About the consultation

What is the consultation title?*
Consultation on Northamptonshire County Council's Prioritisation Framework and Process

What is this consultation about?*
Northamptonshire County Council is putting in place a new way of thinking about its priorities and how it decides what they should be. This is called the 'Prioritisation Framework and Process' or 'the framework', for short.

By 'prioritisation', we mean developing a framework that will say what the council’s main beliefs (principles) and standards (values) are, and how we determine what our priorities should be.

Why is the council making this change?

It is important that the council gets the best outcomes for the people of Northamptonshire and makes the best use of the money it has. It is also important that the council should 'live within its means' and not spend more money than it has in its budget.

This means that the council must decide what its priorities are, so it knows what to spend money on.

Priorities are what people think are the most important things for the council to do first. Councillors are elected to make important decisions for the council, and the council also asks residents, including the most vulnerable people with the highest needs, to say what their priorities are. Ultimately, the council has to balance its 'statutory responsibilities' (e.g. what the law says that the county council must do) with what our service users and residents think that our priorities should be.

We would also like to know what people in Northamptonshire think about how the council decides what its priorities should be, and need your help to decide on the beliefs and standards that should inform the framework.

Previous consultation

The council previously ran a short consultation about the Prioritisation Framework from 24th October to 22nd November 2016. The outcomes of this consultation, and relevant reports and Cabinet papers can all be accessed via the links at the bottom of this page.

What are we asking?

The council is writing a guide to say how the people who make decisions can measure priorities and decide, in an open and fair way, which are the most important priorities for the county council.

We would like the people who use our services, residents of the county and other partners to be involved in this process.

At this stage of the consultation, we are not asking what you think the county council’s priorities should be. Instead, we are asking what you think about the way we plan to decide on them.

Principles are the basis for ways of thinking about what’s right and wrong, good and bad, or fair and unfair. Values
lead us to decide what we think is important in life.

As an organisation, we want to use our principles and values to decide our priorities, because we think it will help us to be fair and make the right decisions for everyone. We believe that, as a county, we can identify some principles and values that nearly everyone can agree on to decide priorities.

The feedback we receive will be used by the council to help decide what the final framework should look like and what will be in it.

To help you think about this, there are two documents to support this consultation. You can see an example of how principles and values can be used to make a framework by following the link to the document called ‘Sample Ethical Framework’, and you can see how we can measure and decide what the council’s priorities should be by looking at the ‘Sample Prioritisation Tool’ document. Both of these can be accessed from the links at the bottom of the page.

### Consultation dates

| Start date* | 15 Feb 2017 |
| End date*   | 24 Mar 2017 |
| Results expected by? | Please leave a reasonable amount of time after your consultation has concluded.* |

All fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory.

What is the subject of the consultation?*

- Academies and Free Schools
- Adults
- Advertisement
- Airports
- Animals
- Anti social behaviour
- Archives
- Armed Forces
- Arts
- Aviation
- Births
- Black Minority Ethnic (BME) Communities
- Boats and Shipping Vessels
- Budget
- Building
- Bus
- Business
- Bylaws
- Campaigns
- Canal and Rivers
- Care
- Carers
- Rates
- Records
- Recreation
- Recruitment
- Recycling
- Regeneration
- Registration
- Regulation
- Rescue Services
- Reservoirs
- Residents survey
- Retail
- Roads and Highways
- Rubbish and Waste
- Rural Communities
- Salvation Army
- Schools
- School Admissions
- Scrap Metal
- Secondary
- Secular Societies
- Self Employment
- Sensory Impairment
- Service planners or deliverers
- Services
- Sexual Orientation
- Shops
- Social Clubs
- Social Inclusion
- Social Policy
- Sports
- Stakeholders
- Standards
- Stations
- Strategic framework
- Street Trading
- Sustainability
All fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory.

**Area**

What area of the county does this consultation affect?*  
- Corby  
- Daventry  
- East Northamptonshire  
- Kettering  
- Northampton  
- Northamptonshire Countywide  
- South Northamptonshire  
- Wellingborough

How can I take part? How can people engage? Please add any links to previous consultations and relevant consultation documents*

The second stage of this consultation gives people another opportunity to let us know what they think about our values and priorities.

Consultees will be able to feedback their views and opinions through three different channels:

- By responding to our online survey (see link below).
- By email, to the address below.
By attending a workshop (details below).

To support this consultation, we have organised a series of five workshops/drop-in sessions in different parts of the county for residents, staff and partners interested in this consultation. These workshops will help to identify the main principles and values that we need for the framework, and offer opportunities for discussion. The workshops will take place at the following dates/times and venues:

- Monday 13th March, 10am to 12noon - The Council Chamber, Bowling Green Road, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 7QX.
- Monday 13th March, 6.30pm to 8.30pm - Weston Favell Academy, Booth Lane South, Weston Favell, Northampton, NN3 3EZ.
- Tuesday 14th March, 6.30pm to 8.30pm - Kingsthorpe College, Boughton Green Road, Northampton, NN2 7HR.
- Thursday 16th March, 1.30pm to 3.30pm - The Pemberton Centre, H. E. Bates Way, Rushden, NN10 9YP.
- Monday 20th March, 12.30pm to 2.30pm - South Northants Volunteer Bureau, Whittons Lane, Towcester, Northants, NN12 6YZ.

If you have any queries about these meetings, or require any further information, please contact Sandra Husbands, using the email address below.

Lastly, should any consultees require consultation materials in a different format, or have any further queries, please use the email address below.

What happens next?

At the end of the consultation period, the results of the survey, and feedback gathered from the workshops will be combined to help shape NCC's own statement of principles and values and tool for prioritisation, as we finalise the prioritisation framework. The framework will be presented to the Cabinet for approval in the summer.

The results from this consultation will be posted here on the Consultation Register.

Who can I talk to about this consultation?

First name
Last name
Email address*

Sandra
Husbands
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