

# **Preferred Options Draft Local Plan to 2046: Town and Parish Councils Briefing**

**3 & 11 November 2025**

# Agenda

- A quick recap
- Engagement approaches
- Local Plan overview video
- Draft Preferred Options Local Plan structure
- Wider context
- Evidence supporting the Draft Preferred Options Local Plan
- Sustainability Appraisal
- How you can help

# A quick recap

2023

- Issues
- Call for sites
- Sustainability Appraisal scoping report
- Settlement hierarchy
- Technical methodologies

2024

- Further Issues and Options
- Land Availability Assessments
- Sustainability Appraisal

2025

- Additional sites land availability assessments
- Additional sites sustainability appraisal
- Communications plan

# Engagement approaches: HDC website



The engagement period will be 5 November to 17 December 2025.

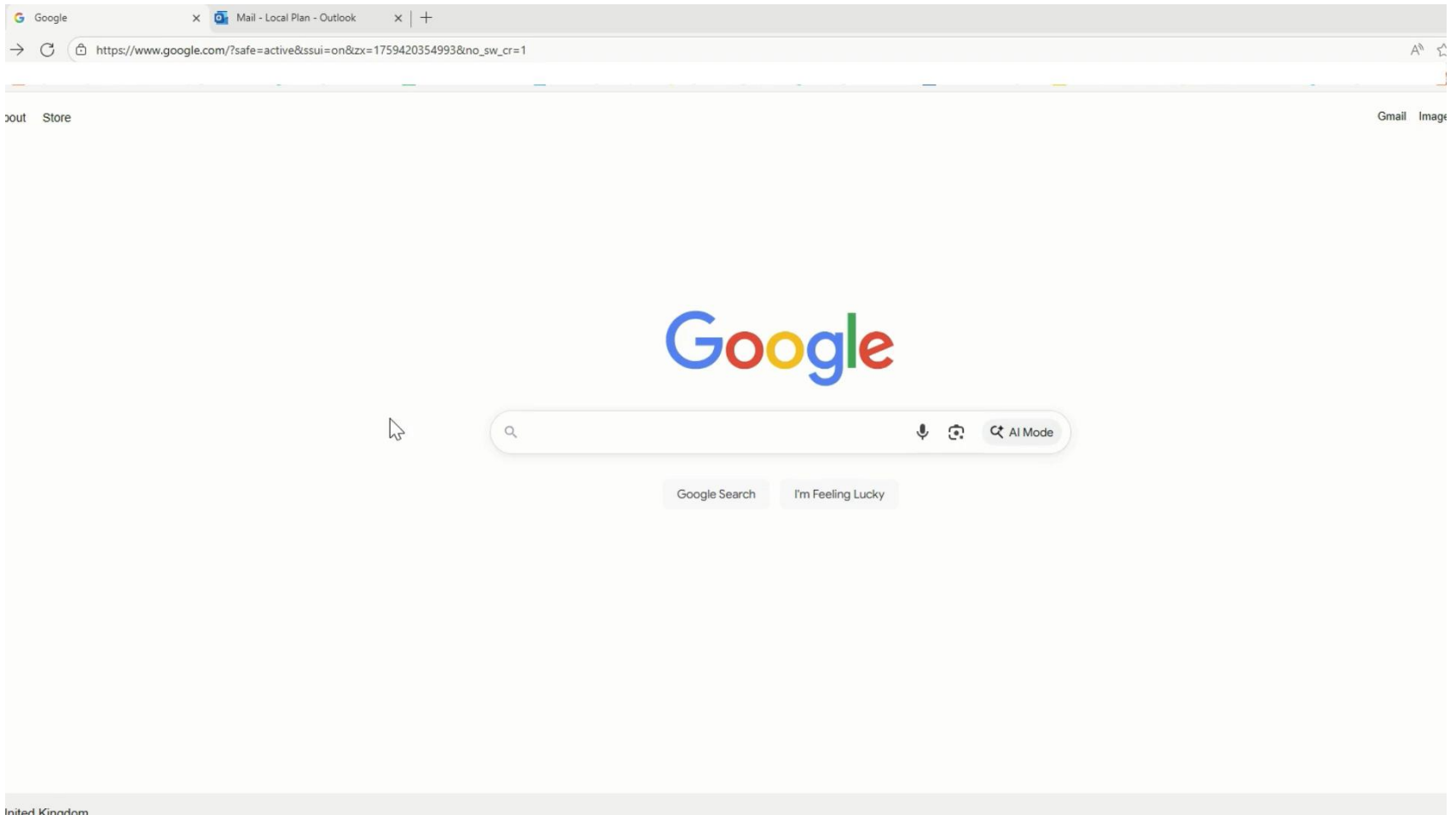
Our webpages have been extensively updated with a dedicated page for the Preferred Options Draft Local Plan to 2046

