

North Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Planning Toolkit



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Contents

1. What is a Neighbourhood Plan?	2
2. Context: North Northamptonshire and the Joint Core Strategy	3
3. How to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan and how your Council can help?	4
Stage 1. Defining the neighbourhood	4
Stage 2. Preparing the plan	5
Stage 3. Independent check	7
Stage 4. Community referendum	7
Stage 5. Legal Force	8
How your Council can help	8
4. Where to find information	10

1. What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

- 1.1 The Localism Act introduces a right for communities to draw up 'Neighbourhood Plans' that can become part of the formal planning framework for the area (in this case, North Northamptonshire). Once adopted, these Neighbourhood Plans will form part of the statutory Development Plan for the area.
- 1.2 Neighbourhood planning will allow people to come together through a parish or town council or a neighbourhood forum, and say what the area needs; where they think new houses, businesses and shops should go; and what they should look like. There are also proposals that would allow local communities to grant full or outline planning permission in areas where they most want to see new homes and businesses, making it easier and quicker for development to go ahead.
- 1.3 Neighbourhood plans should cover the issues important to your local area, so there will not be any hard and fast rules about what they should contain- it will vary according to your local needs and ambitions.
- 1.4 This toolkit has been prepared to provide practical advice on how to prepare Neighbourhood Plans if local people think that these are necessary and identifies useful sources of information that can inform this process. It does not seek to repeat or duplicate guidance, but provide relevant local information and context. The Joint Planning Unit has also produced a ['Place Shaping Action Pack'](#) which contains information, advice and activity ideas to help people get involved with plan making. Getting involved is important because planning shapes places and the way that people live. Understanding what local people want and how places could change for the better is vital to getting plans right. The Action Pack is a collection of fact sheets and activity sheets, which will get you thinking about your local area and deciding what changes might be needed.
- 1.5 Many communities already have some experience of neighbourhood planning, through work on parish and community plans, town masterplans, town centre healthchecks or other local documents. These all involve people getting an understanding of local issues, considering how they could be tackled and setting out an agreed way forward. Not all issues will require a 'planning solution' and the actions could also relate to wider things such as the management of local facilities, cleaning up or promoting the neighbourhood. Other community tools may therefore be more appropriate to meet the communities need. Neighbourhood Plans and Orders must relate to 'spatial planning' or land use issues and cannot cover these wider issues.
- 1.6 Other Community planning tools could include:
 - Village appraisals
 - Village design statements
 - Parish plans
 - Community Action Plans

- Market Towns Health Check

Other alternatives could also include working with the local planning authority to prepare Supplementary Planning Documents or include elements within statutory Development Plan Documents.

2. Context: North Northamptonshire and the Joint Core Strategy

- 2.1 North Northamptonshire is the name given to the northern half of Northamptonshire, which contains the districts and boroughs of Corby, East Northamptonshire, Kettering and Wellingborough. North Northamptonshire includes the main towns of Corby, Kettering, Wellingborough and Rushden, along with eight smaller towns and over 100 villages.
- 2.2 The Joint Core Strategy is the Plan (the overarching/ principal Local Plan document) for North Northamptonshire and provides the 'big picture' on issues that need to be tackled across the four districts of North Northamptonshire; i.e. overarching/strategic planning policies.
- 2.3 The Plan was prepared by the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit and is currently in the process of being reviewed. Decisions on the Plan are taken by a Joint Planning Committee, made up of Councillors from Corby, Kettering, Wellingborough and East Northamptonshire Councils and Northamptonshire County Council. More information on the review of the Plan and the work of the Joint Planning Unit is available at www.nnjpu.org.uk
- 2.4 The Joint Core Strategy ("the Plan") was adopted in June 2008 and shapes the places in which we live, work and play setting out the framework for long term change and development in North Northamptonshire, including housing, jobs, shopping and the environment. The Plan sets out how the area should change and has targets for the number of new houses, the number of jobs and the amount of new shopping floor space needed. It also has policies to guide how change will be managed, such as where development should be located, guidelines about its design and controls over the impact of development sites on their surroundings and infrastructure that needs to be provided.
- 2.5 Although the review of the 2008 Joint Core Strategy is now underway, for the time being, Neighbourhood Plans should be in line with the adopted Plan. However, at a practical level local planning authorities and communities will want to make sure that neighbourhood plan policies aren't in conflict with the revised local plan's policies as soon as they are adopted because where there is a conflict between policies in a development plan, the approach to be taken is set out in primary legislation (section 38 (5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act). Principally, that the decision-maker should favour the more recently adopted policies of the development plan.
- 2.6 The Neighbourhood Plan needs to be in line with national planning policy and plans that are prepared locally, notably the Joint Core Strategy. National

