



**West  
Northamptonshire  
Council**

## **West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan Options Consultation Response Form**

West Northamptonshire Council is preparing a new Strategic Plan for the area. This will replace the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and will cover the period up to 2050.

The Options Consultation is the second stage in preparing the new Plan [after the Issues Consultation], no decisions have been made yet and the purpose of the document is to seek view on a vision, spatial objectives and potential development options at this stage.

You can find out more about the Options Consultation and view the document electronically at: <https://westnorthantsplan.inconsult.uk/>

You can inspect a hard copy of the Options Consultation document in West Northamptonshire Council's offices at Lodge Road, Daventry, The Guildhall, Northampton and The Forum, Towcester and all public libraries in West Northamptonshire during normal opening hours. In addition, we are holding the following online and in-person events where you can find out more and ask questions:

<b>Venue</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>Online</b> <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/184576552437">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/184576552437</a>	Thursday 21 October	6-7.30pm
<b>Online</b> <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/184602690617">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/184602690617</a>	Wednesday 27 October	6-7.30pm
<b>Online</b> <a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/184604425807">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/184604425807</a>	Monday 1 November	6-7.30pm
<b>Wootton</b> Community Centre	Tuesday 2 November	2-6pm
<b>Daventry</b> Leisure Centre, Saxon Suite	Thursday 4 November	1-5.30pm
<b>Moulton</b> Community Centre	Tuesday 9 November	1-5.30pm
<b>Brackley</b> Methodist Church	Wednesday 10 October	2-6pm
<b>Towcester</b> The Forum, Council Chamber	Thursday 11 November	2-6pm

If you have any questions about the consultation or need help completing the form, please contact the strategic plan team by email [strategicplan@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplan@westnorthants.gov.uk)

The consultation period starts on Monday 11 October 2021 and closes at **midnight on Monday 6 December 2021**.

Our preference is for electronic submissions; however, we will also accept hard copies. Please return your response from using the details below:

**By e-mail:** [strategicplan@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplan@westnorthants.gov.uk)

**By Post:** Strategic Plan, West Northamptonshire Council, The Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE

Responses can also be made using an online questionnaire at: <https://westnorthantsplan.inconsult.uk/>

**Data Protection Policy:** Any personal Information you provide will be held and processed in accordance with the obligations and principles of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 and in accordance with West Northamptonshire Council's Privacy Policy and Data Protection Notification with the Information Commissioner's Office (No. ZA896620).

Please note that it is not possible for representations to be considered anonymously. Representations will be published on the consultation website, but address and contact details will be removed.

The information you provide will only be used for this consultation, and, with your permission, to advise you of other consultations.

This form has two parts:

Part A – contact details

Part B – your comments

Ref:

(for official use  
only)

## Part A

1. Personal details		2. Agent's details (if applicable)
Title	Mrs	
First name	Samantha	
Last name	Hosking	
Job title (where relevant)	Parish Clerk	
Organisation (where relevant)	Syresham Parish Council	
Address line 1	2 The Terrace	
Line 2	Biddlesden	
Line 3		
City/Town	Brackley	
County		
Postcode	NN13 5TR	
Telephone number	01280 851178	
Email (if provided we will always contact you this way)	parishclerk@syresham.com	

Please tick the box if you wish to be kept informed at all the key stages in the process of producing the new plan.

Date

18/11/2021

## PART B

The Options Consultation document is arranged in themed sections with associated questions, which are set out below. The questions should be read in conjunction with the Options Consultation document. Please note that you don't have to answer every question.

