



**West
Northamptonshire
Council**

Group facilitator survey for: Help shape the One West Northamptonshire Plan

Overview

This form has been produced to assist a group of respondents to record and provide feedback collectively, for example as a community group.

We would like your thoughts on shaping the One West Northamptonshire Plan.

Work is currently under way on creating the One West Northamptonshire Plan which is a shared vision for how organisations can work together over the next five years to make a real difference to people's lives.

The aim of the Plan is to develop West Northamptonshire into the 'beating heart of England' by 2030, where communities flourish and businesses prosper.

The One West Northamptonshire Plan sets out how organisations, businesses, and communities will work together to improve outcomes and make our area thrive by 2030.

The Draft Plans focus - Ambitions for West Northamptonshire

The Draft Plan focuses on the following clear ambitions for West Northamptonshire:

A Thriving Place:

- With a thriving economy
- With a skilled workforce
- With a great environment to live in
- That has Great connectivity
- With more and better quality homes

Thriving People:

- In a great place to raise a family
- Where children get the best start
- Where you can age well
- Where residents feel safe

Why is it important?

The One West Northamptonshire Plan is all about working together and builds upon the partnership working already taking place between organisations, communities and businesses to improve our area.

That's why it's important that everyone has the opportunity to give their views on the draft Plan, its ambitions and what they think should be the priorities for organisations working together to improve West Northamptonshire over the next five years.

How to share your views

Please view the [draft One West Northamptonshire Plan](#).

You can give us your views by accessing the [Group Facilitator's Feedback form online](#).

You can also print this form to help with your discussion and responses.

If you are unable to complete the online survey, and prefer to complete a printed form, the form will need to be scanned and emailed or posted back to the council using the address details below before the closing date.

Email address: onewestnorthants@westnorthants.gov.uk

Postal address:

One West Northamptonshire Consultation
West Northamptonshire Council
The Guildhall
St Giles' Street
Northampton
NN1 1DE

You do not have to answer all the questions or give us your feedback on every section. It is split into sections so that people can give their views on what they want too.

If you have any queries, comments or would like a copy of this questionnaire in another format you can contact us by email or post using the detail above.

The deadline for completing this questionnaire is midnight Thursday 20 February 2025.

Your feedback will be part of a report with other people's feedback, so you will not be personally identified.

For information about how consultation and engagement responses are managed, please see the [consultation and engagement privacy notice](#).

Thank you for helping us by completing this consultation.

About you

1) Please complete the following information -

Please note that the 'About you' Questions are required.

Name of facilitator or facilitators:

Organisation or group name:

Date of meeting:

Number of participants:

2) Which of the following are you representing in your group (select all that apply):

- Older People
- Younger Adults
- Learning Disability
- Physical Disability
- Mental Health
- Carers
- Black or Minority Ethnic Group
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please state below)

Other: _____

3) How did you find out about this consultation?

Please select your answer from the below

- From the local media (i.e. newspaper or radio)
- On social media
- As a member of the West Northamptonshire Residents' Panel or Consultation Register
- From another organisation
- From an email alert from West Northamptonshire Council
- From the West Northants Life magazine
- From a voluntary sector organisation providing me with support and advice
- From my parish or town council
- From a West Northamptonshire Councillor

Other, please provide detail _____

Our guiding principles

The Draft Plan has a series of underlying principles which guide how everyone will work together to improve outcomes for people in West Northants. These are:

Principle	Detail
Inclusive Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We aim to grow the local economy to create opportunities and prosperity for everyone.• We want to reduce inequalities and improve wellbeing.• By attracting investment, we can make West Northants a great place to live, visit, and do business.
Prevention is Better Than Cure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We focus on helping people live healthy, independent lives.• We provide early support to stop problems from getting worse.• Working with local partners helps us prevent crises and use resources wisely.

Strength in Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We plan and deliver services together with the community and other partners. • We aim to get the most value from our work and assets. • Partnering with the private sector can boost our district's prosperity.
Smart and Efficient Working	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We use technology and innovation to stay competitive and attract investors. • We simplify processes to save time and effort. • Digital solutions and integrated systems make it easier for customers to do business with us.

You can read about our Guiding Principles on Page 3 of the Plan.

4) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the guiding principles?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

5) Please share any further ideas or comments on the guiding principles:

Our ambitions

The Draft Plan focuses on two clear ambitions for West Northamptonshire.

A Thriving Place:

- With a thriving economy,
- With a skilled workforce,
- With a great environment to live in,
- That has Great connectivity,
- With more and better quality homes.

Thriving People:

- In a great place to raise a family,
- Where children get the best start,
- Where you can age well,
- Where residents feel safe,
- Where you can keep busy and active.

At the root of these ambitions is the need for **an Efficient and Enabling Organisation:**

- That's easy to do business with,
- With modern and efficient process,
- With no waste of public money,
- With evidence and intelligence based decisions,
- And best use of assets.

You can view the outcomes on Page 5 of the Plan.

6) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the ambitions for Thriving Place, Thriving People and an Efficient and Enabling organisation?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

7) Please share any further ideas or comments on the ambitions:

Priority 1: Productive, Inclusive and Enterprising

We aim to support a thriving, inclusive economy where local people benefit from growth.

Driving local economic growth will create quality jobs, an increasingly skilled workforce, and improve health and wellbeing, while attracting infrastructure investment

West Northamptonshire has strengths in logistics, distribution, and advanced engineering, with two Formula 1 teams and globally known companies. We offer excellent education and skills training through local institutions. We need a workforce with the right skills for future ambitions and current business needs.

Our goal is to capture high-value knowledge sector jobs and support a strong resilient foundation economy, attracting and retaining high-value businesses, and raising living standards. We have one of the highest rate of business start-ups in the country, and support through incubation to move on and grow.

As the host and a member of the South Midlands Authorities, we are well-placed to benefit from a regional skills approach and are seeking devolved funding. Working together and pooling budgets can increase employment and improve skills, benefiting both people and the local area.

Please view the proposed Priority 1 on page 6, and suggested outcomes and shared development areas.

8) To what extent do you agree or disagree with Priority 1 and its outcomes?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

9) Please use the space below to share your ideas to improve this priority or let us know of any further comments you have on the priority:

Priority 2: Accessible and Connected

Good infrastructure helps people connect with each other and to local services.

We will develop effective options for multi-modal transport infrastructure and digital infrastructure that supports employment, inclusive economic growth, and reduced rural isolation.

A new Local Transport Plan for West Northamptonshire will set a direction for how we create connectivity and support mobility in a way that drives up prosperity, reduces inequalities and overcomes some of the barriers created by our urban/rural split. We recognise that many of our southern towns and rural villages are great places to live but are often not connected to the services and opportunities residents would like.

Our new Local Transport Plan will help grow the local economy in a sustainable way and has three key aims to meet these ambitions:

- Connecting People Better,
- Shaping Healthier Places,
- Mobility Enabling Prosperity.

We also have a significant rolling programme of broadband fibre connecting our communities and increasing the opportunities for better internet and digital technology.

Please view the proposed Priority 2 on page 8, and suggested outcomes and shared development areas.

10) To what extent do you agree or disagree with Priority 2 and its outcomes?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree

- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

11) Please use the space below to share your ideas to improve this priority or let us know of any further comments you have on the priority:

Priority 3: Thriving Towns and Neighbourhoods

West Northamptonshire has many beautiful villages, thriving market towns of Towcester, Brackley and Daventry, and an increasingly vibrant town centre in Northampton (the biggest market town in England) which has a pipeline of regeneration projects underway through half a billion pounds of investment.

Residents and visitors of West Northamptonshire benefit from exploring a unique balance of urban and rural locations and numerous attractions across the region. We have a diverse landscape featuring Northampton, with a network of other smaller historical market towns, unique villages, country houses, churches and spires and open field landscapes. West Northants is a great place to bring up a family, work in, retire in, or have a business.

We are fast building a global reputation for strengths in sporting excellence, heritage and culture. Our visitor economy is robust and growing, and we are proud to host some of Britain's best stately homes including Althorp, Sulgrave Manor, Canons Ashby and Kelmars Manor and we are home to some of the country's key historical events, from the Battle of Naseby to the invention of the first radar system.

