



# Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2) For Daventry District 2011-2029



Adopted February 2020

The policy aims to address objectives 12, 13 and 14
The policy helps to deliver policies BN1, BN2, BN3, BN5 and R1 of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy
<b>ENV3 - Green Wedge</b>
<p><b>A. To protect the identity, character and setting of settlements within the areas that fringe Daventry and Northampton, proposals within the Green Wedges will be required to demonstrate that they would maintain the physical and visual separation between settlements.</b></p> <p><b>B. The Council will support proposals that contribute towards increased public access to, and enjoyment of, the Green Wedges, particularly from the Sustainable Urban Extensions in the Northampton Related Development Area, providing they are compatible with A.</b></p> <p><b>The designated areas of Green Wedge are shown on the Policies and Inset Maps.</b></p>

### 9.3 Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity

- 9.3.01 The District's natural environment is one of its greatest assets and in its broadest sense is a network of green infrastructure, which encompasses all green and blue (waterways and standing water) spaces within the District. Green infrastructure operates at a variety of levels, at its highest the sub-region, down to District, town and local scales. A high quality connected green infrastructure network is fundamentally important to quality of life and is capable of delivering a range of 'ecosystem services' for people, wildlife and the economy including health and wellbeing, sustainable transport, supporting biodiversity, controlling the effects of climate change and creating a more attractive District for visitors and businesses.
- 9.3.02 Wildlife corridors are important to enable populations to move around freely for feeding, breeding and in response to climate change. Wildlife corridors will also enable movement necessitated by pressure on land for development in the District particularly on the fringes of Daventry and Northampton. The WNJCS shows sub-regional corridors which link major settlements and local GI corridors linking sub-regional corridors. Within Daventry town, local green links comprising wide landscaped verges are a particular feature, related to its history as a planned expanded town. Green infrastructure does not stop at boundaries and for this reason, the Council will continue to work with neighbouring authorities to improve habitat connectivity in the wider sub-region. The Council is a member of the Northamptonshire Local Nature Partnership which takes a strategic view of the

county's natural environment with the aim of building a healthy and strong ecosystem. The Council has also worked with Northampton Borough Council on Northampton's Green Infrastructure Plan<sup>48</sup> which relates specifically to the Northampton Related Development Area but will influence green infrastructure networks beyond the NRDA. The Nene Valley Nature Improvement Area (NIA) extends from Daventry to Peterborough and has the aim of creating a resilient ecological network in the Nene Valley through sustainable use of resources, restoring and creating wildlife habitats and connecting local sites with the help of local people.

- 9.3.03 At Daventry town there are a number of existing and planned green infrastructure assets that when linked together could provide recreational opportunities for residents and visitors and allow an appreciation and enjoyment of the surrounding Open Countryside. These links start from the town centre, extend from Daventry Country Park, north through the country park extension, through the open space to the north of Lang Farm into planned open space as part of Micklewell Park. It then continues along the Bridleway to the North of Middlemore, North of Apex Park eventually connecting to Kentle Wood and returning to the Town Centre along Thames Road, School Street and Braunston Road. There are also opportunities to connect to Borough Hill through planned development at the Daventry North East SUE and further enhancement through facilitating greater appreciation of the countryside to the south west through the proposed allocation.

The policy aims to address objectives 2, 12
The policy helps to deliver policies S10, BN1, BN2, BN3, BN8 of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy
<b>ENV4 - Green Infrastructure</b>
<p><b>The Council will protect, enhance and restore the District's green infrastructure assets in order to create a comprehensive network that contributes to the full range of ecosystem services including quality of life, biodiversity, sustainable transport and climate change mitigation by:</b></p> <p><b>i. Working with partners, including neighbouring authorities and the Local Nature Partnership, to plan for green infrastructure at a landscape scale. In particular,</b></p>

<sup>48</sup> Northampton's Green Infrastructure Plan available from;  
<https://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living/planning-policy/part-2-local-plan/evidence-base/>

proposals will be supported that would contribute to the aims and objectives of the Nene Valley Nature Improvement Area project on habitat restoration, creation and connectivity;