### WNSP – List of Consultation Questions

Vision, Objectives and Options				
Q.1 - Q.31	Main Questions	Agree/ disagree	Suggested Changes	Further space for Comments
1	Is this vision appropriate for guiding development and growth in West Northamptonshire up to 2050?	No	Are there any changes you would like to see?	Vision is good, but the current plans for development are not going the right way to achieve that vision. There must be greater consideration of the impact of increased population and traffic on the current road network. Transport plans also need to include alternatives to car use.
2	Are the 'Green and Clean' spatial objectives 1 to 4 appropriate for guiding development and growth in West Northamptonshire?	Yes	What changes or other objectives would you like to see?	Appropriate objectives but they have not been incorporated into the plans. For example, there will not be a reduction of emissions, if a planned 'out-of-town' sports hub near Brackley goes ahead, encouraging increased car usage. Many of the vast developments proposed will destroy swathes of natural habitats and valued agricultural land rather than conserving them.
3	Are the 'Improved Life Chances' spatial objectives 5 to 7 appropriate for guiding development and growth in West Northamptonshire?	Yes	What changes or other objectives would you like to see?	Good objectives, but the size of the proposed developments will put enormous stress on local education and health services and infrastructure.
4	Are the 'Connected Communities' spatial objectives 8 and 9 appropriate for guiding development and growth in West Northamptonshire?	Yes	What changes or other objectives would you like to see?	Again, objectives are good, but the current proposals show no connection between rural settlements, market towns and Northampton. More emphasis needs to be placed on environmentally sustainable rural transport including bus services and safe Active Travel Routes.
5	Are the 'Thriving Villages and Towns' spatial objectives 10 to 12 appropriate for guiding development and growth in West Northamptonshire?	Unsure	What changes or other objectives would you like to see?	Key market towns need investment for regeneration, so residents of those towns and surrounding rural settlements are able to shop locally rather than travelling further to large shopping centres. There may be investment in services in the larger towns, but will there be investment in the villages too? Will village residents be penalised in the future for having to drive to towns e.g. congestion charges, parking charges?

6	Are the 'Economic Development' spatial objectives 13 to 16 appropriate for guiding development and growth in West Northamptonshire?	Unsure	What changes or other objectives would you like to see?	The new economic development and investment in MEPC Silverstone and the employment opportunities it creates is very welcome. However, planners need to ensure that consideration of the environment is emphasised in further expansion of the site. Also, an alternative to cars for visiting and commuting to the site needs to be considered. For example, could employers provide bus transport for employees?
7	Do you agree that the findings of the HENA reflect the housing and/or economic needs of the area?	Unsure	If not, please provide evidence as to what you think the housing and economic needs of the area should be.	No comments.
8	Do you agree that there is potential for directing further development at Northampton, as the principal urban area, as part of the spatial strategy for West Northamptonshire?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.
9	Do you agree that spatial option 1a – Northampton North – North of Buckton Fields - has the potential to deliver residential and or local employment development?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.
10	Do you agree that spatial option 1b – Northampton North – East of Boughton - has the potential to deliver residential development?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.
11	Do you agree that spatial option 1c – Northampton North – West of Moulton - has the potential to deliver residential development?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.
12	Do you agree that spatial option 1d – Northampton North – North of Moulton -	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.

	has the potential to deliver residential development?			
13	Do you agree that spatial option 1e – Northampton South-East - has the potential to deliver residential development?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.
14	Do you agree that spatial option 1f – South of M1 Junction 15 - has the potential to deliver employment development?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.
15	Do you agree that spatial option 1g – South of M1 Junction 15a - has the potential to deliver employment development?	No	Please provide comments to support your answer.	The scale of the proposed development area is of concern. Large warehousing units have a huge detrimental impact on the local environment and landscape. The already busy A43 and M1 will be further impacted by HGV traffic. Further afield, traffic approaching the site from the west/M40 will impact on the B4525 and A422, routes which are already unsuitable for the number of HGVs and other vehicles using them as shortcuts to the A43.
16	Do you agree that spatial option 1h – Land at M1 Junction 16 - has the potential to deliver employment development?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.
17	Do you agree that there is potential for directing further development at Daventry, as sub regional centre, as part of the spatial strategy for West Northamptonshire?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.
18	Do you agree that spatial option 2a – North of Daventry - has the potential to deliver residential development?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.
19	Do you agree that spatial option 2b – North and West of Daventry - has the potential to deliver employment development?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.

