

Oundle Town Council Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Appraisal Report

Appendix 1: Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes



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1 Introduction

This annex presents the findings of the review of Policies, Plans and Programmes (PPP) including relevant international, national and local documents undertaken as a part of the evidence gathering exercise for the Oundle Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping exercise.

The Planning Practice Guidance¹ states that:

“The strategic environmental assessment should only focus on what is needed to assess the likely significant effects of the neighbourhood plan proposal. It should focus on the environmental impacts which are likely to be significant. It does not need to be done in any more detail, or using more resources, than is considered to be appropriate for the content and level of detail in the neighbourhood plan.”

The review of PPP has therefore focused on the documents that could have an influence on the Oundle Neighbourhood Plan and is not an exhaustive list of documents prepared in the UK under each topic.

Following the EU referendum and resolution for the UK to leave the EU, it has been assumed that all EU policy remains in place as outlined in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018².

2 Overarching Documents

There are a number of key overarching documents, including the SEA Directive, the UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2018. Relevant messages from these documents have been set out within Table 2 within the Scoping letter and are also included within the tables within Section 3 of this document.

European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the SEA Directive) came into force in 2001. The Directive’s objective is to:

“provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal#strategic-environmental-assessment-requirements-for-neighbourhood-plans> accessed on 04/12/18

² <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/16/contents/enacted/data.htm>

view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.”

Member States were required to transpose the Directive into laws, regulations and administrative provisions to apply to all plans and programmes on or after 21 July 2004. The SEA Directive was transposed into English law through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations) and applies to a range of English plans and programmes, including Neighbourhood Plans.

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy ‘Securing the Future’ was published in 2005. The document set out some guiding principles for sustainable development:



The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government’s planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally-prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced. The NPPF must be taken into account in preparing development plans, and is a material consideration in planning decisions. In addition to the NPPF, planning policies and decisions must also reflect relevant international obligations and statutory requirements.

3 Review of Documents by Topic

Table 1: Air, Noise and Light Pollution

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
<p>Planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas.</p> <p>Opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts should be identified, such as through traffic and travel management, and green infrastructure provision and enhancement.</p> <p>By encouraging good design, planning policies and decisions should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity and nature conservation.</p>	National Planning Policy Framework; 2018.
<p>Air pollution and climate change are closely linked. Co-benefits can be realised through actions such as promoting low-carbon vehicles and renewable sources of energy.</p> <p>Actions that tackle climate change but damage air quality must be avoided.</p>	Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate; DEFRA 2010.
<p>Appropriate consideration of air quality, noise and visual amenity is necessary. Particular attention should be paid to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with national air quality objectives and of EU Limit Values^{16,17}; • Whether the development will materially affect any air quality action plan or strategy; • The overall degradation (or improvement) in local air quality; or • Whether the development will introduce new public exposure into an area of existing poor air quality. <p>Any air quality issue that relates to land use and its development is capable of being a material planning consideration. The weight, however, given to air quality in making a planning application decision, in addition to the policies in the local plan, will depend on such factors as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the severity of the impacts on air quality; • the air quality in the area surrounding the proposed development; • the likely use of the development, i.e. the length of time people are likely to be exposed at that location; and 	Land-Use Planning & Development Control: Planning For Air Quality, 2015

Table 1: Air, Noise and Light Pollution

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the positive benefits provided through other material considerations. 	
<p>Through the effective management and control of environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise within the context of Government policy on sustainable development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life; Mitigate and minimise adverse impacts on health and quality of life; and Where possible, contribute to the improvement of health and quality of life. 	Noise Policy Statement for England; DEFRA 2010
<p>The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition.</p> <p>The Plan includes ten key targets of which one focuses on the delivery of clean air.</p> <p><u>Clean air:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting legally binding targets to reduce emissions of five damaging air pollutants. This should halve the effects of air pollution on health by 2030; Ending the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040; and <p>Maintaining the continuous improvement in industrial emissions by building on existing good practice and the successful regulatory framework.</p>	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018
<p>The Clean Air Strategy shows how the UK aims to tackle all sources of air pollution, making the air healthier to breathe, protecting nature and boosting the economy. It sets out a wide range of actions on which the UK government is consulting and shows how the devolved administrations intend to make their share of emissions reductions.</p> <p>This consultation will inform the final Clean Air Strategy and detailed National Air Pollution Control Programme, to be published by March 2019. The plan includes actions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure green growth and innovation Reduce emissions from transport Reduce emissions at home Reduce emissions from farming 	Clean Air Strategy, 2018

Table 1: Air, Noise and Light Pollution

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce emissions from industry 	
Local	
<p>All appropriate developments are required to propose what measures can be taken to support sustainable travel, air quality improvements and traffic reduction at the application stage and for these measures to be conditioned through the planning consent if the proposals are acceptable.</p> <p>Developments should enable future occupiers to make "green" vehicle choices, including incorporating facilities for charging plug-in and other ultralow emission vehicles.</p>	LAQM Annual Status Report; East Northamptonshire Council, 2018
<p>New site allocations and applications for planning permission should not put the health and well-being of occupants at risk through poor air quality. Existing biodiversity and geodiversity assets should also be protected from the adverse effects of air pollution.</p> <p>Where development will impact through air pollution, especially on designated sites, it will only be permitted where measures can be put in place to minimise or eliminate impacts to a level that provides a high standard of protection for health and environmental quality.</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
<p>Key sustainability issues are highlighted by this Scoping Report, concerning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light and noise pollution in rural areas; • Impact of new development on sensitive landscapes; • Identification and prioritisation of the most special areas of landscape types for views, vistas, skylines; • Use of local landscape character assessments to inform design and layout of new developments; and • Identify new areas for tree planting to recreate lost areas, and create joined up larger areas of woodland. 	Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: Local Plan Part 2; East Northamptonshire, 2017
<p>Policy 4 seeks to protect the natural environmental from adverse effects from noise, air and light pollution.</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031

Table 2: Landscape and Townscape

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
<p>The planning system should contribute to, and enhance the natural and local environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, biological and geological conservation interests and soils; • Recognising the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services; • Preventing both new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; • Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes; • Seeking to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness; and • Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate. 	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018
<p>Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty. Planning permission should be refused for major development other than in exceptional circumstances, and where it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public interest.</p>	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018
<p>Planning policies and decisions should aim to ensure that developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term but over the lifetime of the development; • establish or maintain a strong sense of place, using streetscapes, buildings and materials to create attractive, welcoming and distinctive places to live, work and visit; • respond to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, and reflect the identity of local surroundings and materials, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change; • create safe, inclusive and accessible environments which promote health and well-being, and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion and resilience; and • are visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping. 	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018