Planning Policy is contained within the National Planning Policy Framework. This document is available from:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppf>

- 2.7 Neighbourhood Plans cannot make provision for less development than higher level plans. For example, land for development is already identified in the Joint Core Strategy and allocated other district level site specific plans such as the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan (RNOTP) or town centre Area Action Plans (AAPs) which have been prepared for Kettering and Wellingborough. In such cases, a Neighbourhood Plan cannot attempt to designate such sites as protected open spaces in order to try and prevent development of such sites going ahead.
- 2.8 More detailed plans are prepared by the district councils which identify development sites or focus on action areas like town centres. A number of these plans have been adopted notably the Wellingborough Town Centre Area Action Plan, Kettering Town Centre Area Action Plan and the Rural North Oundle and Thrapston Plan.

3. How to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan and how your Council can help?

- 3.1 There are 5 steps to producing a Neighbourhood Plan. These are set out below, along with the information that you need, and how your local council can help with the process.

Stage 1. Defining the neighbourhood

- 3.2 Firstly, local people will need to decide how they want to work together.
- **In areas with a parish or town council**, the parish or town council will take the lead on neighbourhood planning.
 - **In areas without a parish or town council (i.e. the majority of the urban areas of Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough)**, local people will need to decide which organisation should lead on coordinating the local debate. In some places, existing community groups may want to put themselves forward. In other places, local people might want to form a new group (called a neighbourhood forum). In both cases, the group must meet some basic standards. It must, for example, have at least 21 members, and it must be open to new members.
- 3.3 Town and parish councils and community groups will then need to apply to the local planning authority (the local council) to do a neighbourhood plan. It's the local planning authority's job to keep an overview of all the different requests to do neighbourhood planning in their area. They will:

- Check that the suggested boundaries for different neighbourhoods make sense and fit together. The local planning authority will say “no” if, for example, two proposed neighbourhood areas overlap.
 - Check that the community groups who want to take the lead on neighbourhood planning meet the right standards. The planning authority will say “no” if, for example, the organisation is too small or not representative enough of the local community.
- 3.4 If the local planning authority decides that the community group meets the right standards, the group will be able to call itself a ‘neighbourhood forum’. (This is simply the technical term for groups that have been granted the legal power to do neighbourhood planning). The town or parish councils or neighbourhood forum can then get going and start planning for their neighbourhood.

Stage 2. Preparing the plan

- 3.5 Next, local people will begin collecting their ideas together and drawing up their plans.
- 3.6 The Government expects that communities will want to carefully scope the content of their Neighbourhood Plans as a preliminary exercise to ensure that they reflect their own priorities and that they will want to assess the level of support they are able to obtain from local businesses, and where, appropriate, local developers as well as from central and local government. They will also want to look at what existing evidence is available for planning in the area, such as assessments prepared for the Core Strategy or other locally adopted plans. It should always be borne in mind that a vast range of evidence exists and in many cases it will not be necessary to undertake bespoke assessments or studies to support a proposed Neighbourhood Plan.
- 3.7 With a **Neighbourhood Plan**, communities will be able to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in the neighbourhood. They will be able to say, for example where new homes and offices should be built and what they should look like e.g. through setting out local design principles and guidance. The neighbourhood plan will set a vision for the future. It can be detailed, or general, depending on what local people want.
- 3.8 With a **Neighbourhood Development Order**, the community can grant planning permission for certain types of development they want to see go ahead. Neighbourhood development orders will allow new homes and offices to be built without the developers having to apply for separate planning permission from the local planning authority.
- 3.9 Local people can choose to draw up **either** a plan, **or** a development order, or **both**. Both must follow some ground rules:
- They must generally be in line with local and national planning policies;
 - They must be in line with other laws such as the Human Rights Act;

