

## The remaining questions

All questions that are not here have been provided with a draft answer in the other file

We may wish to answer some of these e.g. those relating to employment growth and opportunities, Green infrastructure, Sustainability (may need to link this to our critique on this subject); and consider a generic response on the other small towns

Climate change; flood risk		
47	Do you support the policy approach in relation to <b>climate change</b>	See 11
48	Do you support the policy approach in relation to <b>flood risk</b>	
Green infrastructure, landscape and bio-diversity		
6	To complete, enhance and safeguard the connections in the existing strategic <b>Green Infrastructure</b> Network, extending these into new urban extensions and creating connections between neighbourhoods	<p>WN4? How do we ensure that all necessary infrastructure is delivered and at the right time?</p> <p>By setting a strong framework to influence development and interventionist, effectively project, management of the s.106 'developer contribution' process.</p> <p>The developers must not be allowed to dominate and deter/deflect the strategic intentions of the JPU. This will require the sort of capacity and resources at the disposal of the Development Corporation and a preparedness to dictate to and be aggressive with the developers – effectively to</p>

	<p>Do you support Objective 5?</p>	<p>'project manage' and shape the development An active not passive role is needed.</p> <p>It will also require changes in the whole nature of permitted development e.g. a new insistence on flexible multi-use buildings (efficient integration of uses), ensuring community needs are factored into development, focus on sustainability, and strenuous avoidance of unsupported infrastructure (the whole range of infrastructure, needed in an integrated form, so as to provide some guarantee of quality of life – transport, landscape and bio-diversity, utilities, green infrastructure, and social and cultural including some thought too to third sector involvement.</p> <p>The Spatial Objectives are all interlinked, Addressing them requires a more sophisticated model that synthesises them; indeed a model that builds on the key themes of climate change (and sustainability) and the role and relationship of the towns.</p> <p>The crucial point is creating a new model for economic prosperity that does not imperil transport, community and quality of life. This is the most fundamental challenge as it requires a more interventionist approach – without market intervention and restriction (shaping policy actively and assertively), none of the chronic problems and issues associated with development on the scale proposed will be managed and mastered</p> <p><b>WNO3</b>  Consider alternative ways to prioritising infrastructure e.g. available funding, local needs or to fit with others' strategies</p> <p>It is important to recognise the importance of green and cultural infrastructure in helping to create an identity, sustain quality of life and address many of the deep rooted social problems that plague existing communities and help sustain fear of crime. There is an opportunity to go way beyond hard infrastructure through s.106 settlements and seek to create something much more imaginative and ambitious in our mapping out of the best management of the impacts of the new development. See also comments at WN4</p>
44	<p>Do you support the policy approach in relation to <b>Green Infrastructure</b></p>	
46	<p>Do you support the policy</p>	

	approach in relation to <b>landscape and bio-diversity</b>	
<b>Heritage, culture and tourism; health, leisure and well being</b>		
9	<p>To protect and enhance the <b>built and cultural assets</b> of West Northants, the character of its towns and settlements and foster the development of WN as a destination for <b>heritage and cultural tourism</b>.</p> <p>Do you support Objective 8?</p>	<p><b>N6</b>  <b>How can we increase and improve Northampton's cultural image and identity</b></p> <p>By investing in it and recognising that for small-modest investment, culture – in its widest sense as defined by the Department of Culture Media and Sport - can have a massive impact on regeneration and in stamping the identity and presence of a place. Culture and its importance needs to become an intrinsic element to the framework for development and the infrastructure that supports the same. Collective ownership that a place is special is needed.</p> <p>Most of the present difficulties can be directly attributed to poor planning decisions and policies, both at macro and micro level, in relation to what has been permitted inside and outside the town. Reawakening a sense of historical and evolving cultural identity is absolutely critical if the town is not to be perceived as bland, dull, uninspiring and middle of the road. Frankly, in terms of shopping and culture that is how it generally is perceived. Smaller places such as Banbury, Stamford and even Wellingborough can point to much more vibrant and alluring cultural options.</p> <p>Taking advantage of the River and waterfront is an obvious strand of development that has been very successful in other places.</p>
45	Do you support the policy approach in relation to <b>culture and cultural heritage</b>	
49	Do you support the policy approach in relation to <b>health and well being, and leisure, sport and recreation</b>	

<b>Community engagement</b>		
12	<p>To <b>involve the community</b> in the decisions about the future planning of West Northants. So they can influence and shape such decisions</p> <p>Do you support Objective 11?</p>	<p>See fitness for purpose commentary</p>
<b>Employment growth and opportunities</b>		
3	<p>To exploit Northamptonshire's position internationally for economic advantage by facilitating significant <b>employment growth and opportunities</b> for knowledge based industries and environmental technologies</p> <p>Do you support Objective 2?</p>	<p><b>WN2</b> How do we make WN an economic success without prejudicing its character?</p> <p>What is its character? Is there a received view on the identity and character of the areas or parts of it? Is there a strategic wish to preserve it and/or let it evolve? Arguably, much of the character has been compromised by past development anyway. Much of that development, in terms of business, has been anodyne and characterless, serving to create a sense of Anywheres-ville characterised by the absence of anything memorable and appealing from an architectural perspective.</p> <p>Consequently, the answer to the question is perhaps to ensure that the business development that is permitted within the growth is carefully prescribed and managed – see also WN4 - and that quality architecture and design are essential elements of it. Where possible this might echo the local vernacular and/or make reference to the past architectural character of areas that have some sense of identified heritage but it should also be ambitious in seeking too to stamp a new and more forward looking confidence and character</p> <p><b>WN3?</b> How do we develop the WN economy? Should we specialise or not?</p>