Table 2: Landscape and Townscape

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Planning policies and decisions should address the connections between people and places and the integration of new development into the natural, built and historic environment.	
Take into account the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, as well as of trees and woodland.	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018
Local	
<p>Development should be located and designed in a way that is sensitive to its landscape setting, retaining and, where possible, enhancing the distinctive qualities of the landscape character area which it would affect.</p> <p>Development should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and, where possible, enhance the character and qualities of the local landscape through appropriate design and management; • Make provision for the retention and, where possible, enhancement of features of landscape importance; • Safeguard and, where possible, enhance important views and vistas including sky lines within the development layout; • Protect the landscape setting and contribute to maintaining the individual and distinct character, and separate identities of settlements by preventing coalescence; • Provide appropriate landscape mitigation and/or suitable off-site enhancements; and • Preserve tranquillity within the King's Cliffe Hills and Valleys Landscape Character Area (as shown on the Policy Map) and other areas identified in Part 2 Local Plans by minimising light and noise pollution and minimising the visual and traffic impacts of development. 	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
Development pressures have had an impact on the environment. It is important to ensure that ecosystems are meaningfully integrated into urban landscapes through street trees, pocket parks, interconnected greenspaces, waterways and living roofs.	North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan; North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit, 2014
Designing for local distinctiveness, character and identity has implications for the types and forms of development that can be successfully integrated in to the existing environment. It is essential that new development, and alterations to existing developments, respond to and reinforce locally distinctive patterns of development, landscape and culture.	Sustainable Design Supplementary Planning Document; North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit, adopted by

Table 2: Landscape and Townscape

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
	East Northamptonshire Council March 2009

Table 3: Soils

National	
<p>The planning system should contribute to, and enhance the natural and local environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, biological and geological conservation interests and soils; • Recognising the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services; • Preventing both new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; • Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes; • Seeking to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness; and • Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate. 	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018
Take into account the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, as well as of trees and woodland.	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018
Local	
Soils are an important asset in geodiversity, providing a growing medium for many resources including food and non-food crops. Soils should be protected from pollution and the best and most versatile agricultural land should be safeguarded, wherever possible.	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031

Table 4: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
<p>The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds (Birds Directive) in Great Britain (NB Council Directive 79/409/EEC has now been replaced by Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (codified version)).</p> <p>The Act provides for the notification and confirmation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and the protection of wildlife.</p>	Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
<p>The Act provides for public access on foot to certain types of land, amends the law relating to public rights of way, increases measures for the management and protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation, and provides for better management of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).</p> <p>The Act provides a new right of public access on foot to areas of open land comprising mountain, moor, heath, down, and registered common land, and contains provisions for extending the right to coastal land. The Act also provides safeguards which take into account the needs of landowners and occupiers, and of other interests, including wildlife.</p> <p>The Act improves the rights of way legislation by encouraging the creation of new routes and clarifying uncertainties about existing rights. Of particular relevance to nature conservation, the Act introduces powers enabling the diversion of rights of way to protect SSSIs.</p> <p>The Act places a duty on Government Departments and the National Assembly for Wales to have regard for the conservation of biodiversity and maintain lists of species and habitats for which conservation steps should be taken or promoted, in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity.</p> <p>Schedule 9 of the Act amends SSSI provisions of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, including provisions to change SSSIs and providing increased powers for their protection and management. The provisions extend powers for entering into management agreements; place a duty on public bodies to further the conservation and enhancement of SSSIs; increases penalties on conviction where the provisions are breached; and introduce a new offence whereby third parties can be convicted for damaging SSSIs.</p>	Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW Act)

Table 4: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>Natural England's general purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.</p> <p>Natural England's general purpose includes—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting nature conservation and protecting biodiversity, • Conserving and enhancing the landscape, • Securing the provision and improvement of facilities for the study, understanding and enjoyment of the natural environment, • Promoting access to the countryside and open spaces and encouraging open-air recreation, and • Contributing in other ways to social and economic well-being through management of the natural environment. <p>A duty is placed on Local Authorities to conserve biodiversity and the Secretary of State (England) is required to publish and keep under review a list of the living organisms and types of habitat which are of principal importance for the purpose of conserving biodiversity.</p>	<p>National Environmental & Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC)</p>
<p>There is a need to act now with greater vigour to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve existing biodiversity; • Conserve protected areas and all other high quality habitats; • Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate; • Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species; • Maintain existing ecological networks; • Create buffer zones around high quality habitats; • Take prompt action to control spread of invasive species; • Establish ecological networks through habitat restoration and creation; and • Respond to changing conservation priorities. 	<p>England Biodiversity Strategy Climate Change Adaptation Principles: Conserving Biodiversity in a Changing Climate (DEFRA 2007)</p>
<p>English Nature (now Natural England) recommends that provision should be made of at least 2ha of accessible natural greenspace per 1000 population according to a system of tiers into which sites of different sizes fit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no person should live more than 300m from their nearest area of natural greenspace; • there should be at least one accessible 20ha site within 2km from home; 	<p>Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities: A review and Toolkit for their Implementation 2003 and Nature Nearby: Accessible Green Space Guidance, 2010</p>

Table 4: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> there should be one accessible 100ha site within 5km; and there should be one accessible 500ha site within 10km. 	
<p>Minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity where possible, contribute to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.</p> <p>Recognise the wider benefits of ecosystem services; minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.</p>	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018
<p>Local planning authorities and neighbourhood planning bodies should seek opportunities to work collaboratively with other partners, including Local Nature Partnerships, to develop and deliver a strategic approach to protecting and improving the natural environment based on local priorities and evidence. They should consider the opportunities that individual development proposals may provide to enhance biodiversity and contribute to wildlife and habitat connectivity in the wider area.</p> <p>Biodiversity maintenance and enhancements through the planning system have the potential to make a significant contribution to the achievement of Biodiversity 2020 targets.</p> <p>Biodiversity enhancement in and around development should be led by a local understanding of ecological networks, and should seek to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat restoration, re-creation and expansion; Improved links between existing sites; Buffering of existing important sites; New biodiversity features within development; and Securing management for long term enhancement. 	National Planning Practice Guidance 2014 – Natural Environment
Regulation 61 requires Appropriate Assessment of plans and projects likely to have a significant effect on a European site.	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010)
Communities should identify green infrastructure requirements in their local area through addition to, or creative enhancement of, the existing network. Look to enhance local landscape character, heritage and biodiversity and ensure long term management is included in an overall strategy.	Local Green Infrastructure: Helping Communities Make the Most of Their Landscape; Landscape Institute for