We are one of a few areas that host a number of professional sports being rugby, cricket and football clubs. We are also noted for the development of many track and field athletes at Moulton College along with Paralympic and World Champion swimmers. This sits alongside modern motorsport excellence hosting both the British Formula One and GP Moto events at our Silverstone Circuit and both Aston Martin and Mercedes Formula One teams' headquarters. More recently, we hosted the Tour of Britain international cycling event and England Women's Cricket Internationals. We have also been selected to host the 2025 Women's Rugby World Cup and have other major international sporting events lined up for 2027.

Please view the proposed Priority 3 on page 10, and suggested outcomes and shared development areas.

12) To what extent do you agree or disagree with Priority 3 and its outcomes?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

13) Please use the space below to share your ideas to improve this priority or let us know of any further comments you have on the priority:

Priority 4: More and Better Quality Homes

Good quality housing in the right place is central to having thriving residents and communities.

When people feel safe and secure in their homes, they are more likely to live independent, healthy and fulfilling lives.

Good quality, sustainable housing contributes to keeping our neighbourhoods attractive and vibrant. Increasing our housing supply with high quality and affordable homes and the right supporting infrastructure is vital to serve our growing population.

Please view the proposed Priority 4 on page 12, and suggested outcomes and shared development areas.

14) To what extent do you agree or disagree with Priority 4 and its outcomes?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

- 15) Please use the space below to share your ideas to improve this priority or let us know of any further comments you have on the priority:

Priority 5: Best Place to Grow up

A Child Friendly West Northants: a great place to grow up and raise a family, a place where children have the best start in life supported by good schools, strong communities, things to do.

Our child-friendly place aspiration is visible throughout this Plan and in the work we are doing to make West Northants the best place in the UK for children and young people to grow up in; to improve the homes and places in which children live and play; and to increase their overall health and wellbeing.

We want to make a difference to the lives of children and young people who live in West Northants, to have a positive impact on improving outcomes for all children, while recognising the need for outcomes to improve faster for children who are vulnerable or need extra support or intervention to achieve their best. Getting the best start in Life is fundamental to improving our children’s long-term life chances, and affords them the best opportunity to live long, full, healthy and enriched lives. We don’t want our children to fall out of education or fall behind.

Our new Child Friendly West Northants ambition is designed to support the best start in life for our children, a child centred approach that brings together health, education, public and voluntary sector partners, making every contact count and wrapping services around the child and family.

We will work together more collaboratively within our Local Area Partnerships (LAPs), making our support offer for families clear, easy to access and joined up. Supported by an effective use of data and joint teams we will be better able to prioritise support for children and families who need it, allowing crisis to be prevented.

We currently have a large number of children in care in comparison to other areas. Our Children's Trust has made significant improvements to keeping more children safe from harm and improving the way we work together to try and keep families together. All partners have a shared responsibility to identify and meet the needs of all children and families, through effective support across the partnership, to enable children and young adults to thrive and be empowered to reach their full potential. Over the course of this Plan we will continue to work together to reduce the number of children coming into care and do more to ensure that our early help services and teams organised around the family, support them to live together well, or stay connected if we have to intervene.

Our number of children requiring support due to special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) has increased by over 40% since the creation of the Council in 2021. Our services have not been able to meet the challenges of this increased need for support and we are committed to an improvement journey which will provide support to children and their families sooner and deliver better outcomes. This improvement requires our SEND partnership to focus more on aspirations for children and to work in a far more coordinated way.

A 2023 Youth Peer Review confirmed that West Northants leaders understand that investment at an early point in the life of a young person will save money across the system including for health services, the Council, Social Care, Police, the justice system and schools. A Child Friendly West Northants will look to promote and advance joint working to achieve these outcomes.

Please view the proposed Priority 5 on page 14, and suggested outcomes and shared development areas.

- 16) To what extent do you agree or disagree with Priority 5 and its outcomes?
- Strongly agree
 - Tend to agree
 - Neither agree nor disagree
 - Tend to disagree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Unsure

17) Please use the space below to share your ideas to improve this priority or let us know of any further comments you have on the priority:

Priority 6: Best Place to Live & Age Well

A healthy and happy West Northants: we want people to live the best lives they can - happy, healthy and independent.

As the fourth largest unitary council area in the country with a mixture of urban and rural areas, we have diverse demographics around our key towns and more remote areas. There are also significant differences between average incomes and ages depending on geography. Regardless of this, our shared partnership ambition is for residents to 'live their best life' in all aspects: health and wellbeing, education, housing and employment, and whoever they are and wherever they live in Northamptonshire.