	<p>By shrewd and careful management of what is encouraged and permitted. Strong governance and management of the process of the planning and development process is essential to try and effect a step change in the economy away from distribution and flatted factories, this being the overwhelming image at present.</p> <p>Forms of specialisation are recommended as they can help in shaping character and identity and have tended to be critical in the establishment of clusters elsewhere e.g. with high tech industries. Focusing on encouraging diversity and maybe looking specifically at enticing, for instance, cultural and creative industries is to be recommended. Ways of doing this effectively are touched on in other answers.</p> <p>Marketing the place to entice this form of economic inward migration and establishment will need to draw on the promotion of the quality of the rural landscape, heritage and culture and there is an important issue here about preserving and enhancing the most important areas of quality landscape and built heritage so as to serve this end. See also RA2</p> <p><b>N5</b>  Do you think that employment is the key to Northampton's future success and should there be more high quality employment, particularly knowledge based?</p> <p>It is obviously an important element in the mix that creates success and high quality business. Encouraging specialisations is critical to success and offers real scope for shaping and creating character. It is perhaps best to build on inherited specialisations that have already shaped character and identity – as with architecture and landscape character – but also to be open and not risk averse to entertaining new options for the towns to evolve and grow. The Cultural and Creative industries are a case in point – made elsewhere – and a generally diverse approach on new and high tech industries is needed. It is well known that some places have already carved out a specialist association with some of these. Anticipating new small business development opportunities and sector areas, perhaps linked to ICT, is perhaps a critical success factor here.</p>
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24	Do you support the policy approach to <b>employment demand and supply</b>	See above
25	Do you support the policy approach for <b>locations of employment growth</b>	
<b>Education and skills</b>		
10	To contribute towards raising <b>educational achievements and the skills base</b> of our communities through supporting schools, colleges and the University in their provision and development  Do you support Objective 9?	
<b>Rural communities/community regeneration</b>		
7	To encourage <b>key rural communities</b> to become more sustainable places to live and work  Do you support Objective 6?  See 4/8?	

41	Do you support the policy approach for the <b>rural settlement pattern</b> for WN	
42	Do you support the policy approach for the <b>regeneration of communities</b> across WN	
40	Do you support the policy approach for the <b>existing and future neighbourhoods</b>	
39	Do you support the policy approach for <b>the hierarchy of centres</b>	
<b>Affordable housing</b>		
22	Do you support the policy approach for <b>affordable housing</b> and particularly the provisions suggested in table 6.1 'levels of affordable housing – from affordable housing SPD sites of 15 or more dwellings'	<p>WN7 How do we provide more affordable homes in WN to meet local needs?</p> <p>By strong management of the process – see WN4 and 7</p> <p>Should we be seeking to increase the provision of housing that is affordable to meet local needs?</p> <p>See previous comments re affordable housing at WN4 (and 7) and WNO1. Affordable housing in a village context is about permitting some smaller dwellings in villages according to identified local needs without diminishing quality and taking account of design and character impacts which are still critical,</p>
<b>Quality housing</b>		

13	To provide <b>quality housing</b> to meet current and future needs of all sectors of our communities  Do you support Objective 12?	
17	To achieve <b>high quality design</b> that takes account of character and local distinctiveness, enables access and promotes community safety  Do you support Objective 16?	<p>WNO2 Encourage developments that are of the highest design standards and eco friendly</p> <p>Yes. Doing this provides an important opportunity to reinforce and create character that has important resonance and impact in supporting a step change in the character of the economy and the appeal of inward investment – see some of our answers too that contribute to this argument</p>
43	Do you support the policy approach for designing in quality into new and existing developments	
<b>Gypsies and travellers</b>		
23	Do you support the policy approach for <b>gypsies and travellers</b> accommodation –in particular, do you support the criteria defined	

Questions specific to the other smaller towns – Brackley, Daventry and Towcester		
15	<p>Daventry, Towcester and Brackley -regeneration [obj 14]</p> <p>To foster the regeneration of D, T and B</p> <p>Do you support Objective 14?</p>	
32	<p>Daventry – SE</p> <p>Do you support the development of the preferred option....</p>	
33/34	<p>Daventry N and NE</p> <p>Do you support the development of the preferred option....</p>	
35	<p>Towcester S</p> <p>Do you support the development of the preferred option....</p>	<p><b>SN1</b></p> <p>How should we distribute the future growth between Brackley and Towcester and the rural areas?</p> <p>Primarily concentrate the development in the towns. Consider some modest expansion of villages with large populations; otherwise permit only restricted and limited infill in villages with a primary emphasis on preserving and enhancing the character and appeal of this place and their environs, not least to support the image, identity and character of the place</p>
36	<p>Towcester Moat Lane</p> <p>Do you support the development of the preferred option....</p>	
37	<p>Brackley N</p> <p>Do you support the</p>	

	development of the preferred option....	
38	Brackley E Do you support the development of the preferred option....	
54	Daventry Do you support the rejection of 'Daventry option 1 (Daventry East)', 'Daventry option 2 (Daventry west), Daventry option 3 (Daventry North west) and Daventry option 7 (Daventry South)	
55	Towcester Do you support the rejection of Towcester West , North West, Racecourse, North, Silverstone lung, and East of same (various options)	
56	Brackley Do you support the rejection of Brackley South, and North West	