Table 4: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
	Green Infrastructure Partnership 2011
Halt overall loss of England's biodiversity by 2020; support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks.	Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services, 2011
<p>The report identifies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some assets are currently not being used sustainably and the benefits that we derive from them are at risk; • there are major economic benefits to be gained from natural capital and that their value should be incorporated into decision-making; and • a long-term restoration plan is necessary to maintain and improve natural capital for future generations. 	The State of Natural Capital: Restoring our Natural Assets, March 2014
<p>This strategy aims to address Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) issues in Great Britain (GB), maintaining the approach of the 2008 Strategy and the 2003 policy review. The strategy covers the terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments and also species native to one part of a country that become invasive in areas outside their natural range.</p> <p>The scope of the Strategy covers all non-native species of flora and fauna with the exception of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), bacteria and viruses. Its full effect, however, is aimed at those non-native species that are known to be or are potentially invasive. The Strategy does not aim to address issues related to human health or formerly native species, nor does it cover animal or plant diseases although it aims to ensure close working with these areas where appropriate.</p>	The Great Britain Invasive Non-native Species Strategy, 2015
<p>The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition.</p> <p>The Plan includes ten key targets of which two focus on biodiversity.</p> <p><u>Thriving plants and wildlife:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoring 75% of our one million hectares of terrestrial and freshwater protected sites to favourable condition, securing their wildlife value for the long term; • Creating or restoring 500,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat outside the protected site network, focusing on priority habitats 	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018

Table 4: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>as part of a wider set of land management changes providing extensive benefits;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking action to recover threatened, iconic or economically important species of animals, plants and fungi and where possible to prevent human-induced extinction or loss of known threatened species in England and the Overseas Territories; and • Increasing woodland in England in line with our aspiration of 12% cover by 2060: this would involve planting 180,000 hectares by end of 2042. <p><u>Enhancing biosecurity:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing and reducing the impact of existing plant and animal diseases; lowering the risk of new ones and tackling invasive non-native species; • Reaching the detailed goals to be set out in the Tree Health Resilience Plan of 2018; • Ensuring strong biosecurity protection at our borders, drawing on the opportunities leaving the EU provides; and • Working with industry to reduce the impact of endemic disease. 	
Local	
<p>Biodiversity and geodiversity are crucial in supporting the full range of ecosystem services provided by the landscape and interaction of species and their habitats, with their non-living environments.</p> <p>North Northamptonshire's biodiversity and geodiversity assets are facing increasing pressure from new development, recreational use, the wider impacts of climate change and the introduction of non-native invasive species.</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
<p>Sites within North Northamptonshire are designated at an international, national and local level. Those designated at a local level (e.g. Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites, Pocket Parks) are important parts of North Northamptonshire's ecological network.</p> <p>These local sites contain a large proportion of the area's natural resource and contribute to the connectivity and resilience of the ecological network and the landscape as a whole.</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
<p>The Nene and Ise Valleys are the green and blue threads linking North Northamptonshire's urban centres with its countryside and containing many of its key environmental and green infrastructure assets. Oundle is included within the Nene Valley. The Nene Valley Strategic Plan,</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031

Table 4: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>alongside Part 2 of the Local Plan (the 2011 Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan, currently under replacement as of April 2016), and the Neighbourhood Plans include guidance on developing the potential of the towns as gateways to these natural environments, in addition to identifying potential site opportunities.</p>	
<p>The Rockingham Forest area has been identified as a special policy area, which is intended to address the issue of woodland fragmentation across North Northamptonshire. This will align with other benefits of increasing tree planting, as outlined through the Rockingham Forest for Life project, which aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect, enhance and increase existing ancient woodland through linkages and buffering; • Reinststate woodland on previously wooded sites; • Capture carbon dioxide by creating 40 hectares of new woodland each year; • Community engagement with local woodlands; and • Reinvigorate traditional woodland activities and food from the forest. 	<p>North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031</p>
<p>Development will support the delivery of conservation at the landscape scale, helping to reverse fragmentation, increase habitat connectivity and create a coherent and resilient ecological network. This will include the recognition of the wider benefits of these habitats and species in the provision of ecosystem services. New development must take account of existing biodiversity resources on individual sites, contribute to the links between them, and where possible, should secure a net gain in biodiversity through the maintenance, restoration and creation of priority habitats.</p>	<p>North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031</p>
<p>Northamptonshire County is reported to have one of the UK's lowest proportions of protected areas for biodiversity. Its anticipated high levels of development pressure, coupled with large areas of land with low biodiversity value, means that it is vital that steps are taken to ensure that remaining biodiversity is not further degraded or destroyed. Instead, new development should be seen as an opportunity, within which biodiversity can be integrated and enhanced to safeguard its future, while providing a healthy, naturally functioning environment for local communities to enjoy.</p>	<p>Northamptonshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2015 – 2020, Northamptonshire Local Nature Partnership</p>

Table 5: Archaeological and Cultural Heritage

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
<p>Section 61(12) defines sites that warrant protection due to their being of national importance as 'ancient monuments'. These can be either Scheduled Ancient Monuments or "any other monument which in the opinion of the Secretary of State is of public interest by reason of the historic, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching to it".</p>	<p>Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979</p>
<p>Conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations.</p> <p>Planning policies and decisions should address the connections between people and places and the integration of new development into the natural, built and historic environment.</p> <p>Seek to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness.</p>	<p>National Planning Policy Framework, 2018</p>
<p>Advice Note 1: The Historic Environment in Local Plans: This document sets out information to help local planning authorities make well informed and effective local plans.</p> <p>Advice Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision-Taking: This document contains useful information on assessing the significance of heritage assets, using appropriate expertise, historic environment records, recording and furthering understanding, neglect and unauthorised works, marketing and design and distinctiveness.</p> <p>Advice Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets: This document sets out guidance on managing change within the settings of heritage assets, including archaeological remains and historic buildings, sites, areas, and landscapes.</p>	<p>Historic England Good Practice Advice Notes 1-3, 2015</p>
<p>Conservation Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The historic environment is a shared resource; • Everyone should be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment; • Understanding the significance of places is vital; • Significant places should be managed to sustain their values; • Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent; and • Documenting and learning from decisions is essential. 	<p>Conservation Principles – Policies and Guidance; English Heritage, 2015</p>
<p>A general duty is placed on local authorities for the preservation and enhancement of listed buildings and features of special architectural or historic interest, including the designation of conservation areas.</p>	<p>Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990</p>

