



Warwick District Council Core Strategy

Issues Paper

Report of Public Consultation

March 2008



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1. Introduction and Background

The Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 This report has been prepared in support of the public engagement that has been taking place and continues to do so, in connection with the development of the Core Strategy for Warwick District.
- 1.2 The Council has undertaken a number of tasks to help us understand the key issues that the Core Strategy will need to address. These have included a series of meetings with local and national organisations, agencies and interest groups with an interest in Warwick District, and the preparation of an “Issues Paper” in November 2007.
- 1.3 Subsequent to preparing this “Issues Paper” the Council carried out a public consultation between 23 November 2007 and 25 January 2008. The “Issues Paper” was accompanied by a questionnaire which respondents were invited to complete as a framework for structured comment. This stage of public consultation is in line with the Regulations (specifically Regulation 25) and forms part of an ongoing process of engagement with key stakeholders and the public.
- 1.4 The council carried out the Issues Paper consultation to give every opportunity for organisations, statutory bodies, councillors and members of the public to be involved at every stage of the production of the Core Strategy.
- 1.5 The purpose of this report is to outline what steps were taken to publicise the “issues” consultation, and to summarise the outcome of all the Council’s early work to engage with the local community and stakeholders.

Background to the Core Strategy

- 1.6 Warwick District Council adopted the Warwick District Local Plan September 2007. This document provides a framework of planning policies for Warwick District for the period up to 2011.
- 1.7 In 2004, the Government passed legislation which introduced a new style planning system, whereby Local Plans are gradually replaced with a series of new documents known collectively as the Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF is made up of a number of documents which deal with different aspects of planning policy against which planning applications are determined. Some of these documents are required, whilst others are optional. The key to the production of all the documents is public involvement and to this end, the council has carried out considerable consultation in the evolution of the Issues Paper on a face to face basis as well as a paper based exercise.
- 1.8 The production of the Core Strategy typically follows a series of stages with periods of consultation punctuating the overall process. Figure 1 below illustrates these stages and the times when **public consultation** takes place.

Fig.1 Stages of preparing the Warwick District Core Strategy

Stage	Date	What will this involve?
Evidence gathering	From January 2007	This is an ongoing process of gathering information that will help inform the Core Strategy. It involves technical work (such as assessments of flood risk and housing land availability) and early consultation with key agencies and other stakeholders.
Issues stage	Autumn/Winter 2007/08	The Council has been consulting widely to understand the key issues facing the District and the challenges facing our communities. It has also explored the challenges that we may be facing as further growth is planned in the district over the period to 2026. The "Issues Paper" was produced by the Council as a key part of this ongoing process of engagement and public consultation took place on that document between 23 November 2007 and 18 January 2008.
Options stage	May/June 2008	The Options Paper, and the public consultation that follows its publication, forms the "options stage". During the options stage, the Council will set out the options that may be open to us for how the district should develop.
Preferred Option stage	January 2009	The "preferred option report" will set out the Council's preferred approach for how the district should develop. There will be a formal six week period of public consultation on this.
Submission version	September 2009	The Council will further refine this "preferred option" to prepare a final "submission version" of the Core Strategy which we will submit to the Secretary of State. There will be a further formal six week period of public consultation on this.
Public examination of the Core Strategy	Spring 2010	This examination will allow a Planning Inspector to consider how "sound" the Core Strategy is. Those who commented on the submission version of the Core Strategy <i>may</i> be invited to appear at the Examination. We currently anticipate that the Public examination will commence in March 2010.
Adoption of the Core Strategy	Autumn 2010	The Council will adopt the Core Strategy as part of its development plan following receipt of the Inspector's Report of the Public Examination.

(Please note that at the time of writing this report, legislation is currently being considered by Parliament that will streamline and amend some of the stages of the process set out above. Accordingly, changes to the programme for subsequent stages of the Core Strategy may need to be made in the future. If this happens, we will seek to keep local people advised of this.)

- 1.9 The majority of local authorities have commenced work by producing an 'Issues and Options' paper which is then consulted upon, followed by a 'Preferred Option' paper, which is again subject to a consultation period. The 'Submission' document is then informed by this consultation and is submitted to the Secretary of State, signalling another period of consultation.
- 1.10 This Council felt however, that it was preferable to separate the "issues" and "options" stage, and to seek to identify the issues before commencing work on the options that may be available. The production of the "Issues Paper" in November 2007, and the subsequent public consultation on this, forms a large part of the "issues" stage.