We know the impact partnership working can have and the positive difference it can make for both communities and service delivery. To that end, we have already established a set of shared aims:

- Improve the health and wellbeing of the population,
- Reduce inequalities in health and wellbeing outcomes,
- Ensure value for money,
- Contribute to the economic and social wellbeing of West Northamptonshire.

A strong and supportive West Northants: Confident and empowered communities working together to make a difference. It is vital that we work collectively to support people to stay active and well during their working age years taking a role in

promoting the positive influence of wider determinants of wellbeing, jobs, housing, green space and isolation.

While we have a lower-than-average percentage of over 65s, we have seen this group grow at twice the national average and by three times for over 75s. Our emergency NHS services have been under pressure for years and public expectation is to be able to access 'on-the-day' services creating over-reliance on access to urgent healthcare. This has resulted in an exponential increase in demand at A&E and also for social care.

Current expectations are that we will see a 6.5% increase in the overall population of Northamptonshire to 2030, with a 21% growth in the numbers of people over the age of 75 – leading to between 7 to 8% more attendances at A&E and 10% more emergency admissions. Primary care attendances will increase at similar levels, as will demand for mental health services.

If we do nothing, it would require a minimum of 164 more acute hospital beds, along and similarly unsustainable and unaffordable increases in primary care and mental health services. Shifting the balance to more holistic, proactive, planned support will rebalance and reduce the current reliance on unplanned care ensuring emergency services are able to prioritise and meet the needs of those who are at greatest immediate risk.

To slow this trajectory, we need to support our children and adults to live healthy and active lives. Our green spaces and sport and leisure partners provide a real opportunity to support an increase in healthy life expectancy for local people, alongside work on reducing local health inequalities.

For our elderly population we will need to continue to encourage and support empowered self-care and active prevention where possible, working in partnership with health and the voluntary sector to avoid health crises and reduce hospital admissions but also to manage longterm conditions at home through technology and social prescribing solutions. Where the elderly face a crisis, we will work with partners to respond in the community and, through joint services and facilities, we will focus on helping them recover their independence. This is better for our residents' outcomes and reduces the cost and operational pressures on health and care.

Our strength-based approach is delivered across our Local Area Partnerships with the intent on enabling people to remain independent and live their best lives. Integration with health, housing and voluntary sector partners will increase our ability to support people in a person-centred way and make best use of local resources.

Please view the proposed Priority 6 on page 16, and suggested outcomes and shared development areas.

18) To what extent do you agree or disagree with Priority 6 and its outcomes?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

19) Please use the space below to share your ideas to improve this priority or let us know of any further comments you have on the priority:

Priority 7: An Efficient & Enabling Council

West Northamptonshire Council strives to be a top performing Council delivering good quality services while being efficient and effective with taxpayers’ money.

Strong governance makes us a robust organisation and there is focus on opportunities to innovate and improve. We will continue to operate as an efficient organisation while working ambitiously with our partners to shape our place and provide the opportunity for our residents and businesses to thrive.

Please view the proposed Priority on page 18, and suggested outcomes and shared development areas.

20) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Priority and its outcomes?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Unsure

21) Please use the space below to share your ideas to improve this Priority or let us know of any further comments you have on the Priority:

Ranking the priorities in order of importance

22) Based on the suggested priorities and outcomes of the One West Northamptonshire Plan, please rank the following in order of importance, where 1 is the most important and 7 is the least.

Priority	Importance
Priority 1: Productive, Inclusive and Enterprising	
Priority 2: Accessible and Connected	
Priority 3: Thriving Towns and Neighbourhoods	
Priority 4: More and Better Quality Homes	
Priority 5: Best Place to Grow up	
Priority 6: Best Place to Live & Age Well	
Priority 7: An Efficient & Enabling Council	

23) Please let us know of any further comments you have in the space below:

Thank you for helping us by completing this questionnaire.

If you have printed and intend to submit this form please ensure you allow enough time for it to be received via post, as we cannot accept submissions after this date.

The deadline for completing this questionnaire is midnight Thursday 20 February 2025.

Return address:

One West Northamptonshire Consultation
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