Table 5: Archaeological and Cultural Heritage	
Message / Issue	Source document(s)
The Heritage Statement sets out how the Government will support the heritage sector and help it to protect and care for heritage and the historic environment in the coming years, in order to maximise the economic and social impact of heritage and to ensure that everyone can enjoy and benefit from it.	The Heritage Statement, 2017; Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport
Local	
Over 2800 designated heritage assets are present within North Northamptonshire, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, and conservation areas. This extends to the historic market town of Oundle. Heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and effective conservation delivers wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits. Heritage assets may be affected and harmed by direct physical change, or by change in their setting.	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
Whilst not having statutory status, non-designated heritage assets are identified as having a degree of significance that merits consideration in the determination of planning applications. Non-designated heritage assets are an important component of North Northamptonshire and are at risk from the impact of development, or the cumulative loss of structures. There is an adopted list of buildings of local interest contained within the 2011 Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan (Local Plan Part 2, currently under replacement as of April 2016). This list is incomplete and only covers a small amount of the total number of assets.	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 – 2031
It is important to create places that are sympathetic to the local character of the surrounding environment, which reflect the distinctive characteristics of the settlements in North Northamptonshire, and the creation of streetscapes that are visually sympathetic to the historic environment. Where a development would impact upon a heritage asset and/or its setting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals should conserve and, where possible, enhance the heritage significance and setting of an asset or group of heritage assets in a manner commensurate to its significance; Proposals should complement their surrounding historic environment through the form, scale, design and materials; Proposals should protect and, where possible, enhance key views and vistas of heritage assets, including of the church 	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 – 2031

Table 5: Archaeological and Cultural Heritage

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>spires along the Nene Valley and across North Northamptonshire;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals should demonstrate an appreciation and understanding of the impact of development on heritage assets and their setting in order to minimise harm to these assets and their setting. Where loss of historic features or archaeological remains is unavoidable and justified, provision should be made for recording and the production of a suitable archive and report; • Where appropriate, flexible solutions to the re-use of buildings and conservation of other types of heritage assets at risk will be encouraged, especially, where this will result in their removal from the 'at risk' register. 	
<p>Development pressures associated with levels of growth already planned for the District could have negative impacts upon cultural heritage, unless carefully managed.</p>	<p>Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: Local Plan Part 2; East Northamptonshire, 2017</p>

Table 6: Climatic Factors

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
<p>Improve carbon management and help the transition towards a low carbon economy in the UK.</p> <p>Demonstrate strong UK leadership internationally, showing the commitment to taking shared responsibility for reducing global emissions in the context of developing negotiations on a post-2012 global agreement at Copenhagen in 2009.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emission reductions through action in the UK and abroad of at least 80% by 2050, and reductions in CO2 emissions of at least 26% by 2020, against a 1990 baseline.</p>	The Climate Change Act, 2008
<p>The UK has committed to an 80% reduction in its greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. In order to help meet this target, the UK Committee on Climate Change (CCC) has devised a series of interim UK “carbon budgets” as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st carbon budget (2008 to 2012): 23% reduction; • 2nd carbon budget (2013 to 2017): 29% reduction; • 3rd carbon budget (2018 to 2022): 35% reduction by 2020; • 4th carbon budget (2023 to 2027): 50% reduction by 2025; and • 5th carbon budget (2028 to 2032): 57% reduction by 2030. 	UK Committee on Climate Change, Interim UK Carbon Budgets
The UK needs to radically increase its use of renewable energy.	National Renewable Energy Action Plan for the UK, Department of Energy and Climate Change, Article 4 of the Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC
<p>Actions that tackle climate change but damage air quality must be avoided.</p> <p>Air pollution and climate change are closely linked. Co-benefits can be realised through actions such as promoting low-carbon vehicles and renewable sources of energy.</p>	Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate; DEFRA 2010.
Risk Management authorities must work together to identify the likelihood and location of flooding and coastal erosion in order to reduce the risk of harm. Authorities should prevent inappropriate development, improve forecasting and encourage greater community knowledge of the risks of flooding and coastal erosion.	National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England; DEFRA, EA 2011

Table 6: Climatic Factors

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>The Local Plan will need to help communities adapt successfully to future weather conditions. Objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a clear local planning framework to enable all participants in the planning system to deliver sustainable new development, including infrastructure that minimises vulnerability and provides resilience to the impacts of climate change; • To increase the resilience of homes and buildings by helping people and communities to understand what a changing climate could mean for them and to take action to become resilient to climate risks; and • To ensure infrastructure is located, planned, designed and maintained to be resilient to climate change, including increasingly extreme weather events. 	<p>The National Adaptation Programme – Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate; DEFRA, 2013</p>
<p>Aims to improve the energy performance of buildings in the EU, taking into account various climatic and local conditions. It sets out minimum requirements and a common methodology. It covers energy used for heating, hot water, cooling, ventilation and lighting.</p>	<p>Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010</p>
<p>The Building Regulations 2000 (England & Wales) set out standards and requirements that individual aspects of building design and construction must achieve. In the latest revision to the document in 2013 (implemented in April 2014) was amended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of specification to ensure that all residential dwellings achieve a 6% carbon dioxide savings relative to Part L 2010, and an aggregate 9% carbon dioxide savings across new non-domestic building mix in relation to Part L 2010; • Introduction of Fabric Energy Efficiency Targets for new dwellings to emphasise a fabric first approach; and <p>Minimum energy efficiency targets for air conditioning and lighting replacements.</p>	<p>Building Regulations Part L (Conservation of Fuel and Power), 2013</p>
<p>Local planning authorities should prioritise walking, cycling and public transport and other smarter choices by setting targets for the proportion of trips in their area by these modes.</p> <p>They are advised to design their policies to support and not unreasonably restrict renewable and low carbon energy developments.</p> <p>Local development plans can support the move to a low-carbon economy and secure low-carbon living in a changing climate.</p>	<p>Planning for Climate Change – guidance for local authorities: Planning and Climate Change Coalition April 2012</p>