[Preferred Options Draft Local Plan to 2046 - Huntingdonshire.gov.uk](https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/preferred-options-draft-local-plan-to-2046)

This includes:

- Videos giving an overview of what the consultation is about, how to register and how to comment on our consultation portal
- Step-by-step guides on how to create a consultation portal account and how to submit your comment on our consultation portal
- Details on how and where to engage
- FAQs

# Engagement approaches: How to register video



# Engagement approaches: What we are doing



- Emails to over 6,500 registered consultees on our portal
- Town and Parish Council e-newsletters
- Economic development newsletter
- Paper copies to libraries throughout Huntingdonshire
- Site notices for proposed allocations
- Banners at parks and One Leisure Centres
- Refuse freighter banners
- Press releases and articles in the Hunts Post
- Public exhibitions
- Promotion at special events
- Social media including targeted Facebook advertising



# Engagement approaches: Site notices



QR code to jump straight to the Preferred Options webpage

Huntingdonshire District Council is seeking your views on proposed site allocations that will help meet the district's identified needs for housing, employment and infrastructure.

We're proposing to allocate a site here:  
22 ha on land at **Hinchingbrooke Hospital** is allocated for **hospital redevelopment and upgrades**.

The sites identified are based on evidence, feedback, and input from consultees. We encourage residents and stakeholders to get involved now, before proposals are fixed in the local plan.

View the sites and share feedback on our consultation portal by 17 December.  
[www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/preferredoptions](http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/preferredoptions)



What use the site is proposed for

Where to see more details and closing date

Site name and reference to help people find it easily on the portal or in the document.

Site name:  
• Hinchingbrooke Hospital  
Local Plan Reference:  
• Huntingdon 1  
Proposal:  
• Hospital redevelopment & upgrades

# Engagement approaches: Exhibitions



<b>Date/ 14:00 – 20:00</b>	<b>Location</b>
12 November	Bluntisham Village Hall
13 November	Godmanchester Rovers Football Club
18 November	Ramsey Community Centre
20 November	Wyton Primary School, Wyton on the Hill
26 November	St Ives Corn Exchange
27 November	St Neots Town Football Club
3 December	The Old School House, Sawtry
4 December	Commemoration Hall, Huntingdon

# Local Plan overview



# Local Plan Structure



The Draft Preferred Options Consultation Draft Local Plan has 4 sections:

- **Section A – What is this Local Plan?** Explains what the plan is about and how people can get involved in shaping it
- **Section B – Our Development Strategy to 2046** sets out the overall vision, approach to net zero and strategic policies on how Huntingdonshire will grow and change
- **Section C – Our Development Management** policies provides detailed policies to guide decision-making on planning applications
- **Section D – Our Development Sites** sets out a series of proposed site allocations which will deliver the development strategy and reflect the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough’s Local Growth Plan

# Section A



## Section A:

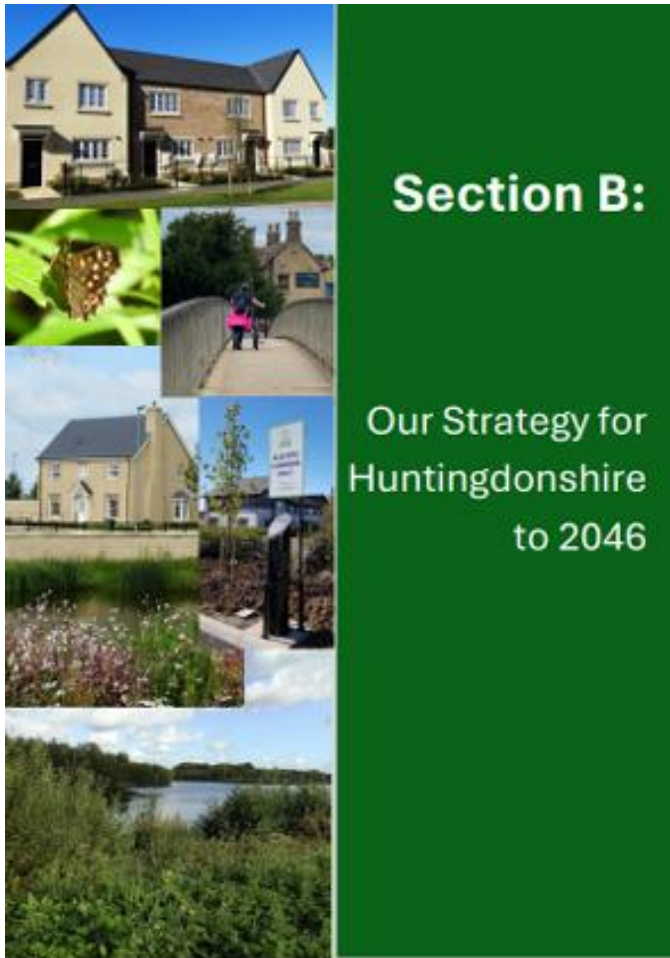
### What is this Local Plan?