- ii. Supporting proposals that protect, enhance and restore the existing green infrastructure network of sub-regional and local corridors identified in the WNJCS. Proposals will be expected to demonstrate how they would achieve this and in the case of new green infrastructure, how they would link into the existing networks;
- iii. Strategic development sites should be masterplanned as a whole to show the location of new on-site strategic green infrastructure and how it relates to the wider network. Proposals should not lead to fragmentation of a green infrastructure link;
- iv. Supporting proposals that avoid fragmentation of green links and that would reconnect existing gaps in provision;
- v. Supporting proposals that protect, connect and extend the local green links and network of green infrastructure within and around Daventry town and that limit any loss to that necessary to accommodate infrastructure improvements required to deliver allocated sites, subject to such loss being mitigated to achieve a net enhancement in green infrastructure provision; and
- vi. Supporting the recognition of important green infrastructure including designation within neighbourhood development plans.

9.3.04 Although human activity has changed the environment through land management and settlement to the extent that very few entirely natural habitats remain, the District contains a number of biodiversity rich sites. These range from nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) to locally important sites, including Local Nature Reserves (LNRs), Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs), local geological sites (LGeS), Pocket Parks, Protected Wildflower Verges and country parks. Within the District, SSSIs and LNR's benefit from statutory protection, the remaining sites are local designations and have less protection. Certain species of plants, birds and animals are protected under separate legislation. Biodiversity is not confined to designated sites but is present throughout the District in both urban and rural areas on other open space designations, hedgerows, trees, water bodies and buildings providing wildlife habitats.

- 9.3.05 The updated Northamptonshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2017 (BAP)<sup>49</sup> builds on the two previous editions and sets out targets and actions for the BAP partners, which includes Daventry District Council, to conserve the County's most threatened and declining habitats and species. This approaches conservation on a landscape scale to maintain, restore and create priority habitats. Some ecological features are unique to West Northamptonshire, acid soils in particular have created important grasslands, a number of which have survived.
- 9.3.06 A Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document for Northamptonshire was prepared in 2015 to advise developers, decision and policy makers on how biodiversity should be considered in the planning process. The Council adopted a Daventry District specific version of the Biodiversity SPD for use in the District in May 2017 entitled 'Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document for Daventry District'. This advises developers, decision and policy makers on how biodiversity should be considered in the planning process.

The policy aims to address objectives 2, 12
The policy helps to deliver policies S10, BN1, BN2, BN3, BN8 of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy
<b>ENV5 – Biodiversity</b>
<p><b>A. The Council will support proposals that conserve and enhance designated and undesignated sites and species of national and local importance for biodiversity and geodiversity and contribute towards a resilient ecological network. The level of protection should be proportionate to the site's designation status, the contribution it makes to the ecological network and take account of considerations set out below:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sites of national importance</b>  <b>Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are of national importance and development affecting them will be expected to avoid causing adverse effects, unless, in exceptional circumstances, it can be demonstrated that the benefits of the development clearly outweigh the nature conservation value or scientific interest of the site and its wider contribution to the biodiversity network.</b></li> </ul>

<sup>49</sup> Biodiversity Action Plan 2015-2020 available from;  
<https://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/environment-and-planning/planning/planning-policy/archaeology-biodiversity-and-landscape/documents/PDF%20Documents/Northamptonshire%20BAP%202015-2020.pdf>



- **Sites of local importance**

Development affecting sites of local importance for biodiversity and geodiversity including Local Nature Reserves (LNRs), Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs) and Local Geological Sites (LGeS), will be expected to avoid causing adverse effects unless it can be demonstrated that the benefits of development outweigh the harm and where measures to mitigate the harm can be put in place. Development that would result in the loss or deterioration of such sites or habitats that are irreplaceable will not be supported unless the need for and benefits of the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.

- **Undesignated sites**

Development affecting sites that are not formally designated but which make a positive contribution to biodiversity will be required to take into account their current or potential role in the District's wider biodiversity network.