Table 6: Climatic Factors

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings. 	National Planning Policy Framework; DCLG March 2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air pollution and climate change are closely linked. Co-benefits can be realised through actions such as promoting low-carbon vehicles and renewable sources of energy. Actions that tackle climate change but damage air quality must be avoided. 	Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate; DEFRA 2010.
Actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling, and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable;	National Planning Policy Framework; DCLG March 2012
<p>This Strategy sets out a comprehensive set of policies and proposals that aim to accelerate the pace of “clean growth”, i.e. deliver increased economic growth and decreased emissions.</p> <p>Key Policies and Proposals in the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop world leading Green Finance capabilities; Develop a package of measures to support businesses to improve their energy productivity, by at least 20 per cent by 2030; Improving the energy efficiency of our homes; Rolling out low carbon heating; Accelerating the shift to low carbon transport; Delivering clean, smart, flexible power emissions; and <p>Enhancing the benefits and value of our natural resources.</p>	The Clean Growth Strategy, 2017
<p>The NPPF and its technical flood risk methodology replaced PPS25 – Development and Flood Risk. The NPPF states that Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk (whether existing or future). Where development is necessary in such areas, the development should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere. Strategic policies should be informed by a strategic flood risk assessment and should manage flood risk from all sources.</p> <p>The NPPF states local planning authorities and county councils (in two-tier areas) are under a duty to cooperate with each other, and with other prescribed bodies, on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries.</p>	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018

Table 6: Climatic Factors

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>Plan to shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimising vulnerability and improving resilience.</p> <p>Actively support energy efficiency and other sustainability improvements to existing buildings.</p> <p>When setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government's policy for national technical standards.</p>	
<p>The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition.</p> <p>The Plan includes ten key targets of which one focuses on climate change.</p> <p><u>Mitigating and adapting to climate change:</u></p> <p>We will take all possible action to mitigate climate change, while adapting to reduce its impact. We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to cut greenhouse gas emissions including from land use, land use change, the agriculture and waste sectors and the use of fluorinated gases. The UK Climate Change Act 2008 commits us to reducing total greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80 per cent by 2050 when compared to 1990 levels; • Making sure that all policies, programmes and investment decisions take into account the possible extent of climate change this century; and implementing a sustainable and effective second National Adaptation Programme. 	<p>A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018</p>
Local	
<p>Development needs to respond to climate change through its design, considering measures such as sustainable travel, landscape, planting for biodiversity, and sustainable drainage.</p>	<p>North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031</p>
<p>Whilst protecting and enhancing biodiversity can play an important role in mitigating effects of climate change, for example through reducing flood risk and providing new habitats, these assets are themselves facing increased pressure from new development and the wider impacts of climate change.</p>	<p>North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031</p>
<p>The Rockingham Forest area has been identified as a special policy area, which is intended to address the issue of woodland fragmentation across North Northamptonshire. Rockingham Forest was selected by Defra as one of only five climate change projects nationally, to support the UK Low Carbon Transition Plan and the Government's Carbon Plan</p>	<p>North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031</p>

Table 6: Climatic Factors

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
to pilot a Carbon Sink Forestry Project. Amongst other objectives, the Rockingham Forest for Life project aims to capture carbon dioxide by creating 40 hectares of new woodland each year.	
<p>Through the application of the Sequential Test as set out in the NPPF, development must demonstrate that there are no reasonably available sites in a lower flood risk zone or at a lower risk of flooding than the application site. Where necessary, the Exception Test set out in the NPPF should be applied.</p> <p>Development should be safe, not increase flood risk elsewhere, and should demonstrate that they have been informed by local studies including the relevant Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRA's), Surface Water Management Plans (SWMPs), the Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS), and where applicable, designed to a higher standard of protection.</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031

Table 7: Population and Health	
Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
<p>The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society. It is against the law to discriminate against anyone because of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age; • being or becoming a transsexual person; • being married or in a civil partnership; • being pregnant or having a child; • disability; • race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin; • religion, belief or lack of religion/belief; • sex; and • sexual orientation. 	Equality Act 2010
Improve public health by strengthening local public health activities which connect people with nature.	The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature; HM Government June 2011.
<p>Reducing health inequalities is a matter of fairness and social justice. In England, the many people who are currently dying prematurely each year as a result of health inequalities would otherwise have enjoyed, in total, between 1.3 and 2.5 million extra years of life.</p> <p>Ensure a healthy standard of living for all; create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities; and strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention.</p>	Fair Society, Healthy Lives: The Marmot Review: Strategic review of health inequalities in England post 2012
Increase healthy life expectancy; and reduce differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities.	Public Health Outcomes Framework, NHS, January 2012
Too many children and young people are living in circumstances that make it difficult for them to thrive.	Director of Public Health annual report 2011; Public Health Agency 2011
<p>Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other; 	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018

Table 7: Population and Health

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion; and • Enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs. <p>To provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities; • Take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community; • Guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services; • Ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise, and are retained for the benefit of the community; and • Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services. 	
<p>Deliver better public services through involving and consulting users more fully, providing better information about local standards and managing services at neighbourhood level.</p>	<p>Strong and Prosperous Communities: The Local Government White Paper, 2006</p>
<p>Engage and empower local people and communities; promote local action planning; and enable more power and say for communities in the decisions that affect them.</p>	<p>Communities in Control: Real People, Real Power, White Paper, July 2008</p>
<p>Strategy aims that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In every residential area there are a variety of supervised and unsupervised places for play, free of charge; • Local neighbourhoods are, and feel like, safe, interesting places to play; • Routes to children's play space are safe and accessible for all children and young people; • Parks and open spaces are attractive and welcoming to children and young people, and are well maintained and well used; • Children and young people have a clear stake in public space and their play is accepted by their neighbours; 	<p>Play Strategy for England; DCMS, 2008</p>

Table 7: Population and Health

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young people play in a way that respects other people and property; • Children and young people and their families take an active role in the development of local play spaces; and • Play spaces are attractive, welcoming, engaging and accessible for all local children and young people, including disabled children, and children from minority groups in the community. 	
<p>This mandate sets out seven key objectives for NHS England that reflect its contribution to these ambitions to 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through better commissioning, improve local and national health outcomes, and reduce health inequalities. • To help create the safest, highest quality health and care service. • To balance the NHS budget and improve efficiency and productivity. • To lead a step change in the NHS in preventing ill health and supporting people to live healthier lives. • To maintain and improve performance against core standards. • To improve out-of-hospital care. • To support research, innovation and growth. 	The Government's mandate to NHS England for 2017-18
<p>This document sets out a shared commitment to high-quality, person-centred adult social care. It has been produced to make a difference in care services by working across the sector with people who use these services and their careers. It has been developed so that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public – people who use services, families and carers – know what high-quality care looks like and what they have the right to expect. • Staff working within adult social care understand what high-quality care looks like and how they can contribute to delivering it. • Providers of adult social care share a clear vision and commitment to providing high-quality care. • Commissioners and funders of adult social care support the commissioning of high-quality care and high-quality integrated care. 	NHS Adult Social Care: Quality Matters, July 2017

