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**GREATER CAMBRIDGE**  
SHARED PLANNING

By email to [rapid@ofwat.gov.uk](mailto:rapid@ofwat.gov.uk)

Our ref:  
Your ref:  
6 October 2021

Contact [REDACTED]

Dear Sir or Madam

### **Representation to draft decision at gate one - Fens Reservoir**

I am writing on behalf of Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council to express our support for the Fens Reservoir strategic regional water resource solution joining the RAPID programme in line with the recently published draft decision letter.

The development of the new Greater Cambridge Local Plan is being informed by an [Integrated Water Management Plan](#). This has shown that the supply of water is a key issue for the area. We have recently published the next stages of the Greater Cambridge Local Plan, in the form of our [First Proposals](#), which is currently being considered by members, and following approval will be subject to public consultation in November/ December 2021. At the moment there is considerable uncertainty whether water supplies can be provided in a way that the full objectively assessed development needs will be able to be delivered in a sustainable way throughout the plan period.

The Fens Reservoir is a key project with potential to provide a sustainable source of water for Greater Cambridge in the long term. Regional solutions such as the development of new reservoirs are vital if reliance on abstraction from the chalk aquifer is to be reduced and future development needs are to be met.

Therefore, we are very supportive of the Fens reservoir being included within the RAPID process in order to accelerate the scheme.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]  
**Assistant Director Strategy and Economy**