**B. All proposals likely to affect biodiversity will be expected to assess their impact through an ecological assessment and include details of mitigation or compensation, where harm will be caused. The level of detail of the assessment will be proportionate to the significance of the asset and the scale of the proposal. If significant harm cannot firstly be avoided, adequately mitigated or as a last resort, compensated for, or should a proposal lead to the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, then development will not be permitted.**

**C. Proposals should seek to achieve a net gain for biodiversity, including the creation and management of new habitats, strengthening existing networks of habitats, avoiding the fragmentation of habitats and links and addressing the Northamptonshire Biodiversity Action Plan local priorities for habitats and species.**

**D. Proposals should comply with the principles set out in the Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document for Daventry District to ensure that biodiversity and the impact of development on biodiversity is given appropriate consideration.**

## **9.4 Daventry Country Park**

9.4.01 Daventry Country Park is a key component of the green infrastructure network which connects through the town to the wider countryside. It is a high quality green space that is jointly owned and managed by the District Council and the Canal and River Trust and extends to approximately 37 hectares. It is centred on Daventry Reservoir within easy reach of residential areas and the town centre and contains trails, different types of habitats and various visitor facilities. It is well used, mainly by residents of the District but also from further afield, for informal exercise, education, children's play, leisure, organised events and wildlife watching. Its

- Development; and
- ii. Provide a linear park including footpath and cycleway connections to the Grand Union Canal; and
- iii. Not impede the operation of, or maintenance access to, the reservoir feeder, spillway and channel; and
- iv. Provide opportunities for recreation; and
- v. Integrate with the existing Country Park

**C. Future development in close proximity to Daventry Country Park should preserve or enhance the setting of the Daventry Reservoir Conservation Area and the Grand Union Canal Conservation Area.**

9.4.05 Policy RC2 of the WNJCS protects existing community facilities and open space. The provision of new open space in line with the revised Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy is dealt with in the Community Facilities Chapter.

## **9.5 Historic Environment**

9.5.01 Heritage assets are defined in the NPPF as 'A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets included designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing)'. In the District designated heritage assets include listed buildings, scheduled monuments, registered parks and gardens, conservation areas and a registered battlefield.

9.5.02 Designated assets are the subject of primary legislation and the Council will apply the appropriate legislation, the NPPF and guidance when considering development proposals that could impact on designated heritage assets. It is important that developers fully understand the significance of heritage assets and they will be expected to assess the potential impact of development on any asset. The landscape characterisation and sensitivity evidence has assessed the impact of developing the proposed housing and employment allocations around Daventry.

9.5.03 The WNJCS sets out a strategic approach to the conservation of heritage assets in Policy BN5 'The Historic Environment and Landscape' and makes specific reference to the Weedon Depot in Policy BN6 as a very special and significant Grade II\* asset at risk. However, it delegates the definition and policy approach to non-designated local heritage assets, features and heritage at risk to this Plan.

9.5.04 There are 26 conservation areas in the District; with the exception of Daventry Town and Daventry Reservoir Conservation Areas and Grand Union/Oxford canals, they are centred on the District's many historic village and settlements. In accordance with the 1990 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act the Council

must periodically review its conservation areas. The Council has commenced the review<sup>50</sup> and will be producing detailed character appraisals for existing and potential new conservation areas. The appraisals will have the status of supplementary planning documents and provide the Council with robust evidence about the special architectural or historic interest that justify the areas' designation. Their primary purpose is to guide future development and change within the conservation areas. They will also provide the opportunity to identify proposals for enhancement, management, heritage at risk and candidate assets for the District's local list. The review programme is subject to resource availability.

