

Milton Keynes, United Kingdom

City	Milton Keynes
Location	Fairfield, Western Expansion Area
Population	Milton Keynes = 218,660 (Western Expansion Area when complete = approx 6000 new homes)
Study site	9.9 ha
Site of project	2.4 ha

TOPIC
This project for the expansion of Milton Keynes (MK) is important in setting the standard of urban design for future development. As it grows, the city must not only retain its unique identity but must use the opportunity growth provides to evolve. In a city that was designed for the car promoting more sustainable development and increasing the use of public transport is a huge challenge.

The vision for the Western Expansion Area (WEA) is to create a sustainable community that is a desirable place to live, work, learn and spend leisure time and is well integrated. The aim of this project is to provide a development that has an appealing sense of identity, with a variety of house types and densities structured around a high quality public transport spine

New housing, should have a contemporary character. The layout of development should be highly legible, complement the high quality of landscape design typical to MK and exemplify established urban design principles. The integration of a school and good access to public transport provides scope to create a community with a range of social and economic opportunity.

TERRITORIAL SCALE : CONURBATION
Milton Keynes was planned in the late 60's and took up an area of gently undulating farm land integrating three existing towns and ten villages. Over thirty years MK has established an identity and gradually gained social and cultural capacity to meet the needs of its citizens.

The expansion sites take the boundary of the city out into green fields creating a new edge. The WEA will be the size of a small town providing 6,000 homes by 2011. The study and project sites are located in a wider masterplan for this area.



URBAN SCALE : STUDY SITE

A public transport spine - City Street - is integral to both the study area and project site. The intention is to develop a new pattern of development to promote greater use of public transport, walking and cycling; reduce land take for major roads, and to provide housing at a higher density.

The study site is primarily residential and includes the City Street, a community school and local park. The aim is to create an appropriate setting and community for a new Primary School with a strong presence onto the street and to develop an approach to urban design, which can be explored in detail at the project site.

Programmatic intentions

Development of this site will form part of Phase 2 of the overall WEA development and will likely commence in 2008/9

PROXIMITY SCALE : SITE OF PROJECT

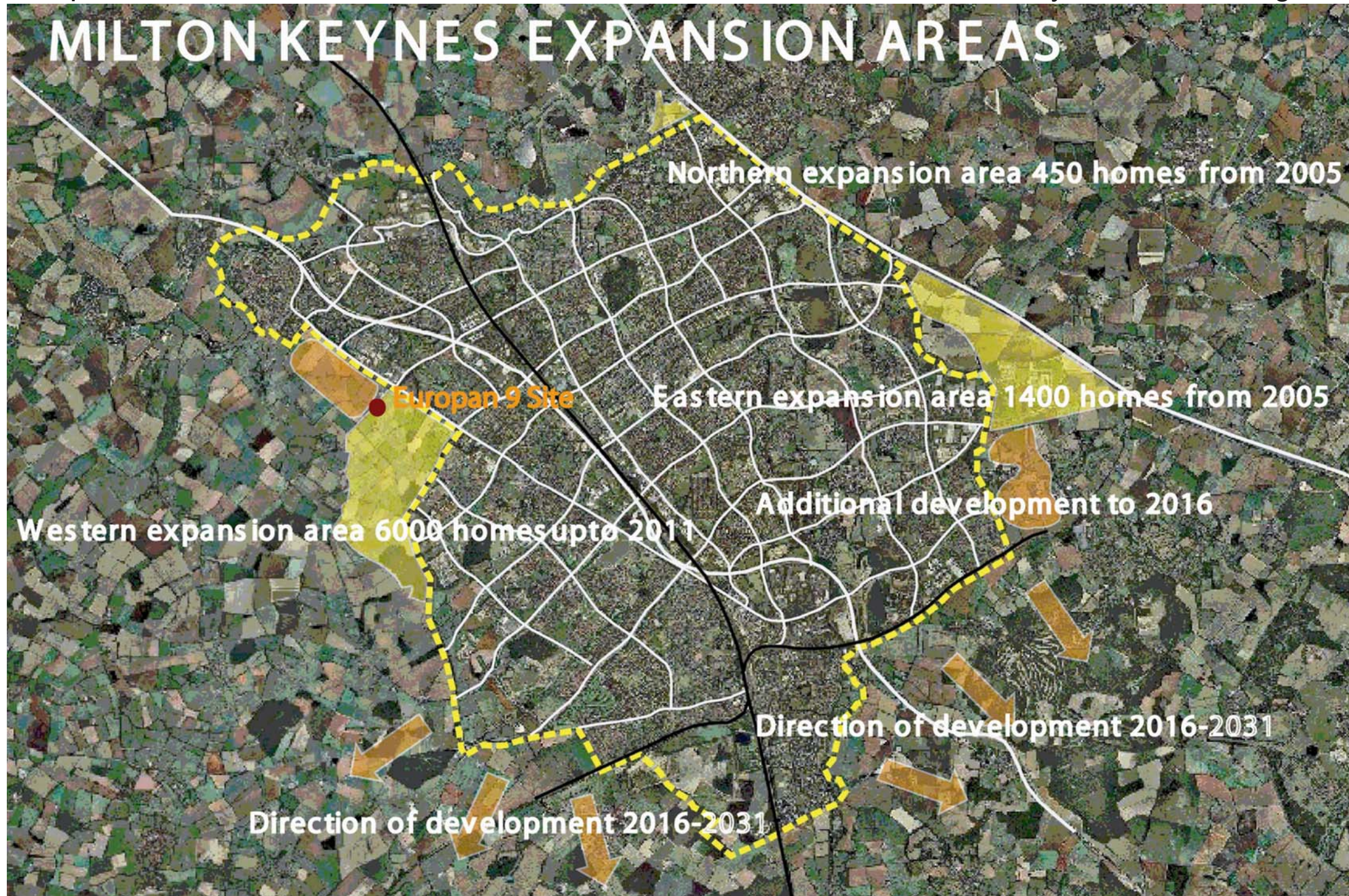
The project site is solely residential in use comprising a mixture of apartments, townhouses and semi-detached homes. It includes a section of the City Street along its western edge, an existing wildlife corridor that must be incorporated into a street, a lane providing pedestrian access to the street and two vehicular access points onto the city street.

The City Street is the key movement spine within the new part of the town, and must be designed as both a place for people and the movement of traffic. The highest density development of up to 4 storeys must front onto the city street with lower densities away from it. A variety of housing types for sale are to be provided.

Programmatic intentions

Development of this site will form part of Phase 2 of the overall WEA development and will likely commence in 2008/9







View down the existing Calverton Lane.



View of project site on left and study area including proposed school site on right



View of project site with existing buildings



View towards the proposed city street