2. Identifying the Issues and Public Consultation

- 2.1 The starting point for identification of the issues is the Warwick District Local Plan. The Plan was adopted in September 2007 after a lengthy Public Inquiry in 2006. The rigorous examination at that time and its recent adoption means that this Plan can be considered to provide a useful and relevant starting point for identifying the issues. Chapter three of the Local Plan identifies a series of issues which the Local Plan needs to address and sets a series of aims and objectives which the policies of the Local Plan then address.
- 2.2 The issues identified in the Local Plan were carried forward into the Core Strategy Issues Paper as a basis for public consultation and for considering whether any further issues should now be considered. A series of meetings and events took place to help the Council to do this.

Early stakeholder engagement

Launch Event

- 2.3 The Core Strategy is intended to be produced in tandem with the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). Work on the SCS has taken place alongside early preparation of the Core Strategy to ensure that the vision and aims of the two documents can be as compatible as possible. This work was launched with a 'joint visioning event' which took place in June 2007 with 150 people in attendance representing organisations, interest and voluntary groups. Subsequently, the staff working on these documents have continued to meet and attend joint workshops enabling work to progress toward the integrated outcomes required (see appendix 1).

Meetings with Key Stakeholders (front-loading)

- 2.4 Early discussions on key issues affecting key stakeholders commenced in the summer of 2007. These meetings are still ongoing. A list of these meetings so far is included at **appendix 2**. Notes of all these meetings with attendees are available at **appendix 14**. The meetings were arranged to assess the likely issues facing individual organisations and the groups that they represent during the next 19 years and some possible solutions. Meetings were also held with the Parish Council's that invited officers in to speak to them (see **appendix 3**).
- 2.5 Prior to the meetings a letter of invitation was sent out to all those bodies which the Council initially identified as wishing to meet. With this letter was sent a briefing sheet which set out some basic information and asked a series of questions. A copy of this briefing sheet can be seen in **appendix 15**.

Meetings with 'hard to reach' groups

- 2.6 The Council recognise that there are 'hard to reach' groups which are generally under-represented when planning issues are discussed. In an effort to remedy this, these groups have been actively targeted to ensure that they are given the opportunity to participate. Frontloading meetings have taken

place with a range of specialist organisations and the comments of others have been sought to ensure a broad cross section of the local community is engaged in the process.

Public consultation on the Issues Paper

2.7 The consultation included the following elements:

- The joint launch event
- Meetings with key stakeholders
- Meetings with 'hard to reach' groups
- Press Releases
- Warwick Focus article
- Radio interviews
- Website coverage
- Newspaper advertisements
- Issues paper consultation questionnaire

Production and distribution of the Issues Paper

2.8 The 'issues' paper was published for consultation commencing on 23 November 2007, with a date for submission of comments of 18 January 2008. This non-statutory consultation was extended to an eight week period to take into account the Christmas/New Year period when meetings of parish councils and organisations are less likely to occur. The paper included a questionnaire (see **appendix 8**) to structure responses and reply paid envelope to encourage return.

2.9 The paper was made available on the council's website and in hard copy at the council offices and town hall, all local libraries and community offices (Venue details given in **appendix 9**). The questionnaire was bound into the paper to be detached for response and as extra, separate copies at the deposit points and direct from the council offices. It was also made available for completion electronically on the council's website which utilised for the first time, new software purchased for this purpose and future consultations.

2.10 Paper copies were also sent by post to all statutory consultees as stated in the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), local groups and organisations representing various facets of local community life and groups and individuals who indicated an interest in participating in the preparation of the Core Strategy from the council's consultation database set up as part of the SCI work. (A list of those consulted on the full document is contained in **appendix 10**.) Those who had attended front-loading meetings were also consulted.

Press Release

2.11 A press release announced the commencement of the consultation and a copy of this is at **appendix 4**.

Warwick Focus article

- 2.12 In addition to the press release an article appeared in the council's 'District Focus' magazine which was distributed to all households, free of charge and available electronically on the council's website (copy of article is at **appendix 5**). This was in the Winter 2007 edition which appeared in late November.

Radio Interviews

- 2.13 Radio interviews with the group leader of the Policy, Projects and Conservation team were also carried out to bring the consultation to the attention of a wider audience and explain the level of expected growth. This included one such interview on 18 January 2008 with Touch FM.

Website coverage

- 2.14 Details of the progress of the Core Strategy and of the opportunities to be involved in its development appear on the Council's website. A quick link has been established for the Core Strategy: www.warwickdc.gov.uk/corestrategy. Links lead users to the various documents as they are produced and there is an email alert service which provides up to date information on the stages as they are reached. Everyone phoning into the policy section is encouraged to sign up for this service. In addition, the Council has purchased software which allows online questionnaire and survey responses for those wishing to use this service. Downloadable versions of the paper questionnaires were also available on the website.