- Chapter 1: What is this plan about?
- Chapter 2: How to get involved

This introduces the Local Plan and explains:

- What is the local plan?
- How have we got to our preferred options?
- What evidence do we have?
- What's the purpose of the preferred options?
- What happens next?
- Strategic policies and neighbourhood plans
- What impact will local government reorganisation have?
- How to get involved

# Section B



- Chapter 3: Our Vision and Approach to Net Zero
- Chapter 4: How will Huntingdonshire grow and change?

Our target is for 32,200 new homes 2021-2046.

Over half (17,288) are already completed or committed.

Our jobs target is for 14,400 in industrial and office sectors.

Employment floorspace target is 922,000 sqm

# Section C



## Section C:

### Our Development Management Policies



- Chapter 5: How we will create well designed places
- Chapter 6: How we will support a strong local economy
- Chapter 7: How we will support homes for all
- Chapter 8: How we will conserve and enhance the environment

#### Policy structure:

- Statement of purpose
- Proposed policy
- Supporting text to guide implementation
- How will we monitor delivery of this policy?
- What you have told us so far
- Alternatives we have considered
- Further information

# Section D



- Chapter 9: North Huntingdon Growth Corridor
- Chapter 10: Market towns
- Chapter 11: Service centres
- Chapter 12: Local Service Villages
- Chapter 13: Villages

Sites are colour coded by proposed use type:

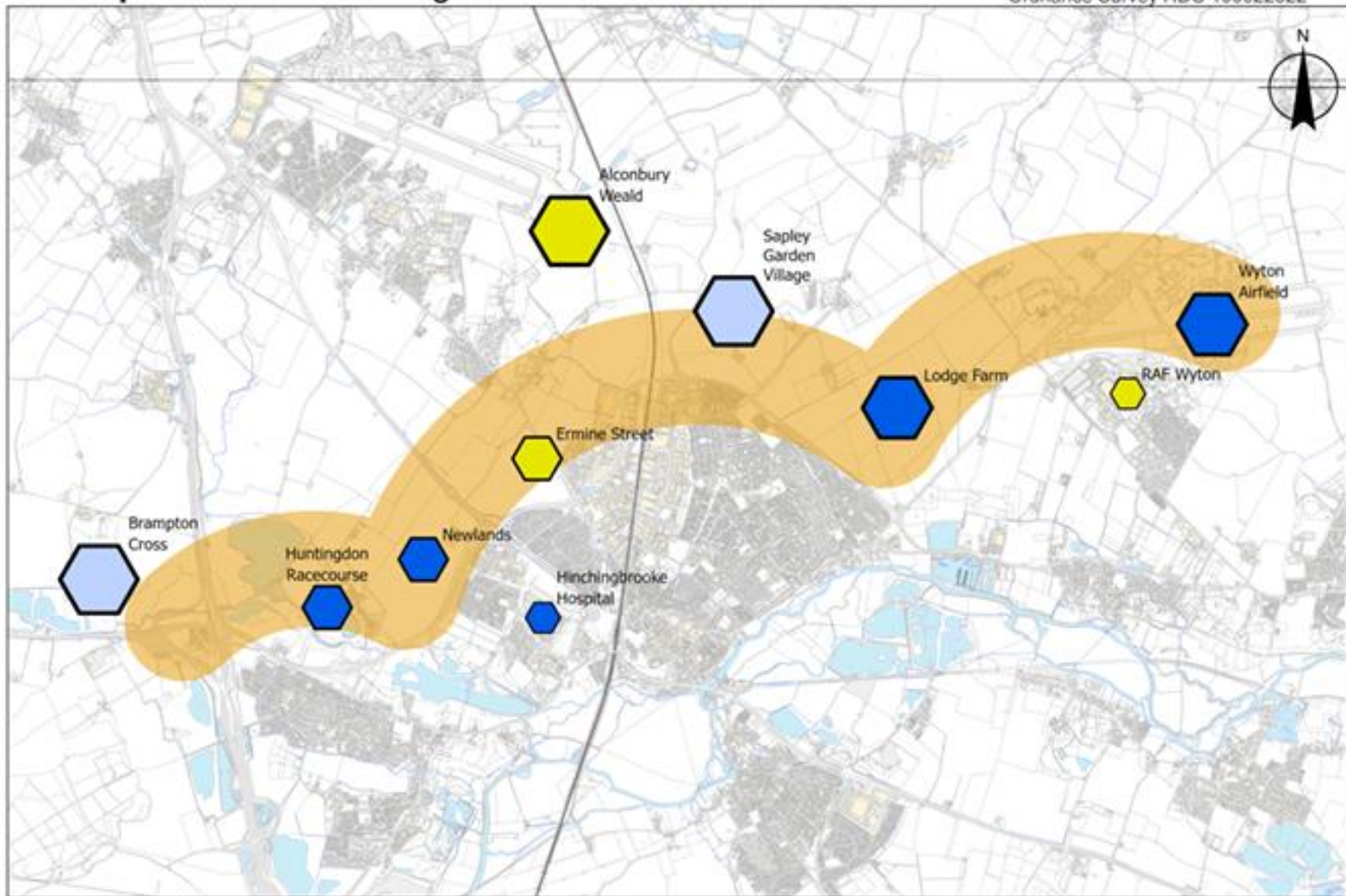
-  Commercial
-  Mixed Use
-  Natural/ Open Space
-  Renewable Energy
-  Residential

