240.46	0

Table 29 - CWS Cambridgeshire

CiWSs in Cambridgeshire	2013/14	Change 12/13 – 13/14
No. CiWSs	50	-1
Total area of the CiWSs (ha)	164.74	-3.42
Total length of linear sites (km)*	0	0
Total area of CiWS land in authority area (ha)	164.74	-3.42
Total length of linear sites in authority area (km)*	0	0

*Please note that CWSs that are major rivers are not considered to have an area but are instead considered to be linear sites and are given a length in km. The boundaries of major river CWSs in Cambridgeshire are not strictly defined and are considered to be "the river and adjacent semi-natural habitat".

Three new County Wildlife Sites have been selected in the period 2013/14. Two County Wildlife Sites have had their boundaries amended in the period 2013/14. One City Wildlife Site has been deleted in the period 2013/14.

Table 30 – CWS boundary amendments

Site Name	Change	Area (ha)
Conington Sidings	New CWS	19.42ha
Cottenham Moat	New CWS	0.87ha
Mere Way (south of Hardwick Wood)	New CWS	0.23ha
Sibson Flood Meadows	Minor boundary change to align northern	+0.05ha

	boundary with river bank	
Whitemoor Marshalling Yard	Major boundary change to exclude areas recently developed and include areas with the greatest wildlife interest	-28.76ha
Trumpington Dismantled Railway CWS	Deleted as the site is now the Cambridge Guided Busway	-3.42ha

Local nature conservation/biodiversity data requirement on the Single Data List (Ref 160, formerly known as NI197) - Proportion of Local Sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented (includes Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites and Cambridge City Wildlife Sites).

Table 31 - Local Sites conservation management

	2012/13	Change 11/12 - 12/13
Total number of Local Sites in Cambridgeshire used in analysis	420	+2
Number of Local Sites in Cambridgeshire sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented during the last five years	250	+8
% sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented during the last five years	59.5%	+1.6%

Sites affected by development

Fenland

No designated sites have been significantly affected by development in the district in the year 2013/14.

Cambridgeshire

Fleam Dyke Pumping Station CWS been significantly affected by development in Cambridgeshire in the year 2013/14. There is an area of chalk grassland within this site which has been lost due to construction of a new building and associated infrastructure. However, this impact will be mitigated against by a translocation, management and monitoring programme within the site itself.

Table 32 – Housing development and NERC S41 species Cambridgeshire

Cambridgeshire	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of housing completions	578	423	440	445	475
Number of available records of NERC S41 species	83488	90777	97326	104954	110237
Number of 'affecting' housing developments	510	386	394	405	434
% housing completions 'affecting' species records	88.24	91.25	89.55	91.01	91.37
Number of species records 'affected'	9535	8748	8588	8950	10917
% species records 'affected'	11.42	9.64	8.82	8.53	9.90

Between 2009 and 2013 the number of housing developments completed per year in Fenland has varied between 129 and 97. The proportion of species records 'affected' has varied between 26% and 32%. The proportion of housing completions 'affecting' species records varied between 74% and 89%.

In Cambridgeshire, the proportion of species records 'affected' county-wide has varied between 8.5% and 11.5%. The proportion of housing completions 'affecting' biodiversity has varied between 88% and 91%.

Business development and NERC S41 species

Table 33 - Business Development and NERC S41 species Fenland

Fenland	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of business completions	64	44	30	32	29
Number of available records of NERC S41 species	6384	7120	7592	8350	8953
Number of "affecting" Business developments	48	33	27	29	25
% business completions 'affecting' species records	75.00	75.00	90.00	90.63	86.21
Number of species records 'affected'	2305	1009	1187	1881	2494
% species records 'affected'	36.11	14.17	15.63	22.53	27.86

Table 34 - Business Development and NERC S41 species Cambridgeshire

Cambridgeshire	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of business completions	218	168	174	165	162
Number of available records of NERC S41 species	83488	90777	97326	104954	110237
Number of 'affecting' Business developments	181	137	163	150	142
% business completions 'affecting' species records	83.03	81.55	93.68	90.91	87.65
Number of species records 'affected'	4139	3462	3666	4861	4644
% species records 'affected'	4.96	3.81	3.77	4.63	4.21

Between 2008 and 2013 the number of business and retail developments completed per year in Fenland has varied between 29 and 64. The proportion of species records 'affected' has varied between 14% and 36%. The proportion of business completions 'affecting' species records has varied between 75% and 91%.

In Cambridgeshire, the proportion of species records 'affected' has varied between 3.5 and 5%. The proportion of business developments 'affecting' species records has varied between 81% and 94%.

Renewable Energy Generation

This data looks at the energy generation capacity provided from renewable energy sources.

Table 35 – Installed renewable energy generation Fenland

INSTALLED CAPACITY (MEGAWATTS)														
FENLAND	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
Wind	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	32.0000	6.0060	31.0000	1.8180	14.0000	0.0110	0.1420	0.1320	21.5500	106.6590
Biomass	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.5000	0.5000	1.3680	4.3680
Landfill gas	1.0030	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.0030
Sewage gas	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Photovoltaic	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0046	0.0076	0.1335	1.8751	3.5439	5.2494	10.8140
Hydro-power	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Total	1.0030	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	32.0000	6.0060	31.0000	2.8226	14.0076	0.1445	3.5171	4.1759	28.1674	122.8440

Table 36 - Potential sites in Fenland

POTENTIAL SITES - INSTALLED CAPACITY (MW) AT 31/03/2014	
FENLAND	Amount
Wind	16.9060
Biomass	3.7004
Landfill gas	0.0000
Sewage gas	0.0000
Photovoltaic	0.5449
Hydro-power	0.0000
Total	21.1513

Note: The figures for installed capacity for photovoltaics are a combination of Cambridgeshire County Council Research and Monitoring Team data and Feed in Tariff data from Ofgem.