Newspaper advertisement

- 2.15 An initial newspaper advertisement announced the commencement of the consultation in November 2007. It was acknowledged at any early stage however that the Christmas and New Year holidays were during this period. It was therefore decided that a further period of publicity should follow the New Year holiday to renew interest and remind those who hadn't responded, that the consultation was due to end shortly. A £100 cash prize was also offered to encourage a response from more individuals. A half page, colour advertisement was placed in the Courier newspaper on Wednesday 2 January and another on Friday 4 January to inform as many people as possible of the consultation, means by which they could be involved and dates for responses. A copy of the advertisement is at **appendix 6**. This advertisement raised public awareness and resulted in additional responses. This campaign was accompanied by renewed efforts to obtain responses from those that had been targeted originally with the full set of documents, by way of a reminder letter which also mentioned the prize draw incentive. A copy of reminder letter is at **appendix 7**.

3. Findings of the Public Consultation

- 3.1 A total of 115 responses (see **appendix 12** for the names of respondents) were received to the issues paper consultation. These were made up of 89 in questionnaire format, either completed online using the new software purchased to assist with this process or completed in hard copy. A further 26 responses were received in letter format. Responses have been summarised in **appendix 13**.
- 3.2 In addition to these responses, a letter was also received from Government Office for the West Midlands (GOWM) commenting on the Issues Paper consultation. GOWM had few comments to make on the Issues Paper itself but made the following comments:-
- the Council was commended on the early start that it has made on the Core Strategy so soon after adoption of the Local Plan
 - The approach taken by the council of splitting Issues and Options was felt to be helpful in increasing engagement with stakeholders
 - The list of issues identified was felt to be comprehensive
 - The close integration between the Core Strategy and the Sustainable Community Strategy was welcomed.
 - The Council should make sure that the Core Strategy actively considers the needs of gypsies and travellers
 - The council should also consider the needs of the University of Warwick particularly regarding any cross boundary issues.

Responses to the Issues Paper

- 3.3 The questionnaire accompanying the Issues Paper was split into sections to make responding easier, with cross references given to the relevant parts of the paper.
- 3.4 The first question related to the draft 'vision' for the district. The 'vision' was largely supported, but a few respondents felt that it would benefit from being shorter; some thought it should be slightly rephrased, others thought it needed minor additions; the remainder thought it bland or ineffective. A number of alternative vision statements, largely based on the original draft, were put forward and these were consulted upon further, together with the original draft, at the 'Making It Real' event on 18 February 2008. This event was held to inform the Core Strategy and the final preparation of the Sustainable Community Strategy and was attended by 120 delegates. The responses made to the draft vision statement have been summarised in **appendix 11**.
- 3.5 The Issues Paper then listed 16 objectives for the Core Strategy. These were drawn from the objectives in the recently adopted Warwick District Local Plan. There was support (to varying degrees) for all of these objectives. Respondents were then asked to select their top three priorities within this list. The top three selected were:-

- meeting the housing needs of the whole community, including providing adequate affordable housing
- protecting and enhancing green spaces and the natural environment
- protecting and making best use of land

Issues under 'Maintaining a vibrant and prosperous district'

- 3.6 There was strong support (66%) for increasing the amount of employment in the district. Suggestions for the type of employment we should encourage included, high technology industries, service sector jobs, tourism, biotechnology and professional and financial/business services. A number of respondents considered that there should be further new employment development in Kenilworth.
- 3.7 The town centres in the district are seen as generally well catered for, but respondents identified particular issues in each town centre. In answer to the question "*Would any of our town centres benefit from more of the following?*" (from a list of options)" the following were identified as priorities:-
- For Leamington: car parking, followed by housing and then offices and employment
 - For Warwick: car parking, followed by offices and employment and then indoor leisure facilities
 - For Kenilworth: indoor leisure facilities followed by shops and then office and employment
- 3.8 Other suggestions made included Park & Ride facilities and a high quality hotel for Leamington; shops to meet local needs in Warwick and cinema, gallery, museum and facilities for young people in Kenilworth.
- 3.9 Expanding tourism in the district was well supported by 69% of respondents. To encourage this, it was considered that improved tourist information should be provided, new visitor attractions should be added and more hotels and bed and breakfast accommodation be provided.
- 3.10 In the rural area, many respondents were concerned that we should support rural communities with farm diversification being the most widely supported way of achieving this. The loss of shops and services, affordable housing and public transport were identified as the three most important issues facing rural areas.