20	Do you agree that there is potential for directing further employment development at M1 Junction18 as part of the spatial strategy for West Northamptonshire?	Unsure	Please provide comments to support your answer.	No comments.
21	Do you agree that spatial option 3a – Land to the East of DIRFT - has the potential to deliver employment development?	Yes	Please provide comments to support your answer.	The use of railways for freight is commended and it is sensible to keep warehousing close to DIRFT. However, again there will be further HGV pressure on the M1 and A5 and the scale of the proposed development, would be unacceptable for the small rural settlements in the area.
22	Do you agree that spatial option 3b – Land at M1 Junction 18 - has the potential to deliver employment development?	Yes	Please provide comments to support your answer.	As above.
23	Do you agree that there is potential for directing further development at Brackley and Towcester, as rural service centres, as part of the spatial strategy for West Northamptonshire?	Yes	Please provide comments to support your answer.	While there is potential for further development, growth must be restricted to protect surrounding valued agricultural land and the character of the market towns.
24	Do you agree that spatial option 4a – Brackley North West - has the potential to deliver residential development?	Yes	Please provide comments to support your answer.	While there is potential for further residential development, it is not desirable. Any further development will again swallow up vast areas of natural habitats and agricultural land. The recent developments have already put pressure on education and healthcare services and any further largescale growth would need to be accompanied by improvements to essential services, including the provision of a new secondary school and another new primary school. The current High Street is not vibrant and doesn't provide enough retail options to serve an even larger population. Public transport around the town and connecting Brackley to other towns and surrounding villages also needs to be incorporated, as well as improvements to footpaths/cyclepaths to encourage active travel. Increased traffic will impact further on the already busy A43, A422 and B4525.

				Brackley, the surrounding villages and landscape have also been detrimentally impacted by the construction of HS2 and solar farms for many years, with a great loss of mature habitat and again, valued agricultural land.
25	<b>Do you agree that spatial option 4b – Towcester South and Racecourse - has the potential to deliver residential development?</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Please provide comments to support your answer.</b>	Development at the racecourse location is not desirable, to protect the landscape and the historic conservation area. The only area that would be available for housing would be on the flood plain. Also, any further development around Towcester would impact on the character of the town and the current road infrastructure, which is already under intense pressure, particularly around the A5/A43. Commuters travelling between Towcester and Milton Keynes already suffer long tailbacks on the A5, with no alternative environmentally sustainable transport options.
26	<b>Do you agree that new settlements have a potential role in delivering growth as part of the spatial strategy for West Northamptonshire?</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Please provide comments to support your answer.</b>	The impact on the landscape and natural habitats would be devastating. We need to protect the space nature needs for the future too. Major new development should be kept to larger centres, where there is infrastructure and the potential for public transport.
27	<b>Do you agree that spatial option 5a – Growth at Long Buckby - has the potential to support a new settlement?</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Please provide comments to support your answer.</b>	The size of the proposed development area is too vast, planners need to look at the quantity of housing and its impact on the infrastructure and how people will travel on an already struggling road network.
28	<b>Do you agree that spatial option 5b – Growth at Milton Keynes North West / Old Stratford - has the potential to support a new settlement?</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Please provide comments to support your answer.</b>	Flooding issues are of concern in this area. Increased traffic and increased air pollution in close proximity to the new housing developments is also a concern.
29	<b>What approach do you think the WNSP should take to development in the rural areas, in particular the level of growth that may be appropriate and where that growth could be best accommodated?</b>			Syresham village has already recently seen sizeable development, exceeding its housing growth allocation.

30	Are there any other spatial options that we should be considering?	Unsure	If so, please provide details.	No comments.
31	Are there any other comments you wish to make at this stage?			<p>The UK will need to consider more self-reliance on food production in the future and prime agricultural land needs to be protected from largescale developments such as these.</p> <p>Planners must consider transport infrastructure ahead of deciding on potential areas for development.</p> <p>In this consultation, there is no indication of how residents will be encouraged to become less dependent on the car and achieve the 'net zero' goal</p> <p>Residential and employment developments need to be closer together to reduce commuting distance.</p>

Please tick the box if you wish to be kept informed at all the key stages in the process of producing the new Plan.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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**Thank you for taking the time to complete the form!**