# Wider context

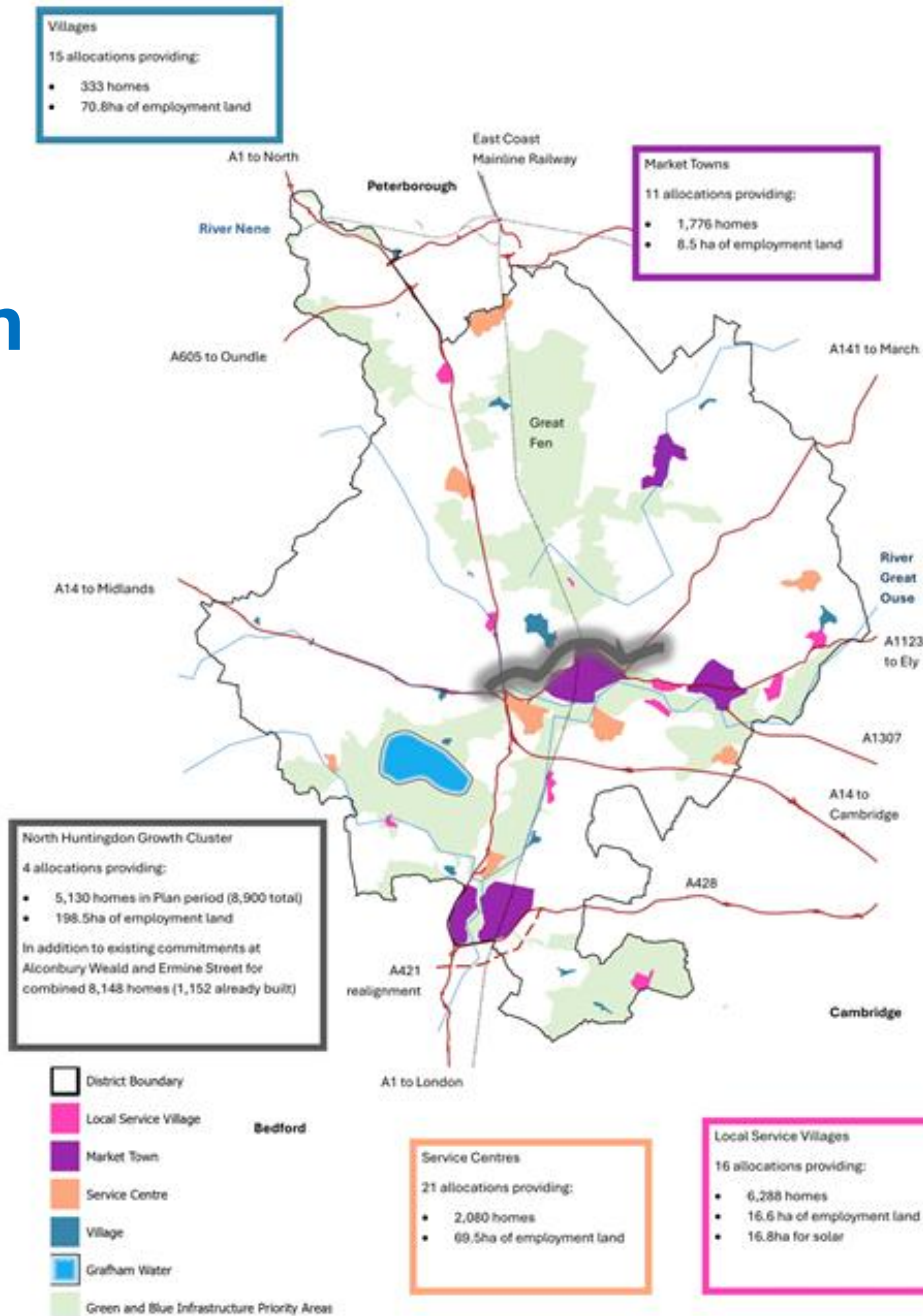
- CPCA Board approved the Local Growth Plan on 22 October
- Place based approach to development with 4 opportunity zones:
  - North Hunts Growth Cluster
  - Peterborough Fast Growth City
  - Fens Growth Triangle
  - Global City Cambridge
- Six priority sectors
- Defence Industrial Strategy 2025: Making Defence an Engine for Growth
  - RAF Wyton is identified as a strategic anchor site within a major defence innovation corridor