Issues under 'Protecting the District's key assets'

- 3.11 In answer to the question "*If land needs to be found to accommodate the growing needs of the District, is it acceptable to allocate some green field land on the edge of our towns?*" 55% of respondents agreed that it should. There was also strong support that the density of new housing schemes should reflect those in the local area (63%), even though it was recognised that in doing some this would increase the amount of green field land required for new housing. Only 6% of respondents supported high density development.
- 3.12 To ensure that new development meets high standards of design, respondents considered that we should in particular:-

- respect the scale, height etc of surrounding buildings,
 - seek to retain or improve the character of streets, squares and spaces, and
 - ensure that new development complements and reflects the existing settlement.
- 3.13 A high proportion of respondents supported the protection of the historic environment and of existing open spaces.

Issues under 'Securing a sustainable district'

- 3.14 There was strong support for ensuring that people can access a range of services and land uses close to where they live, with local shops, health and community facilities and schools and colleges scoring particularly highly. There was also support for improvements to various aspects of the transport network in particular the bus network, cycleways and footpaths.
- 3.15 Respondents agreed that a range of measures should be considered to help address climate change. In particular, support was given to encouraging the use of public transport (which 94% of people rated as important or very important), promoting energy efficient buildings (92%) and including sustainable drainage where possible (90%). 80% of people would like to see facilities for generating renewable energy incorporated into new development.
- 3.16 There was strong support (72%) for not allowing any types of development to take place in areas which currently may flood, even in circumstances where other land is not available and where action could be taken to ensure that flooding was not made worse in the area. Of the 28% who said that some limited development may be permitted under such circumstances, the types of uses suggested included sports pitches, temporary visitor attractions, nature reserves and amenity space, cycleways and footpaths.

Issues under 'Meeting the district's needs'

- 3.17 In order to meet the needs of the community, respondents thought that we should
- look at ways to reduce poverty, social exclusion, crime and anti-social behaviour
 - protect the amenity of local communities and protect and enhance accessibility to local services and facilities
 - meet the housing needs of the whole community, including providing adequate affordable housing.
- 3.18 There was strong agreement that providing sufficient affordable housing to meet the projected needs of the district was an important or very important issue (79%).
- 3.19 In terms of health and well being, the majority of respondents considered there were adequate facilities (health, community, leisure, arts & cultural facilities) in the district already. There were some suggestions for improvements; more and better health services closer to communities, improved community facilities, more sports pitches and health and fitness facilities and more

theatres and concert venues, conference facilities and open air events to complete provision of the arts.

- 3.20 In tackling crime, respondents considered design to promote community spirit to be the most important factor in 'designing out crime'. Other suggestions included, providing better infrastructure, adequate lighting, youth facilities and engaging people in their own environment.
- 3.21 When asked whether there are any sectors of the community that have outstanding needs that should be met, 56% of respondents thought that there were. The majority felt that the two groups that are most in need are the elderly and the young.
- 3.22 One new issue emerged through the "issues" consultation; namely gypsies and travellers. There is recent evidence of an unmet need within Warwick District for accommodation for gypsies and travellers. Government recommends that where there is evidence of need, local authorities should seek to allocate sites through their Local Development Frameworks.

Understanding the key issues affecting the district

- 3.23 Overall, 59% of respondents felt that we had identified the key issues for the district. A number of suggestions were made for issues that either were not covered, or (in the opinion of the respondent) should have been covered in more detail. These issues included; climate change, the countryside, the protection of the Green Belt, the protection of open spaces, renewable energy generation and infrastructure considerations.
- 3.24 More detailed results of the survey follow in **appendix 13**.

Other stakeholder engagement on the Core Strategy

- 3.25 Although the public consultation on the Issues Paper forms a major part of the Council's early stakeholder and public engagement on the issues facing the Core Strategy, it is not the only part. As mentioned earlier in this Report, a number of meetings have taken place with a range of stakeholders to discuss key issues affecting them for the Core Strategy. These meetings are still ongoing as part of the process of continual engagement as the Council considers issues affecting the Core Strategy, however a list of those that have taken place to date is included in **appendix 2**. The Council has also met with a large number of our Parish Councils to both inform them of the work on the Core Strategy and seek their views. A list of the Parish and Town Councils that the Council has met to date is included in **appendix 3**.
- 3.26 A summary of the discussions held with key stakeholders is contained in **appendix 14** to this Report.

