Weekley Parish Council



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6th August 2026

Strategic Planning Policy Team
North Northamptonshire Council
Council Offices
Cedar Drive
Thrapston
Northamptonshire
NN14 4LZ

Dear Planning Policy Team,

RE: Weekley Parish Council Submission - North Northamptonshire Local Plan (2024-2045) Scoping and Content Consultation

Weekley Parish Council writes in its capacity as a statutory consultee to formally log its strategic objections regarding the emerging spatial strategy for the North Northamptonshire Local Plan (2024-2045). Following a formal resolution passed at our council meeting on 4th August 2026, this Council requires the following material concerns to be addressed and explicitly recorded against the specified Scoping Consultation questions:

- Response to Question 20 (Employment Land Allocations & De-allocation): Weekley Parish Council strongly urges the immediate removal of the Kettering North site (Weekley Hall Wood and Meadow) from the strategic employment land supply matrix. Retaining this legacy commercial allocation directly conflicts with environmental sustainability mandates. Previous public planning inquiries have proven that strategic logistics or warehouse expansion on this plot is highly unsustainable, undeliverable, and lacks public support.

- Response to Question 26 (Protection of Local Green Spaces): Pursuant to Paragraph 106 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Weekley Parish Council formally requests that Weekley Hall Wood and its contiguous wildflower meadow be granted Local Green Space status under the provisions outlined in Question 26. The land is demonstrably special to our parish and neighbouring communities for its unique biodiversity, mental health, and recreational value.

- Protection of Settlement Separation and Spatial Identity: In the context of overarching spatial distribution, the Parish Council is deeply concerned by the ongoing urban encroachment from northern Kettering and Hanwood Park. The new Local Plan must introduce a legally binding 'Strategic Gap' policy to maintain a clear, undeveloped buffer zone. This is vital to preserve the setting of the Weekley Conservation Area and prevent our historic village from being subsumed by urban sprawl.

- Preservation of Local Design Policies: We request that the protections originally established under legacy policy WEK1 be fully integrated into the new unified design codes to preserve the architectural ironstone and thatch heritage of Weekley.

Weekley Parish Council welcomes the opportunity to work constructively with North Northamptonshire Council throughout this plan-making process to ensure a balanced future for our area. We would be very grateful for an early engagement session with your policy officers to discuss these matters further, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Ruby Cole

Mrs Ruby Cole
Clerk & RFO
Weekley Parish Council