- 9.5.05 A particular feature of the West Northamptonshire landscape is the numerous historic country houses with associated parklands and estates. The District is distinguished by having Naseby Battlefield, one of only 46 registered battlefields on Historic England's Register of Historic Battlefields. There are more than 50 scheduled monuments, which, like listed buildings, are varied in type.
- 9.5.06 Statutorily listed buildings are of intrinsic architectural or historic interest. The District contains more than 1,500 listed buildings, which vary widely in type and character and include buildings such as churches, houses, cottage, barns, rectories and schools. They also include structures like bridges, walls, gate piers, tombs, telephone boxes, canal locks and mileposts. In 2017 the Council successfully applied for the listing of a number of K6 telephone boxes. There may be further opportunities for the Council to support applications for statutory listing either as a one-off or themed application.
- 9.5.07 It should be noted that any conservation area boundary reviews or new designations of conservation areas or listed buildings will be subject to the appropriate procedures prescribed in the 1990 Act and will be undertaken separately to the Local Plan process.
- 9.5.08 Heritage at risk refers to a building, conservation area, registered park or garden or registered battlefield which is in a poor physical condition as a result of neglect, decay or inappropriate development. Historic England maintains a Heritage at Risk Register for Grade I, Grade II\* and scheduled monuments, which contains a number of assets within the District. A number of Grade II\* listed buildings and structures at Weedon Depot are on the Historic England Register and Policy BN6 of the WNJCS is a specific policy for this highly significant complex. The Council has a corporate target to restore, re-use or sustain productive use of listed buildings in the District with specific emphasis on the Weedon Depot and Overstone Hall.
- 9.5.09 Grade II buildings outside London are not included in the Historic England Register unless they are places of worship; it is the Council's responsibility to identify Grade II

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<sup>50</sup> Conservation Areas in Daventry District:

<https://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living/planning-policy/conservation-areas/>



buildings at risk outside London. The conservation area appraisal and review project will identify Grade II buildings at risk within the conservation areas. Assets outside the conservation areas will need to be identified through a detailed working knowledge of the District.

9.5.10 The term 'heritage asset' also includes assets that are not designated but are of local importance and help to create the locally distinctive character of the area. Local listing does not provide any additional statutory controls but the fact that a building or asset is identified as having a degree of significance will be a material consideration in determining planning applications. The Council has commenced identifying assets for inclusion on a local list. Potential assets for inclusion will initially be identified through conservation area appraisals, assets outside conservation areas will need to be identified by another method. Neighbourhood development plans and village design statements provide the opportunity for communities to identify non-designated assets that are important to them. However, all additions will be subject to appropriate public consultation and formal adoption by the Council outside the Local Plan process.

9.5.11 The historically limited availability of local walling and roofing materials in Northamptonshire has resulted in a consistency in colour and texture between traditional buildings, irrespective of age. Local building materials in the District include ironstone and long straw thatch and it is important that where long straw thatch has survived, particularly on listed buildings, that this is retained, repaired or reinstated in order to maintain the character of the building and the local area.

9.5.12 The NPPF makes it clear that heritage assets should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance. Therefore greater weight will be attached to designated assets than those of local importance. In all cases the Council's strategy will be to retain and re-use heritage assets. However, for designated assets which are protected by legislation, the aim will be to avoid or minimise harm to their significance and look for opportunities to enhance or to better reveal their significance. Locally important assets are recognised for their local significance and the impact of development will be taken into consideration.

The policy aims to address objectives 1, 2, 4, 5, 12, 13 and 14
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The policy helps to deliver policies S10, BN5 and BN6 of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy
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<b>ENV7 - Historic Environment</b>
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<b>A. Proposals affecting the historic environment must demonstrate a clear understanding of any potential impact on the significance of heritage assets and their setting; any description of significance and the contribution of setting should be proportionate to the asset's importance. As a minimum the Northamptonshire</b>
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**Historic Environment Record should be consulted.**

**B. In decision making, great weight should be given to the conservation of heritage assets irrespective of the level of harm. The more important the asset, the greater the weight will be.**

**C. Any harm to a designated heritage asset requires clear and convincing justification. Proposals that lead to substantial harm to or total loss of a designated heritage asset, or less than substantial harm to a designated heritage asset will be judged against the tests in the NPPF.**