Table 7: Population and Health	
Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National bodies (including regulators and improvement agencies) support integrated working across the system to champion high-quality care. 	
The Act places legal duty on English Councils so that everyone who is homeless or at risk of homelessness will have access to meaningful help, irrespective of their priority need status, as long as they are eligible for assistance.	Homelessness Reduction Act 2017
Local	
<p>The key outcomes which are hoped to be achieved through this strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More people, more active, more often in East Northamptonshire; Improved leisure facilities and sustainable plans developed for leisure provision; An increase in the proportion of adults and children with a healthy weight; Successful sport outreach work with local clubs, teams and classes to ensure greater access to activity across the district; Strong partnerships with a range of Sport & Physical Activity providers, agencies and stakeholders including Public Health Organisations, First For Wellbeing, Northamptonshire Sport, Schools and Clubs; and Improved opportunities for Sport and Physical Activity providers to access funding 	Healthy and Active Lifestyles Strategy; East Northamptonshire Council, 2017
Planning policies will be designed to ensure adequate leisure provision is provided to those in the district. It will be ensured that developers consider leisure facilities, and make a contribution to their provision to assist in making their development attractive to new residents. Population growth will be supported by growth in the leisure provision that is accessible to new residents. Co-location of sporting activities will be supported, as will encouragement of the development of multi sport facilities.	Healthy and Active Lifestyles Strategy; East Northamptonshire Council, 2017
Service provision must be clinically lead by the NHS and the Clinical Commissioning Groups. A populations' healthcare requirements evolve and change over time, healthcare provision needs to be able to respond to these changes and move with development of new types of care such as technological improvement.	North Northamptonshire Health Study; North Northamptonshire Joint Planning and Delivery Unit, 2018

Table 7: Population and Health

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>It is necessary to understand the relationship between service provision and planning and property development. Understanding where planning's role can influence health outcomes and infrastructure delivery while appreciating it cannot control the delivery of service provision.</p>	
<p>Community services and facilities play a vital role in promoting the sustainability of communities and contributing towards their self-reliance. Whilst the Growth Towns and Market Towns are the focus for facilities it will be important to provide services and facilities where they are appropriate to the needs of a community and to ensure the retention of premises and land for such uses.</p> <p>The loss of services and facilities can have a significant impact on people's quality of life and the overall viability of communities. With an increasing proportion of older people in the population, access to locally based services will become increasingly important, reflecting lower mobility levels.</p> <p>New development should retain, and, where possible, enhance existing community assets, services and facilities. It will be important that these are incorporated into the design of new development where possible. Where development would result in the loss of a facility, applications should be accompanied by an assessment which sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The availability of alternative or replacement facilities; • Whether the services that the facilities provided are being delivered by other means; • Whether the facility is still required, or why it is no longer needed by the community it serves; and • Whether there may be wider community benefits associated with the new proposal. 	<p>North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031</p>
<p>Open space, sports, arts and culture, recreation are essential elements of sustainable communities that contribute towards health, quality of life, sense of place and overall well-being. This is further detailed in the North Northamptonshire Strategic Sports Facilities Framework, as well as in more detailed local assessments which identify the level of provision required to meet population growth in North Northamptonshire. It also sets out a range of key sports facilities that should be safeguarded and enhanced. Similarly, the Cultural Investment Framework identifies the provision of cultural provision that is required to accompany growth in North</p>	<p>North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031</p>

Table 7: Population and Health

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Northamptonshire, and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan sets out necessary sport and cultural requirements.	

Table 8: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
By 2030 at the latest, there is improved quality of the water environment and the ecology which it supports; sustainably managed risks from flooding; more effective management of surface water and sustainable use of water resources.	Future Water - The Government's Water Strategy for England, 2008
The 2017 update replaces the 2003 regulations. The update outlines the duties of regulators in relation to environmental permitting, impoundment and abstraction of water.	The Water Environment (England and Wales) Regulations (Water Framework Directive), 2017
<p>This document updates Groundwater Protection: Principles and Practice (GP3). It contains position statements which provide information about the Environment Agency's approach to managing and protecting groundwater. They detail how the Environment Agency delivers government policy for groundwater and adopts a risk-based approach where legislation allows.</p> <p>The primary aim of all of the position statements is the prevention of pollution of groundwater and protection of it as a resource. Groundwater protection is long term, so these principles and position statements aim to protect and enhance this valuable resource for future generations.</p>	The Environment Agency's Approach to Groundwater Protection, 2018
<p>The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to be taken to achieve that ambition. The plan includes ten key targets, of which one focuses on minimising water use and degradation.</p> <p><u>Clean and Plentiful Water:</u></p> <p>Improving at least three quarters of our waters to be close to their natural state as soon as is practicable by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the damaging abstraction of water from rivers and groundwater, ensuring that by 2021 the proportion of water bodies with enough water to support environmental standards increases from 82% to 90% for surface water bodies and from 72% to 77% for groundwater bodies; • Reaching or exceeding objectives for rivers, lakes, coastal and ground waters that are specially protected, whether for biodiversity or drinking water as per the River Basin Management Plans; • Supporting OFWAT's ambitions on leakage, minimising the amount of water lost through leakage year on year, with water 	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018

Table 8: Water	
Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>companies expected to reduce leakage by at least an average of 15% by 2025; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimising by 2030 the harmful bacteria in our designated bathing waters and continuing to improve the cleanliness of our waters. Potential bathers will be warned of any short-term pollution risks. 	
Local	
The District is covered by the Environment Agency/ Defra Anglian river basin district river basin management plan (December 2015). This covers the three principal river catchment areas that lie within the District: the Nene, Welland and Great Ouse. Oundle is within the Nene Catchment Area.	Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: Local Plan Part 2; East Northamptonshire, 2017
The priority river basin management issues to tackle in the Nene catchment are water quality, habitat quality, and hydromorphology.	Water for Life and Livelihoods. Part 1: Anglian River Basin District River Basin Management Plan; DEFRA and EA, 2015
<p>By 2027, the Nene catchment will have a high quality environment which is fully integrated with planned growth and development, to ensure sustainability of water resource, and work towards good ecological status. This will be delivered through a committed partnership with a diverse range of stakeholders and interests from across the Nene catchment. The River Nene, including all its tributaries, will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be cleaner and healthier; Support more fish, birds, and other wildlife; Meet the needs of drinking water suppliers and business; Provide a more attractive amenity for people to enjoy; Be sensitively managed by everyone whose activities affect it; Protect its irreplaceable heritage assets; Continue to provide drainage and manage flood risk. 	River Nene Integrated Catchment Management Plan; River Nene Regional Park CIC, 2014
The Rockingham Forest area has been identified as a special policy area, which is intended to address the issue of woodland fragmentation across North Northamptonshire. This will align with other benefits of increasing tree planting, including aiding surface water management.	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031

