

# Creating a Sustainable Swindon: Planning for OUR Communities' Future

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

## Green Group

### Overview

A settlement with schools at the heart of the community, with shops and services based around the school and housing and employment areas integrated into this structure. The settlement has an extensive network of cycle routes and green corridors for ease of access via foot and bike. A railway and motorway junction connects the settlement to the outside world and a ring road with spinal roads feeding into the settlement. Green spaces for recreational and ecology purposes are also key. The settlement is proposed to accommodate approximately 15,000 houses.

### Key aspects

- There is no key centre as such; the focus of the community is based around the two schools (academies for pupils aged 4-18) one to the central northern area and the other to the south. Schools should be at the centre of the community – a focus for learning, communication and activities. Schools have the multi-function of providing sports facilities for members of the public.
- Access to the settlement is via railway, bus and private car. The transport hub (railway station, bus station and motorway junction) is located to the west of the settlement. A ring road is formed around the settlement with spinal roads leading into the settlement. Road access in the settlement will be managed to avoid 'rat runs' through the central areas of the settlement. However, the settlement does not propose that it can function without the car.
- Office based employment areas are integrated into the two focus areas. Industrial development is on the outskirts of the settlement to the far east and west (near transport hub).
- A cultural and civic area is based to the west of the settlement, close to the public transport. Facilities include a theatre, town hall, library, pubs and restaurants.
- A canal and green corridor to the south with a further larger green area to the north east of the settlement (integrating wildlife areas and recreational activity).

Plenty of green spaces, play areas and sports facilities are integrated into the built form.

- A football stadium is proposed to the northwest of the settlement (in close proximity to the transport hub) to provide a sporting focus and add to the identity of the settlement.
- A central refuse and recycle facility is proposed to the east of the settlement near the transport hub. Smaller recycling centres are positioned around the two focus areas of the settlement.
- Social and market housing is fully integrated.
- Police and community police officers are also strategically positioned (football stadium, cultural area).