Appendix 1: List of Joint meetings

List of Warwickshire Partnership Executive Group Meetings

Date	Meeting
17.04.07	WPEG
04.06.07	Facilitators and Planners
12.09.07	WPEG
17.09.07	CS/SCS meeting internally with WCC
01.11.07	SCS/CS Workshop Day
07.11.07	WPEG
15.11.07	SCS/CS Workshop Day
17.12.07	WPEG
28.02.08	WPEG

'Visioning Event' steering group meetings (LC in attendance)

25.04.07	Riverside House (Room 3.01)
08.05.07	Riverside House (Room next to LY office)
15.05.07	The Gap, Warwick (venue)
31.05.07	Riverside House (Room 3.24)
12.06.07	Visioning Event – The Gap, Warwick [Planning Policy Team (6 in total) in attendance]

'Making It Real' event steering group meetings (LC in attendance)

21.01.08	Riverside House (Training Room)
28.01.08	Woodside Conference Centre (Venue)
12.02.08	Riverside House (John McGowan's room)
18.02.08	Woodside Conference Centre – 'Making It Real' event (4 members of Planning Policy team in attendance)

Appendix 2: List of meetings held with key stakeholders

Please note that this list reflects only those key stakeholders with whom we have met to date.

Date	Organisation
30.07.07	Regional Bodies (Government Office for the West Midlands, West Midlands Regional Assembly, Highways Agency, Advantage West Midlands)
09.08.07	Warwickshire County Council conformity officer
10.08.07	Warwickshire Rural Hub
29.08.07	Warwickshire Rural Community Council
30.08.07	Senior Peoples Forum
03.09.07	Environment Agency
03.09.07	House Builders Federation
06.09.07	RASE
13.09.07	Positive About Young People (Youth & Community Services – Warwickshire County Council)
14.09.07	Help the Aged
24.09.07	Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Natural England, Warwickshire County Council Ecology Unit and the Biodiversity Officer, Forestry Commission,
25.09.07	Mid Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, Advantage West Midlands, Warwick Chamber of Commerce
26.09.07	Road Haulage Association
28.09.07	CPRE, Friends of the Earth
28.09.07	Mencap, Warwickshire Association for the Blind, Council for Disabled People
01.10.07	Highways Agency, Warwickshire County Council Highways officers, Warwick Town Centre Manager
05.10.07	Freight Transport Association
17.10.07	MIND
19.10.07	Warwickshire Police and Community Safety Officers
08.11.07	Freight Transport Association
22.11.07	Warwick Society
23.11.07	Warwickshire County Council – Park & Ride
05.12.07	University of Warwick and agent
06.02.08	Warwickshire Police Architectural Liaison Officer
26.02.08	Warwickshire County Council Gypsy & Traveller Officer and Social Services
06.03.08	Warwickshire County Council Waste Core Strategy Team

Appendix 3: List of meetings held with Parish and Town Councils

Date/Time	Parish Council
06.11.07 (12.00)	Warwick Town Centre Management Group
20.11.07 (7.30)	Eathorpe, Hunningham, Offchurch, Wappenbury JPC
22.11.07 (7.00)	Kenilworth Town Council
04.12.07 (7.30)	Beausale, Haseley and Wroxall JPC
02.01.08 (8.00)	Budbrooke Parish Council
02.01.08 (7.30)	Barford, Wasperton & Sherbourne JPC
11.01.08 (7.30)	Shrewley Parish Council
14.01.08 (7.30)	Bubbenhall Parish Council
14.01.08 (7.30)	Lapworth Parish Council
15.01.08 (6.00)	Leamington Town Council
24.01.08 (7.00)	Whitnash Town Council
14.02.08 (7.30)	Ashow, Burton Green & Stoneleigh JPC
11.03.08 (7.00)	Cubbington Parish Council
21.04.08 (8.00)	Old Milverton & Blackdown JPC
09.05.08	Weston-under-Wetherley Parish Council

Appendix 4: Press Release



PRESS RELEASE

From: Philip Clarke
Enquiries to: Lorna Coldicott
Telephone: 01926 456505
Email: ldf@warwickdc.gov.uk
Date:

Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Milverton Hill
Royal Leamington Spa
Warwickshire
CV32 5HZ

Not for Release until: With immediate effect

Launch of Planning 'Issues Paper' Consultation – Seeking the Views of the People of Warwick District

Warwick District Council has today launched a consultation paper that will ask local people what they think the issues are for growth and development in the district now and into the future.