**D. The Council will seek to sustain and enhance the historic environment of the District by supporting:**

- i. High quality proposals that respond positively to their context by reinforcing local distinctiveness including street pattern, siting, form, scale, mass, use, materials and architectural features. Proposals should have regard to other design policies and supplementary planning documents that have been adopted by the Council;**
- ii. Proposals that make a positive contribution to, or which better reveal the significance of designated heritage assets;**
- iii. Proposals that would conserve designated assets identified as being at risk. The Council will seek to proactively engage with owners of such assets to find solutions that will safeguard and secure the future of the asset, including where appropriate, their viable adaptation and re-use compatible with their character and significance;**
- iv. Proposals affecting conservation areas that would sustain or enhance those elements that have been identified as making a positive contribution to the character and special architectural or historic interest of the area. Proposals that respond positively to the opportunity to enhance neutral or detracting elements of a conservation area, as identified through conservation area appraisals and management plans, will particularly be supported;**
- v. Proposals that sustain or enhance key views of heritage assets and key views into and out of conservation areas identified in conservation area appraisals, landscape characterisation, neighbourhood development plans and village design statements;**
- vi. Proposals that sustain or enhance traditional shopfronts, including the restoration of historic features and the sympathetic use of high quality fascia and projecting signs;**
- vii. Proposals that are sympathetic to non-designated heritage assets (identified**

through a conservation area appraisal or other method) and their setting including their retention and re-use. In doing so, the impact of the scale of any harm or loss on the significance of the assets will be taken into consideration.

9.5.13 Borough Hill is a particular feature of Daventry, situated on a large natural hill on the eastern edge of the town. The scheduled monument is a multi-period hillfort and one of the largest and most important in the country, with substantial surviving earthworks. The significance of the monument extends beyond its boundary due to the high potential for archaeological remains and the importance of the landscape setting, which has retained its openness. Although less is known about Burnt Walls Scheduled Monument its proximity to Borough Hill and the A45 (a historic route way) is significant. The land between the two is highly sensitive and it is important that its openness is maintained. Many of the open areas around Burnt Walls are highly significant to its setting and some contain traces of ridge and furrow. In the context of the development of the Daventry South East Gateway, the area immediately to the west of Burnt Walls is located at the probable gateway to Burnt Walls and should be retained as open land to safeguard the historic relationship between Burnt Walls and the historic route way and to protect the scheduled monument from increasing urbanisation.

The policy aims to address objectives 13 and 14

The policy helps to deliver policies S10, BN5 of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy

#### **ENV8 - Borough Hill and Burnt Walls Scheduled Monuments**

**A. The Council will support proposals that sustain or enhance the significance of the Borough Hill and Burnt Walls Scheduled Monuments and their setting by:**

- i. **Maintaining the open landscape and visual link between Borough Hill and Burnt Walls Scheduled Monuments;**
- ii. **Retaining the openness of the area shown as a heritage buffer on the Policies Map in perpetuity, in accordance with criterion viii of policy EC9;**
- iii. **Enhancing the open areas of Burnt Walls by creating informal open space and improving public access between Burnt Walls and Borough Hill; and**
- iv. **Taking the opportunity to interpret the site to enhance the understanding of the significance of the scheduled monuments and the links between them.**

## **9.6 Renewable Energies and Low Carbon Development**

9.6.01 One of the core planning principles as outlined in the NPPF is for planning to support a transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate and through this is the

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encouragement of the use of renewable resources. The NPPF identifies the role planning plays in helping to shape places to secure reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, providing resilience to the impacts of climate change and supporting the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy associated infrastructure.

- 9.6.02 The move to a low carbon future can be achieved through planning for new development in locations which reduce greenhouse gas emissions and also support for energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings. To help mitigate the impacts of climate change, there needs to be a reduction in carbon emissions and an increase in the use of renewable resources. However policy is clear that the need for renewable or low carbon energy does not automatically override local environmental issues, with a key area to consider being the cumulative impacts of renewables such as wind turbines.
- 9.6.03 WNJCS Policy S10 seeks to reduce the impact of climate change through reducing carbon emissions by the application of sustainable design principles. WNJCS Policy S11 seeks greater energy efficiencies in building construction and use and through the increased use of low carbon and renewable energy. The policy identifies key considerations in the assessment of development proposals for renewables, which include sensitively locating proposals to minimise the impact on people as well as the built, natural and heritage environment.
- 9.6.04 Following the technical housing standards review, the Government withdrew the Code for Sustainable Homes to simplify the regulatory procedures that apply to house building. The Government set out that whilst the Code cannot be applied in full, local planning authorities can continue to set and apply policies which require compliance with the energy performance requirements that exceed Building Regulation requirements. The intention is that in accordance with Policy S11 of the WNJCS, dwellings shall include energy efficiency measures equivalent to those required to achieve level 4 of the former Code for Sustainable Homes.
- 9.6.05 Within the District there have been a number of developments for renewable energy provision through wind turbines and solar farms with a number of windfarms located along the M1/A14 corridor. It is important that the District helps to contribute to climate change objectives, in a manner that respects the character of the local environment, protects residential amenity and avoids negative cumulative impact.
- 9.6.06 In addition to solar and wind farms, there are other renewable energy solutions that may be appropriate for the District to utilise. These can include combined heat and power and active solar technology (photovoltaics and solar water heating). In addition current Building Regulations also have requirements that lie outside planning regulations to ensure higher levels of energy efficiency in buildings.