Table 8: Water	
Message / Issue	Source document(s)
It is critical to maximise opportunities for improving the quality of the Willow Brook, to fulfil the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
The JCS sets out a number of requirements for development to incorporate measures which include those which limit the use of water.	Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: Local Plan Part 2; East Northamptonshire, 2017
<p>Development which may require a WFD assessment includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development within 20 metres of a watercourse where changes are proposed to the channel or bank form or where the long term management of the watercourse would be affected; • Development requiring environmental impact assessment for reasons linked to the water environment; • New water infrastructure; and • Developments on contaminated land. <p>This list is not exhaustive.</p>	Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: Local Plan Part 2; East Northamptonshire, 2017

Table 9: Transport and Accessibility

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
<p>Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals</p> <p>Actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable;</p> <p>Create places that are safe, secure and attractive – which minimise the scope for conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles and avoid unnecessary street clutter</p> <p>Incorporate facilities for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles;</p> <p>Consider the needs of people with disabilities and people with reduced motility by all modes of transport;</p> <p>Local planning authorities should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections.</p>	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018
<p>Local planning authorities should prioritise walking, cycling and public transport and other smarter choices by setting targets for the proportion of trips in their area by these modes.</p>	Planning for Climate Change – guidance for local authorities: Planning and Climate Change Coalition, 2012
<p>This Strategy sets out how the government will build on recent transport progress and how they intend to respond realistically and pragmatically to today's challenges.</p> <p>They aim to create a more reliable, less congested, and better connected transport network that works for the users who rely on it. Through investment they aim to achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A network that is reliable, well-managed, and safe; • Journeys that are smooth, fast, and comfortable; and <p>The right connections in the right places.</p>	Transport Investment Strategy, 2017
<p>Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals</p> <p>Actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable;</p> <p>Create places that are safe, secure and attractive – which minimise the scope for conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles and avoid unnecessary street clutter</p>	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018

Table 9: Transport and Accessibility

<p>Incorporate facilities for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles;</p> <p>Consider the needs of people with disabilities and people with reduced motility by all modes of transport;</p> <p>Local planning authorities should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections.</p>	
<p>The key issues, which should be considered in developing a transport evidence base, include the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the existing situation and likely generation of trips over time by all modes and the impact on the locality in economic, social and environmental terms • Assess the opportunities to support a pattern of development that, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport • Highlight and promote opportunities to reduce the need for travel where appropriate • Identify opportunities to prioritise the use of alternative modes in both existing and new development locations if appropriate • Consider the cumulative impacts of existing and proposed development on transport networks • Assess the quality and capacity of transport infrastructure and its ability to meet forecast demands • Identify the short, medium and long-term transport proposals across all modes <p>The outcome could include assessing where alternative allocations or mitigation measures would improve the sustainability, viability and deliverability of proposed land allocations (including individual sites) provided these are compliant with national policy as a whole.</p>	<p>Planning Practice Guidance: Transport Evidence Bases in Plan Making and Decision Taking, 2014</p>
<p>This Strategy sets out how the government will build on recent transport progress and how they intend to respond realistically and pragmatically to today's challenges.</p> <p>They aim to create a more reliable, less congested, and better connected transport network that works for the users who rely on it. Through investment they aim to achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A network that is reliable, well-managed, and safe; • Journeys that are smooth, fast, and comfortable; and • The right connections in the right places. 	<p>Transport Investment Strategy, 2017</p>
<p>Local</p>	

Table 9: Transport and Accessibility

<p>Good transport and communication connections underpin a strong network of settlements and are essential to the economic prosperity of North Northamptonshire, the quality of life of local people and enhancing the urban structure of settlements. The Joint Core Strategy addresses connectivity at the neighbourhood, local, area and strategic connectivity level. This has been informed by the Northamptonshire Transportation Plan (the Local Transport Plan).</p>	<p>North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031</p>
<p>Anticipated growth will cause a significant increase in the demand for travel, particularly along the A14, A45 and A43 and on roads in towns, some of which are already congested at peak times. It will be necessary to increase levels of modal shift away from the private car towards other forms of travel including public transport, cycling and walking. The introduction of effective and attractive sustainable transport options should be encouraged, to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reduction of 5% in single occupancy car journeys to work from the existing built up areas of the Growth and Market towns; and • A reduction of 20% in single occupancy car journeys to work from new developments compared to adjoining wards. 	<p>North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031</p>
<p>The Northamptonshire Transportation Plan is Northamptonshire's new Local Transport Plan replacing the interim Third Local Transport Plan of March 2011. It meets the statutory requirements of the Transport Act 2000 and Local Transport Act 2008 by setting out plans and policies for transport in Northamptonshire as well as how those plans and policies are intended to be implemented.</p>	<p>The Northamptonshire Transportation Plan: Fit for Purpose; Northamptonshire County Council, Local Transport Plan, 2012</p>

Table 10: Housing and Community Facilities

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
<p>To determine the minimum number of homes needed, strategic policies should be informed by a local housing need assessment. In addition to the local housing need figure, any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas should also be taken into account in establishing the amount of housing to be planned for.</p> <p>Within this context, the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who require affordable housing; • Families with children; • Older people; • Students; • People with disabilities; • Service families; • Travellers; • People who rent their homes; and • People wishing to commission or build their own homes. <p>Where a need for affordable housing is identified, planning policies should specify the type of affordable housing required. Provision of affordable housing should not be sought for residential developments that are not major developments, other than in designated rural areas. Where major development involving the provision of housing is proposed, planning policies and decisions should expect at least 10% of the homes to be available for affordable home ownership.</p> <p>To maintain the supply of housing, local planning authorities should monitor progress in building out sites which have permission. Where the Housing Delivery Test indicates that delivery has fallen below 95% of the local planning authority's housing requirement over the previous three years, the authority should prepare an action plan in line with national planning guidance, to assess the causes of under delivery and identify actions to increase delivery in future years.</p>	<p>National Planning Policy Framework, 2018</p>
<p>This consultation seeks views on the Government's proposed new housing costs funding model from April 2020 for sheltered and extra care housing in England. It is aimed at local authorities, supported housing providers and people living in sheltered and extra care supported housing and their families.</p>	<p>Funding Supported Housing: Policy Statement and Consultation, October 2017</p>