There is currently a national debate about providing more homes for a growing population over the next few years. Everywhere in the country, including Warwick District, is expected to play a part in helping to meet this expected need

To help prepare for this, and to consider what sort of district the people who live and work here want in the future, the Council has begun work on a new plan; the "**Core Strategy**". The role of the Core Strategy will be to:-

- Decide where new development should go between now and 2026 (to coincide with the new plan for the West Midlands Region);

- Help identify how to protect the district's key assets – such as its historic heritage;
- Identify how the needs within the district, such as for affordable housing can be met;
- Address the key planning issues of concern to local people.

The Issues Paper is the first stage in the process of producing a Core Strategy for the district which will form part of the Local Development Framework. The framework is a portfolio of documents which will eventually replace the Warwick Local Plan, which was adopted in September this year.

The Issues Paper has been produced with the assistance of a wide range of key stakeholders who the council has met with over the last few months, providing insight into the particular issues which are important to them. The Council are now seeking the views of other people, asking for any other issues to be identified that they may not have considered. A questionnaire accompanies the paper which the Council hopes will be completed and returned, as the views received will help to shape the next stage of the process.

Councillor John Hammon, Development Portfolio Holder said, "The Core Strategy is an important new document which will shape the district until 2026. The government requires local planning authorities to prepare a Core Strategy as part of the Local Development Framework and part of that process involves various stages during which local people can become involved. This first stage, the Issues Paper, is therefore very important in shaping later stages and I would encourage everyone to take this opportunity of having a say in the future of the district."

This next stage will be the production of an Options Paper in the spring of 2008, which will again be subject to a period of public consultation. This document will identify possible areas for future growth and development.

To find out more, you can:

On the Council Website	Read the Issues Paper and complete the on-line questionnaire at www.warwickdc.gov.uk/corestrategy .
At local libraries	Copies of the Issues Paper and questionnaire are available at all local libraries and other local venues.
By telephone	Phone the telephone number given below and request a copy of the Issues Paper, or if you have any questions.

The consultation runs until 18 January 2008.

Not for Release until: 23 November 2007

For further information on this report, or on the Local Development Framework generally, please contact Philip Clarke, Group Leader (Policy, Projects & Conservation) on 01925 456502.

From: Richard Brooker,
Communications Manager
Telephone: 01926 456023
Mobile : 07774 671804
Email: richard.brooker@warwickdc.gov.uk

Warwick District Council

Riverside House
Milverton Hill
Royal Leamington Spa
Warwickshire
CV32 5HZ

Appendix 5: Focus Magazine article

This extract appeared in the Warwick District Council Focus Magazine – Winter 2007 edition.

Looking ahead – Warwick District in 2026



What do you want our District to be like in 2026? How can our District meet the need for more homes and jobs?

You may be aware of the national debate about providing more homes for a growing population over the next few years. Everywhere in the country, including Warwick District, is expected to play a part in helping to meet this expected need.

To help us prepare for this, and to consider what sort of District we want to be in the future, the Council has begun work on a new plan. This is called the Core Strategy. The role of the **Core Strategy** will be to:-

- Decide where new development should go between now and 2026;
- Help us identify how we can protect our key assets – such as our historic heritage;
- Identify how we can meet needs within the District, such as for affordable housing.
- Address the key planning issues of concern to local residents.

Why 2026?

The Core Strategy will run to 2026. This is to coincide with a new big plan for the West Midlands region which will shape the overall growth of the region to 2026.

We need your help?

Involving you will be crucial in helping to shape our thinking on the Core Strategy. As a first stage, we have published an **Issues Paper** and **questionnaire** which explore some of the key planning issues that will affect Warwick District to 2026.

Please take some time to get involved and complete the questionnaire.

If you would like us to contact you directly when we are consulting on future stages of the Core Strategy, please either email us your details on **ldf@warwickdc.gov.uk** or telephone **01926 456505**.

Please help us to shape the future of Warwick District.

How can I find out more?

On our website	You can read the Issues Paper and complete our on-line questionnaire at www.warwickdc.gov.uk/corestrategy
At local libraries	Copies of the Issues Paper and questionnaire are available at all local libraries and other local venues. See press for details.
By telephone	Call us on 01926 456505 to send you a copy of the Issues Paper, or if you have any questions.



Appendix 6: Newspaper advertisement

Our **New Year Resolution** is to ensure
Warwick District continues to be a **place we are proud of.....**

Warwick District Council is preparing a Core Strategy. This is the Plan that will help shape how Warwick District will grow between now and 2026. As the first stage, we are consulting on an "Issues Paper" setting out the key issues and challenges facing us. We need your views NOW on whether these are the right issues and how we should deal with them.