- If the local planning authority says that an area needs to grow, then communities cannot use neighbourhood planning to block the building of new homes and businesses. They can, however, use neighbourhood planning to plan for higher levels of development and to influence the type, design, location and mix of new development.
- 3.10 In short, a Neighbourhood Plan may prove a useful tool to supplement and provide more detail and distinctiveness in support of higher level strategic policies.
- 3.11 The Localism Act includes a “basic condition” that Neighbourhood Plans have to be in general conformity with strategic policies such as contained in the Core Strategy. In most cases some of the most important strategic policies with which neighbourhood plans will have to generally conform include the assessment of what the requirements is for housing and other development across the area. Neighbourhoods will come to their own view on policies which should be decided at the neighbourhood level (i.e. non strategic), while contributing to meeting the needs of the wider area. The Core Strategy sets housing targets for the towns but not for individual villages. Housing needs in the rural areas will need to be objectively assessed through local surveys.
- 3.12 There is no fixed format or template for a Neighbourhood Plan and it is not intended that these plans should be mini Core Strategies or Site Specific Plans. Communities may wish to concentrate on a few policies only which have a major impact on their area, for example density issues or housing for older people or rural diversification. The cost of preparing a plan is therefore likely to vary depending on the complexity and size of the proposed plan.
- 3.13 Neighbourhood Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders are important planning tools so need to be supported by evidence. Guidance on where to find relevant information is contained within this toolkit. The amount of evidence that needs to be produced will depend on the scale and ambitions of the Neighbourhood Plan or Neighbourhood Development Order. There is no tick-box list of evidence which will automatically be required for all plans. The Neighbourhood Plan or Order may be able to use existing available evidence such as that used by the local authorities in Plan preparation. If in doubt, the local authority can advise as they have a duty to support neighbourhood plan production.
- 3.14 In many cases, Neighbourhood Plans will need an environmental assessment of the type which must be produced for Local Plans (known as Strategic Environmental Assessment or Sustainability Appraisal). Similarly, it is probable that a Neighbourhood Development Order (NDO) will need to be accompanied by an environmental impact assessment. However, depending on the nature and scope of the Neighbourhood Plan/ NDO, it may be that in some circumstances these are not required.
- 3.15 Such assessments can however be useful tools in helping to assess the likely impact of plans and proposals and can help to improve plans. They do not need to be complicated or prepared by professionals. All neighbourhood

forums and parish councils wanting to undertake neighbourhood planning should be in contact with their local authority including at the start of the exercise when the scope of the Plan is being discussed. Contact details can be found at paragraph 3.31.

- 3.16 The Plan or Order may also need to be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment if there might be an impact on the Nene Valley Special Protection Area (SPA).
- 3.17 The local authority will be able to advise the forum or parish council if they think the emerging Neighbourhood Plan will need to be subject to an assessment. If an environmental assessment is found to be required, the gathering of evidence for it and its preparation can be integrated into the process of producing the Neighbourhood Plan and may not require the involvement of external consultants.

Stage 3. Independent check

- 3.18 Once a neighbourhood plan or order has been prepared, an independent examiner will check that it meets the right basic standards. The examination of a Neighbourhood Plan can be carried out by anyone with appropriate qualifications and skills who meet certain requirements set out in the Localism Act and is acceptable to the local authority and the community. This could be a planning consultant or other planning professional, an employee of another local authority or a planning inspector. They will be appointed by the local authority, but with the appointment agreed by the parish council or neighbourhood forum.
- 3.19 If the plan or order or certain aspects/policies within these, do not meet the right standards, the examiner will recommend changes. The planning authority will then need to consider the examiner's views and decide whether to make these changes.
- 3.20 If the examiner recommends significant changes, then the parish, town council or neighbourhood forum may decide to consult the local community again before proceeding.