# North Huntingdon Growth Cluster



# Key Diagram



# Evidence supporting the Draft Preferred Options Local Plan

## Key evidence

- Strategic flood risk assessment and Water cycle study
- Climate change
- Economic and employment needs assessment
- Infrastructure delivery study
- Whole plan viability assessment
- Strategic transport strategy
- Local housing needs assessment
- Gypsy & Traveller accommodation assessment
- Leisure and Sports facilities strategies
- Habitats regulations assessment
- Ecological constraints assessment
- Statement of consultation

### Economic and Employment Needs Assessment

Huntingdonshire District Council

June 2025

### Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan

Local Plan Update Preferred Options Consultation

HRA Screening Report

October 2025



# Sustainability Appraisal

It is a statutory requirement to consider the draft plan's contribution to sustainable development. This tests it against objectives relating to the climate emergency, environmental and socio-economic issues.

This stage has appraised development of the growth strategy, each proposed policy and updated the appraisals of proposed allocations following last year's engagement.

SA Obj.	Decision Aiding Questions: Will approach/ option help to....	Likely Impact of:			
		Strategy 1	Strategy 2	Strategy 3	Strategy 4
SA1	• Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with, or exceeding, nationally or locally set targets?	++	++	-	+
	• Promote enhancements to green infrastructure networks to facilitate increased absorption and dissipation of nitrogen dioxide and other pollutants?	+	+	+	+
SA2	• Concentrate new development in locations that maximise opportunities to adapt and be more resilient to the unavoidable impacts of the climate emergency?	-	+	++	++
	• Support habitats in adjusting to the impacts of the climate emergency?				
SA3	• Maintain and where possible improve the quality and availability of water resources?	--	-	+	--
	• Minimise the risk of flooding from all sources?	-	-	++	++
SA4	• Enable the use of land that has previously been developed in preference to greenfield land?	+	+	-	-
	• Promote development in locations that are grade 3 agricultural land or lower (including urban and non-agricultural land) in preference to higher grades?	+	+	--	+

# How you can help

- By distributing posters and leaflets around your town/ parish
- Making documents available for viewing within your town/ parish
- Directing people to the Preferred options webpage
- Articles in newsletters/ on your website
- Social media toolkit of posts to share which includes:
  - An overview of our planned posts
  - Suggested posts which can be edited to include more locally specific wording
  - Copies of artwork to use alongside any social media

A green poster for "Local Plan Engagement 2025". It features the Huntingdonshire District Council logo in the top left, a photograph of a town by a river with a bridge, and a white outline of a house with an upward-pointing arrow. The text on the poster includes the title "Local Plan Engagement 2025", a paragraph about the vision for sustainable growth to 2046, a comment deadline of 17 December at [Huntingdonshire.gov.uk/preferredoptions](https://Huntingdonshire.gov.uk/preferredoptions), and the slogan "AMBITION HAPPENS IN HUNTS" with a house icon. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner.

Huntingdonshire  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Local Plan Engagement 2025

Our vision for sustainable growth to 2046 sets out how we will deliver land for new homes, jobs and infrastructure, protect our natural environment, address climate change and provide policies for assessing planning applications.

Comment by 17 December at  
[Huntingdonshire.gov.uk/preferredoptions](https://Huntingdonshire.gov.uk/preferredoptions)

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