- 9.6.07 Combined heat and power<sup>51</sup> (CHP) is a highly efficient process that captures and utilises the heat that is a by-product of the electricity generation process. By generating heat and power simultaneously, CHP can reduce carbon emissions by up to 30% compared to the separate means of conventional generation via a boiler and power station. Where appropriate for large scale developments, such as the Daventry North East SUE, it will be anticipated that a CHP network will be utilised.
- 9.6.08 Active solar technology<sup>52</sup> including solar panel electricity systems (photovoltaic) or solar water heating (using heat from the sun to warm domestic hot water), where it is related to a particular building is often permitted development, provided the installation is not of an unusual design, does not involve a listed building or is a designated area. However when a planning application is required factors to bear in mind will include the importance of siting to maximise energy collection from the sun, the number of solar modules required and their colour and appearance, which may not be compatible with other Plan policies such as heritage or design considerations.
- 9.6.09 The policy reflects the Council's commitment to tackling climate change by reducing energy consumption and thus carbon emissions through the application of sustainable development principles in design and the encouragement of the use of low carbon energies such as CHP on major development proposals and use of active solar technology on any development. The policy also seeks to set out the criteria to appropriately assess the likely impact of proposals for renewable energy to help ensure that the right technology is accommodated in the right location with minimal impact on the natural and built and environment and heritage assets.

The policy aims to address objective 1
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The policy helps to deliver policies S10 and S11, of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy
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<b>ENV9 - Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Development</b>
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<b>A. Proposals for renewable energy development will be supported where, with appropriate mitigation, they do not have an adverse impact on any of the following;</b>
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<sup>51</sup> Combined Heat and Power guidance available from;  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/combined-heat-and-power>

<sup>52</sup> Renewable and Low Carbon Energy guidance available from;  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/renewable-and-low-carbon-energy>

- i. **Form, character and setting of an existing settlement;**
- ii. **Heritage assets and in particular on views important to their setting;**
- iii. **Biodiversity and ecology;**
- iv. **The landscape including the cumulative impact with existing or approved renewable energy development;**
- v. **Residential amenity; and**
- vi. **The enjoyment of the open countryside including public rights of way.**

**B. Where appropriate and viable, new development should utilise the availability of any local energy network, such as combined heat and power (CHP) system or generate their own energy from low carbon technology. Where district heating schemes are proposed, and it is reasonably practical, all properties will be expected to be connected to them.**

## **9.7 Design**

- 9.7.01 The NPPF attaches great importance to the design of the built environment and sees it as a key aspect of sustainable development, with design considered to be indivisible from good planning and securing high quality design as one of the core planning principles.
- 9.7.02 As set out in the NPPF strong design policies will contribute to the functionality and overall quality of an area. This will enable the establishment of a strong sense of place, whilst responding to the local character and reflecting the identity of the local surroundings. The application of design principles will help create a safe, accessible and inclusive environment which is considered to be visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping.
- 9.7.03 The WNJCS identifies achieving sustainability as a core objective in all proposals for development, which underpins the Council's own commitment to tackling climate change. The spatial portrait of the WNJCS recognises the role that good design can play, such as incorporating sustainable building techniques in helping to combat climate change, and taking into account community safety principles can help to reduce the opportunity for crime. A number of factors are identified that would require consideration in ensuring the sustainable design of new development. These include layout, densities, designing neighbourhoods to reduce the need to travel, maximising the opportunities for walking and cycling and locating new development close to services. The WNJCS seeks the creation of attractive, usable and durable