Stage 4. Community referendum

- 3.21 The local council will organise a referendum on any plan or order that meets the basic standards. This ensures that the community has the final say on when a neighbourhood plan or order comes into force.
- 3.22 People living in the neighbourhood who are registered to vote in local elections will be entitled to vote in the referendum.
- 3.23 In some special cases- where, for example, the proposals put forward in a plan for one neighbourhood have significant implications for other people nearby- people from other neighbourhoods may be allowed to vote too.

3.24 If more than 50 per cent of people voting in the referendum support the plan or order, then the local planning authority must bring it into force.

Stage 5. Legal Force

3.25 Once a neighbourhood plan is in force, it carries real legal weight. It will become part of the development plan and decision-makers will be obliged, by law, to take what it says into account when they consider proposals for development in the neighbourhood.

3.26 A neighbourhood order will grant planning permission for development that complies with the order. Where people have made clear that they want development of a particular type, it will be easier for that development to go ahead.

How your Council can help

3.27 The Localism Act places a legal duty on local planning authorities to support and advise parish councils and neighbourhood forums that want to do neighbourhood planning. This toolkit identifies the key stages where local authorities need to be involved in neighbourhood plan preparation. The extent of support and advice provided will be different in each area depending on the skills, resources available to the local authority and the needs of the group preparing the plan.

3.28 This help may include:

- Sharing evidence and information on planning issues;
- Helping with consultation events;
- Providing advice on independent assessment and evidence;
- Providing advice on national and local plan policies within which the Neighbourhood Plan or Neighbourhood Development Order will need to fit;
- Helping communities communicate with external partners where this is required.

3.29 The Community may also want to involve the County Council in their discussions, particularly where infrastructure issues such as highways matters are involved.

3.30 Your council should have information about housing and employment needs in the area. To help you put things in context, the council will also have details of which sites already have planning permission for housing or jobs; which open spaces are protected from development; which buildings are 'listed' as being of special importance; whether there is a conservation area; and whether there are trees with 'preservation orders' on them. Your council may be able to give you official statistics, such as from the census of population.

3.31 The Local Councils can be contacted using the information below:

Council	Tel	Web	Email
Corby Borough	01536 463158	www.corby.gov.uk/planning	planning.services@corby.gov.uk
Kettering Borough	01536 534316	www.kettering.gov.uk/planning	planning@kettering.gov.uk
East Northamptonshire	01832 742142	www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/planning	planningpolicy@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk
Wellingborough	01933 231926	www.wellingborough.gov.uk/planning	policyandregeneration@wellingborough.gov.uk

4. Where to find information

Localism Act 2011

The legislation for Neighbourhood Planning is the Localism Act 2011. This received Royal Assent on 15 November.

The Act is available from:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm>

Those bits relating to Neighbourhood Planning are Volume I, Part 6 Chapter 3 and Schedule 9 in Volume II

A plain English guide to the Localism Act is available from:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/localismlainenglishupdate>

Neighbourhood Planning Regulations which set out the legal requirements that the plan needs to follow:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/637/contents/made>

An explanatory memorandum of the Regulations is also available:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/637/memorandum/contents>

Neighbourhood Planning – Sources of information

General information is available from the Planning Advisory Service (PAS):
www.pas.gov.uk

They do a good frequently asked question section:

<http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pagelid=1802659>

Also useful is a guide for Ward Councillors:

<http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pagelid=1175309>

There is information on early practice from first and second waves of front runner councils, this includes a link to information on the LEAD framework for community led planning:

<http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pagelid=1562794>

DCLG have produced an introduction to Neighbourhood Planning Guide:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/introductionneighbourplanning>

