

North Northamptonshire Strategic Plan Scope and Issues Consultation

Stanwick Parish Council response:

Q6 What are the key measures that the plan should take to ensure appropriate climate change adaptation, mitigation and resilience?

The plan should give equal weight to the importance of climate change adaption with small/individual development not focus primarily on large scale development/SUE. For example, equal attention should be paid to one or two dwelling developments where climate change in the form of localised flooding from storms and run off (as opposed to rivers bursting their banks) can impact existing properties. Resilience should be planned in.

Planning policies should provide that all new development, residential and commercial, are equipped to be sustainable, mitigate climate change and are resilient so that they do not cause harm to the development area. The policies should be flexible enough to encompass new technologies that emerge over the plan period.

Q 29 What are the key infrastructure priorities that need to be delivered in North Northamptonshire and how can they be best be delivered?

A key infrastructure priority should be the dualling of the A45 between Stanwick and the A14 and the provision of a safe crossing point over the A45 at Stanwick round about.

Provision of good mobile network coverage without blighting the landscape.

Improve access to existing cycling routes, primarily, and walking routes to a lesser extent, to encourage their use for access to employment.

Q33 Should the plan seek to identify opportunity areas for enhancing the natural environment at a strategic scale? Should this include continuing to identify green infrastructure corridors?

Yes, without pro-active consideration, it will not happen

Q38. Are there any issues that you feel we have missed and should be considered in the Strategic Plan?

When referring to countryside and green spaces, the consultation addresses leisure activities, biodiversity, tourism, historical assets and land use but barely mentions agriculture, horticulture or food production.

Supporting and encouraging local land use for food production will

- * increase the quantity, quality and availability of locally produced food
- * decrease the financial and environmental costs of the food supply chain by decreasing transportation
- * increase the quality of food by reducing time spent in storage and transit
- * increase rural employment
- * retain agricultural land which is being lost to developers, investors and speculators, thus being permanently removed from the agricultural land bank
- * help to retain and sustain the rural, agricultural nature of the village societies and the landscape