Table 10: Housing and Community Facilities

<p>The Act allows the modification or discharge of the affordable housing elements of section 106 agreements in order to make developments more viable.</p> <p>Contains measures to extend permitted development rights to allow single-storey extensions of up to eight metres.</p> <p>Reduces the volume of extra paperwork required with a planning application; removing over-lapping development consent regimes that require multiple extra permissions from different government agencies.</p>	Growth and Infrastructure Act 2013
<p>This consultation seeks views on the Government's proposed new housing costs funding model from April 2020 for sheltered and extra care housing in England. It is aimed at local authorities, supported housing providers and people living in sheltered and extra care supported housing and their families.</p>	Funding Supported Housing: Policy Statement and Consultation, October 2017
Local	
<p>A mixed and balanced community ought be created through provision of high quality market and affordable housing. A housing strategy will be prepared to identify the mix of house sizes, types and tenures required to meet this objective. Policy 30 within the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy outlines required housing mix and tenure. Only around 12% of the dwelling stock in the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston area is affordable housing and there are very few shared ownership properties.</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
<p>The areas with highest development values (Oundle and many of the villages) can support higher levels of affordable housing than the Growth Towns and remaining Market Towns. Private sector developments within Oundle of 11 or more dwellings (net), or where the combined GFA of dwellings will exceed 1,000sqm, the local planning authority will seek the provision of 40% affordable housing.</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
<p>The Rural North of East Northamptonshire has a special rural character, with a dispersed settlement pattern incorporating attractive villages and the historic market towns of Thrapston and Oundle. The North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy sets out how these existing settlements will contribute to meeting objectively assessed needs for housing, jobs, services and facilities, taking account of the need to protect the character of the settlements and surrounding countryside and to ensure that most new development is focused on the Growth Towns as the most sustainable places.</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
<p>In addition to the objectively assessed housing needs, the JCS incorporates a strategic opportunity for around 1,250 dwellings at Deenethorpe Airfield in Policy 14. Housing delivery at Deenethorpe</p>	Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: Local Plan

Table 10: Housing and Community Facilities

Airfield will be in addition to (over and above) the strategic housing requirement for East Northamptonshire (8,400 dwellings).

Part 2; East Northamptonshire, 2017

Table 11: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
Create fair employment and good work for all.	Fair Society, Healthy Lives: The Marmot Review: Strategic review of health inequalities in England post 2012
<p>Planning policies and decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt. Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development. The approach taken should allow each area to build on its strengths, counter any weaknesses and address the challenges of the future.</p> <p>Planning policies should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth, having regard to Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration; • Set criteria, or identify strategic sites, for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period; • Seek to address potential barriers to investment, such as inadequate infrastructure, services or housing, or a poor environment; and • Be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan, allow for new and flexible working practices (such as live-work accommodation), and to enable a rapid response to changes in economic circumstances. <p>Planning policies and decisions should recognise and address the specific locational requirements of different sectors. This includes making provision for clusters or networks of knowledge and data-driven, creative or high technology industries; and for storage and distribution operations at a variety of scales and in suitably accessible locations.</p> <p>Planning policies and decisions should enable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings; 	National Planning Policy Framework, 2018

Table 11: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses; • Sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which respect the character of the countryside; and • The retention and development of accessible local services and community facilities, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship. <p>Planning policies and decisions should recognise that sites to meet local business and community needs in rural areas may have to be found adjacent to or beyond existing settlements, and in locations that are not well served by public transport. In these circumstances it will be important to ensure that development is sensitive to its surroundings, does not have an unacceptable impact on local roads and exploits any opportunities to make a location more sustainable (for example by improving the scope for access on foot, by cycling or by public transport). The use of previously developed land, and sites that are physically well-related to existing settlements, should be encouraged where suitable opportunities exist.</p>	
<p>The Enterprise Act includes measures to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a Small Business Commissioner to help small firms resolve issues; • Extend the Primary Authority scheme to make it easier for businesses to access tailored and assured advice from local authorities, giving them greater confidence to invest and grow; and • Protect and strengthen apprenticeships by introducing targets for apprenticeships in public sector bodies in England, and establish an Institute for Apprenticeships – an independent, employer-led body that will make sure apprenticeships meet the needs of business. 	The Enterprise Act, 2016
<p>The Industrial Strategy sets out a long term plan to boost the productivity and earning power of people throughout the UK.</p> <p>It sets out how the Government are working towards building a Britain fit for the future – how they will help businesses create better, higher-paying jobs in every part of the UK with investment in the skills, industries and infrastructure of the future.</p> <p>The strategy include 5 foundations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas: the world's most innovative economy; • People: good jobs and greater earning power for all; 	UK Industrial Growth Strategy, 2017

Table 11: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure: a major upgrade to the UK's infrastructure; • Business environment: the best place to start and grow a business; and • Places: prosperous communities across the UK <p>The Government will use this strategy to work with industry, academia and civil society over the coming years to build on the UK's strengths, make more of untapped potential and create a more productive economy that works for everyone across the UK.</p>	
Local	
<p>The town centres in North Northamptonshire are the focus of retail, leisure and cultural facilities and provide significant employment. They are the hearts of their communities and serve the surrounding rural area.</p> <p>The scale of development at individual settlements will be related to existing commitments, the current and potential capacity of infrastructure and services, regeneration needs and the character of the town. The consolidation and enhancement of the successful town centre at Oundle is anticipated to catalyse growth in housing and employment.</p> <p>Development requirements will be met through a combination of the re-use of suitable previously developed land and buildings, Sustainable Urban Extensions and other committed sites, and smaller greenfield developments identified in Part 2 Local Plans or Neighbourhood Plans.</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
<p>The vitality and viability of the town centres in North Northamptonshire will be supported by securing and maintaining a vibrant mix of retail, employment, leisure and cultural facilities and supporting the provision of additional residential uses on appropriate sites including the re-use of vacant space above shops.</p>	North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, 2011 - 2031
<p>The JCS aims to make North Northamptonshire more self-reliant by achieving a sustainable balance between local jobs and workers and a more prosperous and diverse economy. It supports the enhancement of skills in the local workforce through improved opportunities for education and training to provide a more dynamic and flexible labour market and by providing the infrastructure required to support skills delivery at all ages. A major part of the strategy for generating new and better jobs and creating a stronger and more sustainable economy is the provision of the right amount and type of employment land in the most appropriate locations.</p>	Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: Local Plan Part 2; East Northamptonshire, 2017