Presentations from Neighbourhood Planning Events, from DCLG, RTPi and Planning Aid:

<http://www.rtpi.org.uk/item/4900>

A website has been set up to support the process of Neighbourhood Planning:
<http://www.ourneighbourhoodplanning.org.uk>

Guidance from other bodies

A good overview of Neighbourhood Planning including info about Neighbourhood Development Orders is available from the CPRE:
<http://www.planninghelp.org.uk/planning-system/neighbourhood-planning>

The Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA) have produced a guide called your place your plan:
<http://www.tcpa.org.uk/resources.php?action=resource&id=1034>

The Planning Officers Society have produced a getting started with Neighbourhood Planning which is intend for local authorities, but still contains useful info:
http://www.planningofficers.org.uk/POS-Library/POS-Publications/Getting-Started-with-Neighbourhood-Planning_208.htm

Advice and assistance may also be available from Action for Market Towns (AMT):
<http://towns.org.uk/2011/05/24/localism-ladder-preparing-community-led-neighbourhood-plans/>

Some advice may be available from Planning Aid:
<http://www.rtpi.org.uk/planningaid/>

Cornwall Council has produced the St. Somewhere Neighbourhood Plan as an example of what a plan might be like, purely as a general guide:
<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=17712>

Herefordshire Council has produced a series of guidance notes, checklists and application forms which may be useful.
<http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/housing/planning/59805.asp>

The Rural Community Council of Essex in partnership with the Essex Planning Officers Association and the Essex Community Led Planning Officer Network has produced a Neighbourhood Planning Guide:
http://www.essexrcc.org.uk/Our_work_with_Communities/Community_Led_Planning/Information_packs/Neighbourhood_Planning_Guide.aspx

Examples of Neighbourhood Plans

Consultation begins on one of the first front runners Much Wenlock, Shropshire:
<http://www.wenlockplan.org/>

Chapel-en-le-Frith in the Peak District: <http://www.chapelvision.org/>
This includes an example of a questionnaire:
<http://www.chapelvision.org/questionnaire/>

Cerne Valley in West Dorset: <http://www.cernevalley.org/>

Bookham in Surrey: <http://www.bookhamvanguard.co.uk/>

Walton Parish Council in Yorkshire: http://www.walton-pc.gov.uk/?page_id=159

Upper Eden Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to Eden District Council ready for examination (expected November 2012). The plan together with supporting information including consultation statement and HRA screening is available: <http://uecp.org.uk/upper-eden-neighbourhood-development-plan/>

The first examination report on a Neighbourhood Plan for Dawlish has now being received, although this was not prepared in accordance with the Regulations: <http://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=13658>

Sustainability Appraisal

Neighbourhood Plans may need an assessment of their environmental, social and economic impacts as required by European legislation and UK guidance. This will depend on what is proposed in the Plan and its likely effect. A really good guide on how to do this is available: www.levett-therivel.co.uk/DIYSA.pdf

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Information on the function of CIL and its progress is available on the DCLG web site: www.gov.uk/government/policies/giving-communities-more-power-in-planning-local-development/supporting-pages/community-infrastructure-levy

Producing Maps

Ordnance Survey is requesting that Parish Councils sign up to the PSMA (Public Services Mapping Agreement). That way, they are issued their own OS copyright license number and can lawfully reproduce maps. The following link is to apply to OS for a license.

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/psmaapply/application.do>

The following link is to a site called Parish Online. Parish Online is a new, simple to use service, accessed via the web, to provide Parish Councils with access to maps and aerial photography of their parish. Using a normal web browser users have access to a full range of Ordnance Survey mapping and Getmapping aerial photography which they can view and search down to individual address level and then mark-up, annotate, save, print, email or publish to their website. There is an initial set up fee of £20 plus an annual fee of £10 per every 1,000 population in the parish.

