

Creating a Sustainable Swindon: Planning for OUR Communities' Future

Workshop 2 – Shaping our communities future: What infrastructure creates a sustainable community?

Blue Group

Overview

The settlement is based around the principle of a market town and integrates methods to ensure the community functions in a sustainable manner. The energy from waste plant plays a key role in the sustainable operation of the settlement that will support 10,000 people (approximately 4,000-4,500 homes).

Key aspects

- The market square will form the focus of the settlement, with multiple uses proposed (civic, cultural, education, entertainment, retail, health and community services) to provide a focal point for community life. The settlement will support local shopping and avoid having a major shopping centre. Some affordable housing is proposed in the market centre.
- The energy from waste plant (located to the north east of the settlement due to prevailing winds) will provide local heating and hot water. Some heat will also be diverted to heat the lake to the north of the settlement that will be used for fish farming and to the agricultural area proposed for flowing growing (creating a industry for the settlement).
- To the north of the settlement is a large agricultural area to provide a local food supply for the settlement (contribute to creating a self-sustaining settlement).
- A majority of housing is located outside the main market centre and integrated with areas of open space. The most expensive homes are located on the outskirts of the settlement (to the west).
- Industrial buildings are positioned to the east of the settlements (due to prevailing wind direction). A cemetery is located to north of the settlement.
- A leisure centre is positioned to the east of the market centre.
- Some services are shared with the neighbouring settlement including fire service (located within a 5-10min drive time).
- A country park will provide an integrated recreational and wildlife environment.