## 9.8 Local Flood Risk

- 9.8.01 Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) is the Lead Local Flood Authority under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) and is therefore responsible for developing, maintaining and applying a strategy for local flood risk management in the county.
- 9.8.02 Policy BN7 in the WNJCS refers neither to the 'Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy<sup>53</sup>', a material planning consideration, nor to 'Local Surface Water Drainage Standards' because they were introduced afterwards. Policy can intervene in a number of useful ways locally, including avoiding new culverting of watercourses and actively encouraging de-culverting, and promoting the use of in-built property level resistance and resilience measures.
- 9.8.03 Specific policy relating to flood and water management in Northamptonshire is set out in the 'Local Flood Risk Management Strategy'. This establishes the responsibilities of local authorities and developers with regards to flood risk and sets out the co-ordinated approach to the management of all local flood risks in Northamptonshire.
- 9.8.04 NCC has published local guidance to support local planning authorities in considering surface water drainage proposals in Northamptonshire, and to assist developers in the design of all surface water drainage systems. The guide sets out the standards that are applied in assessing all drainage proposals, as well as the information required to be submitted as part of planning applications. 'Local Standards and Guidance for Surface Water Drainage in Northamptonshire<sup>54</sup>' is a 'live' document which will be continually updated and improved.
- 9.8.05 Further to this guidance development proposals will be subject to the sequential and where necessary the exceptions test as set out in policy BN7 of the WNJCS and within the NPPF.

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<sup>53</sup> Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy:

[REDACTED]

<sup>54</sup> Local Standards and Guidance for Surface Water Drainage in Northamptonshire:

[REDACTED]

This policy aims to address objectives 1, 2, 4 and 9 of the Local Plan

This policy supplements BN7 of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy

#### **ENV11 - Local Flood Risk Management**

**A. Proposals for development will be subject to a sequential test and where necessary an exception test in accordance with Policy BN7 of West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and the NPPF.**

**B. In order to manage flood risk and protect and where appropriate improve the quality of the water environment, development in Daventry District will be expected to comply with:**

- i. The Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy; and**
- ii. The Local Standards and Guidance for Surface Water Drainage in Northamptonshire.**
- iii. Anglian Water's Surface Water Drainage Policy.<sup>55</sup>**

**C. As necessary, development in the District will also need to incorporate the principles set out in the Northamptonshire Flood Guide 23: New Developments and Emergency Flood Plans<sup>56</sup>**

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<sup>55</sup> Anglian Water Surface Water Drainage Policy:

[REDACTED]

<sup>56</sup> Northamptonshire Flood Guide 23: New Developments and Emergency Flood Plans:

[REDACTED]

## **CHAPTER 8: Sustainable Transport**

### **8.1 Walking and Cycling**

- 8.1.01 Policy C5 of the WNJCS supports improved connections within the urban area, between neighbourhoods and town and district centres, rural hinterlands and their most accessible service centre. Policy D5 also supports improvements to the transport network in Daventry town which includes the completion of the cycling network to connect residential areas, the town centre, employment areas and Long Buckby railway station.
- 8.1.02 This Plan offers the opportunity to extend this ambition and seeks to further promote walking and cycling as a form of active travel, reduce the number of car journeys and help improve linkages between settlements, Strategic Employment Areas and transport hubs.
- 8.1.03 The Northamptonshire County Council Local Transport Plan (2012) includes a number of thematic strategies including a Walking Strategy (2013) and a Cycling Strategy (2013) as well as the Daventry Town Transport Strategy (2013). Together these strategies promote walking and cycling as transport modes and support the development of safe, convenient and efficient transport infrastructure. In particular the Daventry Town Transport Strategy identifies proposed cycle infrastructure improvements which include the Daventry and Braunston link, and a cycle link to Weedon, utilising the disused railway lines where possible and a cycle link to Long Buckby. Funding for these projects is expected to come from sources including CIL.
- 8.1.04 The Daventry to Braunston Link is also promoted in the adopted Braunston Neighbourhood Development Plan and has secured funding through Sustrans for a feasibility study. Details of the exact route are still subject to further surveys.
- 8.1.05 Policy R3 of the WNJCS promotes improved accessibility and sustainable transport within rural areas including supporting improvements to the cycling network between villages and their nearest service centre and also reviewing walking connections within villages to identify specific improvements required to ensure the safety of pedestrians. In some cases works to connect a development with the existing village can harm the character of the village by introducing urban features to a rural environment. Where such highway works are required to enable the development to connect to existing infrastructure any harm to the character of the settlement will be taken into consideration when assessing the sustainability of the proposal.