<http://www.parish-online.co.uk> and a FAQ section <http://www.parish-online.co.uk/faqs.html#1>

Map Based Information

MAGIC is a web-based interactive map service to bring together environmental information from across government. This includes information on various designations such as SSSIs, Scheduled Ancient Monuments etc. Some of this information can be downloaded for use in GIS:

<http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

North Northamptonshire and District level documents regarding neighbourhood planning and evidence to inform production

Northamptonshire Observatory

The Northamptonshire Observatory provides information and intelligence about Northamptonshire to improve decision-making and to support partnership working. It contains lots of searchable data and reports, including census information. It covers a wide range of topics including, population, health and wellbeing, environment, economic activity, skills, deprivation and antisocial behaviour.

<http://www.northamptonshireobservatory.co.uk>

Northamptonshire County Council Interactive Mapping

A good source of maps for your area is Northamptonshire County Council's Interactive Mapping, which allows you to search for your area by town or village, street or postcode and to print out a map which can then draw up on a bigger scale: www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/pages/mapping.aspx

North Northamptonshire Evidence Base

PAS has provided guidance on the evidence that might be needed for Neighbourhood Plans:

<http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pagelId=2298881>

The Joint Planning Unit and the four district authorities have compiled a significant evidence base of information that can be used to understand a local neighbourhood and inform the production of Neighbourhood Plans.

These documents can all be viewed on the JPU website, which is regularly updated: <http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/default.asp>

Housing

North Northamptonshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1261>

North Northamptonshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1093>

Background Paper on Housing and Jobs requirements for North Northamptonshire Spatial Options
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1217>

North Northamptonshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Update
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1242>

Employment

Background Paper on Housing and Jobs requirements for North Northamptonshire Spatial Options

<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1217>

North Northamptonshire Employment Targets Report

<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1234>

Northamptonshire Strategic Employment Land Assessment (SELA)

<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1133>

Retail

North Northamptonshire Retail Capacity Update

<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1181>

Independent Assessment of the Retail Strategy for North Northamptonshire and implications of the Rushden Lakes proposals

<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1244>

Sports/Culture

North Northamptonshire Strategic Sports Facilities Framework

<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1143>

A Cultural Investment Plan for North Northamptonshire

<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1146>

Environment

Consolidation of Environmental Sensitivity Testing

<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1134>

Northamptonshire Environmental Character and Green Infrastructure Suite

<http://www.rnrpenvironmentalcharacter.org.uk/>

Nene Valley Strategic Plan

<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1136>

Further Information on Nene Valley Nature Improvement Area (NIA)

<http://www.nenevalleynia.org/>

Water and Flooding

North Northants Detailed Water Cycle Strategy

<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1119>

Population and Demographics

North Northamptonshire Population and Household Forecasts- Emerging Approach
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1243>

North Northamptonshire Population and Households Forecasts
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1215>

Sustainability Appraisal/Habitats Regulations Assessment

Joint Core Strategy Review Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1232>

Joint Core Strategy Review Initial Sustainability Appraisal
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1275>

Joint Core Strategy Review Interim Sustainability Appraisal
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1277>

North Northamptonshire Habitats Regulations Screening Assessment
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1236>

Monitoring

North Northamptonshire Annual Monitoring Report 2010/11
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1237>

Place Shaping and Community Feedback

North Northamptonshire Understanding Places Workshop
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1107>

North Northamptonshire Rural and Small Towns Workshop
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1142>

North Northamptonshire Options Generation Workshop
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1153>

North Northamptonshire Youth Conference October 2011
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/publications/docdetail.asp?docid=1235>

Feedback from consultation on the Emerging Plan consultation (August-October 2012)
<http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/news/newsdetail.asp?id=33>

At a District level, the four authorities within North Northamptonshire have each been considering the various mechanisms by which Neighbourhood Planning may be delivered in practice. All four authorities are currently working towards gauging the likely level of local interest in preparing a neighbourhood plan.

Corby Borough Council

Evidence will be key to neighbourhood planning. In the preparation of our policy documents, we use a wide array of evidence based studies. To get an appreciation of these different studies visit our [evidence base page](http://www.corby.gov.uk/node/25582):
<http://www.corby.gov.uk/node/25582>

East Northamptonshire Council

ENC began the process of looking towards the likely introduction of Neighbourhood Plans (NPs) during the early stages of the Government's "Localism" agenda (summer 2010).