Let us have your comments by Friday 18th January and enter our prize draw for £100

To view the Issues Paper and download or complete our questionnaire online, visit our website: www.warwickdc.gov.uk/corestrategy

Copies of the document and the questionnaire are also available at the following venues:-

- The Council Offices and The Town Hall: Leamington Spa;
- Whitnash Town Council Office
- All local libraries
- Warwick Connection, Warwick
- Warwickshire Direct, Kenilworth,
- The Chain, Lillington,
- Brunswick Healthy Living Centre

Or you can telephone us for a copy of the Issues Paper on 01926 456505

Why not make it yours?

02/01/08 and
04/01/08

The Courier

WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Appendix 7: Reminder letter

This letter was sent out early in January 2008.

Dear Sir or Madam

Warwick District Core Strategy – Issues Paper

You may recall that a letter was sent to you at the end of November, enclosing a copy of the Warwick Core Strategy Issues Paper with a questionnaire for you to complete and return. I realise that we have just been through a very busy time of year and that you may not have had this as your main priority, but now that the festivities are over, you may wish to consider making your comments to us with regard to this document.

We would be very grateful if you would take a few minutes to look through the paper and then consider whether you would like to respond. The issues paper is available on our website www.warwickdc.gov.uk/corestrategy if you have mislaid the copy sent to you or can be sent in hard copy again if you email the above address or phone on the above telephone number. If you require additional copies of the questionnaire then these are also available in the same way.

Even if you have decided not to respond yourself, please mention the consultation to others you know or within your organisation so that they have the opportunity to do so. If you need any additional incentive to return the form, we are offering the chance to win a **cash prize** of £100 to the first out of the hat after the closing date of 18 January 2008 (this excludes any employee of the District Council). All those who have already responded will be included in the draw, so no need to respond again.

This is a very important stage in the preparation of the Core Strategy and your comments on the Issues Paper will have an impact on the next 'options' stage which will follow in the spring and which will look at possible areas for future development. If you would like to be involved during future stages of the Core Strategy then please complete the relevant part of the questionnaire. Alternatively, you may sign up our email alert system on our website by going to the page www.warwickdc.gov.uk/corestrategy and following the link at the foot of that page.

Thank you

Yours faithfully



Lorna Coldicott
Senior Planner

Appendix 8: Questionnaire



Warwick District Council Core Strategy Issues Questionnaire



Please take a moment to complete this questionnaire and return it to the Council. A freepost envelope is provided with this report for you to do this.

Alternatively, you may complete the questionnaire on-line by following the link: www.warwickdc.gov.uk/corestrategy

A Vision for the Core Strategy

Warwick District, Built on strong historic foundations in the heart of England. Striving to improve further on its reputation as a great place to live, work, and visit. Where our people are proud to belong and where everyone can share in the success of our community."

1. What are your views on this vision? Do you think that it needs any amendments or additions?

The Key Objectives of the Core Strategy

2. As we seek to meet the land-use requirement set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy over the period to 2026, and achieve our vision for Warwick District, the Council has identified a number of key objectives. Do you agree that these should be a high, medium or a low priority?

		High	Medium	Low
	Maintaining a vibrant and prosperous district			
1	To maintain high levels of economic growth, including the regeneration of deprived areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	High	Medium	Low
2 To maintain and enhance our town centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 To promote sustainable tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 To support rural communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting the District's key assets			
5 To protect and make best use of land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 To protect and enhance green spaces and the natural environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7 To protect and enhance the historic environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8 To maintain and enhance our landscapes and townscapes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9 Promoting high quality design	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10 To protect and improve air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Securing a more sustainable district			
11 To reduce the need to travel and promote the use of more sustainable travel options	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12 To limit the impact of the District upon climate change, particularly by:-			
• encouraging new development to reduce energy and water consumption	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• promote the use of renewable energy resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• reducing the generation and disposal of waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meeting the needs of the district			
13 To meet the housing needs of the whole community, including providing adequate affordable housing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14 To reduce poverty, social exclusion, crime and anti-social behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15 To improve the health and well-being of residents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16 To protect the amenity of local communities and protect and enhance accessibility to local services and facilities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Do you consider that any amendments or additions are required to these objectives?

4. What would be your top three priorities?

Maintaining a vibrant and prosperous district

Maintaining economic growth

5. Do we need to encourage further employment to the district?

Yes No

If YES, what types of business should we target?