## Electric Vehicles

- 8.1.06 The use of electric vehicles is an important measure in reducing emissions locally and therefore the provision of necessary infrastructure which promotes the use of such vehicles is essential. Growth in the uptake of electric vehicles is steadily growing and therefore it is important that new development seeks to encourage continued growth and respond to such change. In order to promote a greater role for electric vehicles the Council will encourage and support development proposals which incorporate appropriate infrastructure to support electric vehicle charging.

This policy aims to address objectives 1, 2, 3,6,7 and 10

This policy helps to deliver policies S10, C5, D5 and R3 of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy

### **ST1 – Sustainable Transport Infrastructure**

#### **Walking and Cycling**

**A. Measures to promote walking and cycling will be supported, this will include the provision or retention of links which provide ready access between;**

- **Daventry Town Centre, Strategic Employment Areas, other services/ facilities and residential areas**
- **Daventry and surrounding rural settlements**
- **Interdependent rural settlements**
- **Rural settlements and Northampton, Rugby and Market Harborough**

**B. In particular, opportunities to promote and improve walking and cycling routes at the following locations will be supported:**

- **Daventry to Long Buckby, including the station**
- **Daventry to Braunston**
- **Daventry to Norton**
- **Daventry South West to Daventry Town Centre**
- **Daventry South East Gateway to Weedon**
- **DIRFT to surrounding villages**
- **Daventry Town Centre to the Grand Union Canal**
- **Sustainable Urban Extensions**

**C. Opportunities to make optimum use of waterways and disused railway lines as sustainable transport routes will be supported.**

**D. In assessing development proposals that seek to introduce improved linkages, including those identified in parts A, B and C, regard will be had to the impact on the**

character of any affected settlement and its surroundings.

#### Electric Vehicles

**E. Where practical, proposals should incorporate appropriate infrastructure to support electric vehicle charging.**

## **8.2 Lorry Parking**

8.2.01 There is a high level of lorry traffic in the District due to the presence of a large number of companies which rely on lorry movements, as well as the logistics companies which are located across the District, in particular at DIRFT near the A5 and M1. Further demand for such facilities is influenced by the location of the District relative to the ports (served by the M1 and A14 corridors) and the need for drivers to take breaks at the time when they arrive. The 2017 National Survey of Lorry Parking identified that there were particular issues of lorry parking at Junction 18 of the M1, where DIRFT is situated. It is therefore important that there is sufficient suitable lorry parking facilities available to allow for comfort breaks and waiting time. Such facilities would normally be expected to include toilets, shower facilities, eating facilities and bin storage.

8.2.02 There are also a number of lorry parks in the District and adjacent to the District on the strategic road network along the A5, A14 and M1 that are currently in operation, in addition to further schemes that have consent for development. Those in Daventry District are set out in the table below.

**Table 10 Provision of Lorry Parking in Daventry District as at 1st April 2019**

Location of Lorry Park	Planning Application Ref	Total Number of Spaces	Additional Information
Watling Street Truck Stop, A5 Lilbourne	DA/2013/0982 DA/2017/0556	510	Recently extended 82 Spaces not yet implemented and 153 spaces solely for Eddie Stobart
Watford Gap Services (Roadchef), M1		56 Northbound, 63 southbound	
Welford Truck Stop, J1 A14	DA/2011/0741 DA/2013/0025	69	Operational
DIRFT, A5		Unknown	Spaces only for use by existing occupiers Operational
Cold Ashby	DA/2017/0498	78	Saved Local plan allocation