Groundwork North Northamptonshire – Funding to cover the implementation of the emerging "Localism" agenda agreed to 31 March 2012 (Policy & Resources Committee, 8 November 2010):

http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/downloads/Item_1_P_and_R_Mins_8.11.10.pdf

Infrastructure Delivery Plan – Specific emerging local infrastructure projects; key evidence base which will inform individual NPs (Policy & Resources Committee, 8 November 2010):

http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/downloads/Item_12_Infrastructure_Report_8_11_10_1_.pdf

Local Investment Plan – Key evidence base aimed at securing Government funding through the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) for specific local infrastructure projects. Also provides important local evidence which should inform preparation of NPs (Policy & Resources Committee, 14 February 2011):

http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/downloads/Item_6_LIP_Report.pdf

Initial guidance for NPs – East Northamptonshire Council has been looking, since 2010, to undertake a new round of masterplanning exercises for the six towns within the District (Higham Ferrers, Irthlingborough, Oundle, Raunds, Rushden and Thrapston). It was anticipated that these could feed into the potential preparation of NPs or similar for each of the towns and, to this end, a guidance note was prepared to accompany a funding bid for the preparation of a Higham Ferrers Masterplan (Policy & Resources Committee, 14 March 2011):

http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/downloads/Item_8_20110301-FundingCommitteeReport_.pdf

Community Development – ENC has adopted a new approach to community plan preparation, in accordance with the 2011 Localism Act. These documents will form

important local evidence which, in turn, may be used to prepare NPs (Policy & Resources Committee, 5 December 2011):

http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/downloads/Item_6_Comm_Dev_Strategy_Rpt.pdf

Town masterplans – ENC’s general approach has been to focus upon the preparation of town-wide masterplans, in order to provide a catalyst/ springboard for the preparation of NPs. Current progress with taking forward individual town wide masterplans is explained through the following report to the Planning Policy Committee, 23 January 2012:

http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/downloads/Item_7_Four_Towns_Plan_Update_Report.pdf

Masterplans have already been completed for Raunds and Rushden, with masterplanning projects currently underway in the case of Irthlingborough and Oundle. Relevant information is available through the following links:

- Irthlingborough – http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/site/scripts/documents_info.aspx?documentID=1070
- Oundle – <http://www.oundle2020.co.uk/>
- Raunds – http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/downloads/Raunds_Masterplan.pdf
- Rushden – http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/downloads/Regeneration_Strategy_-_Rushden_Town_Centre.pdf

Kettering Borough Council

Information about the plans that the Council have/are preparing can be viewed via: http://www.kettering.gov.uk/site/scripts/documents_info.php?documentID=150&pageNumber=1

Local evidence for Kettering Borough including research and monitoring information can be viewed via:

http://www.kettering.gov.uk/site/scripts/documents_info.php?categoryID=494&documentID=1403

Borough Council of Wellingborough

Information on Neighbourhood Planning is available from:

http://www.wellingborough.gov.uk/info/1004/planning_policy/1123/neighbourhood_planning

A number of studies have been prepared as part of the evidence base for the Site Specific Plan, much of this may be useful for Neighbourhood Plans:

http://www.wellingborough.gov.uk/info/856/local_development_framework/568/planning_policy/12

The Borough Council produces an **Interactive Proposals Map** which shows all the adopted policies. This is available at:

<http://lvfusion.wellingborough.gov.uk/LocalViewWeb/Sites/LDF/#>

To view all the policies click on the 'Map features' button and then tick 'Local Development Framework'.

Other mapped information is available on the Council's 'In My Area' interactive map. This includes features such as tourist information, health, education, local services, public amenities, sports facilities, transport and listed buildings:

<http://lvfusion.wellingborough.gov.uk/LocalViewWeb/Sites/InMyArea/#>