Supporting our Town Centres

6. Would any of our town centres benefit from more of the following? (please tick as many as apply)

- Housing
- Shops
- Offices and other employment opportunities
- Car parking
- Health and community facilities (including libraries)
- Indoor leisure facilities (sports halls/ swimming baths, skating rink, bowling alley, cinemas, etc)
- Outdoor leisure facilities (putting green, boating lake, skate park etc)
- Restaurants, pubs, bars & clubs
- Parks, gardens, open spaces
- Art and cultural facilities (art galleries, museums, theatres)
- Other - please specify

Leamington	Warwick	Kenilworth

Promoting sustainable tourism

7. Should we try to expand tourism in the district?

Yes No

If YES, what facilities should we provide? (tick all those that apply)

- Hotels & Bed and breakfast accommodation
- Self catering accommodation
- Restaurants
- Night time entertainment
- New visitor attractions and activities
- Visitor centres
- Improved tourist information (including signage)
- Other - please specify

Supporting Rural Communities

8. What do you think are the three most important issues facing rural areas? Please rank these (1, 2, 3) from the list below (or from your own priorities) with 1 as the most important.

- Loss of shops and services
- Lack of affordable housing for local people
- Lack of good mix of house types and sizes
- Poor public transport
- Lack of employment opportunities
- The viability of existing farm holdings

Other (please specify) _____

9. What sort of employment is needed in rural areas to ensure they are economically viable? (please tick all that apply)

- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Fishing
- Small business 'start up' units
- Farm diversification
- Tourism
- Other, (please specify)

Protecting the District's key assets

Protecting and making best use of land

10. If land needs to be found to accommodate the growing needs of the District, is it acceptable to allocate some green field land on the edge of our towns?

Yes No

Please give a reason for your answer

11. A major factor influencing the amount of land required for new development is the density of new housing. Should the density of new housing development be (choose one):-

- a) High Density to make best use of the land (typically flats/apartments over 50 dwellings per hectare)
- b) Medium density to allow houses to have some space around them (minimum density of 30 dwellings per hectare)
- c) Low Density to give large amounts of space around dwellings (below 30 dwellings per hectare)
- d) A density that recognises and reflects the local character at whatever density that happens to be

Protecting and enhancing green spaces and the natural environment

12. How important is it that we should protect the district's:-

	Very Important	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not important	No opinion
Natural habitats and the natural environment?					
Formal and informal parks and open spaces					
Children's play areas					
Sports pitches					
Allotments					

Are there any other types of open space that we should ensure we protect?

Protecting and enhancing the historic environment

13. How important do you think it is to protect and enhance the district's conservation/historic areas?

Very important Important Neither important or unimportant Unimportant No opinion

Maintaining and enhancing our landscapes and townscapes

14. How important do you think it is that we protect the district's landscapes and townscapes?

Very important Important Neither important or unimportant Unimportant No opinion

Promoting high quality design

15. The Council wishes to ensure that new development meets a high standard of design. How would you rate the following in achieving this (please tick the appropriate box for each).

- Ensure new development complements and reflects the existing settlement
- Take a lead from the natural features of the surrounding area
- Retain or improve the character of the streets, squares and spaces
- Improve and incorporate existing features into the development
- Take into account the surrounding buildings in terms of scale, form, height and massing
- Use appropriate local materials according to location and surroundings
- Encourage innovative design

- Copying local building styles

- Creating a modern image with new buildings

	Very Important	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not important	No opinion
Ensure new development complements and reflects the existing settlement					
Take a lead from the natural features of the surrounding area					
Retain or improve the character of the streets, squares and spaces					
Improve and incorporate existing features into the development					
Take into account the surrounding buildings in terms of scale, form, height and massing					
Use appropriate local materials according to location and surroundings					
Encourage innovative design					
Copying local building styles					
Creating a modern image with new buildings					

Do you have you any other ideas about how the how we should encourage locally distinctive high quality design?

Addressing the problems of pollution

16. Does the Council need, as a priority, to tackle any of the following forms of pollution?

- Air pollution
- Noise pollution
- Soil pollution
- Water pollution

Do you have you any specific ideas for how we may seek to do this?

Securing a sustainable district

Reducing the need to travel and promoting the use of more sustainable travel options

17. How important is it that we seek to provide the following land uses and services close to where people live wherever possible?

- Local shops to meet daily shopping needs
- Schools and colleges
- Places of work
- Health and community facilities
- Open spaces
- Recreation and leisure facilities

Very Important	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not important	No opinion

18. Are there any aspects of the district’s transport system that we should be looking to improve?

- Road network
- Rail network
- Bus network
- Footpaths
- Cycleways
- None

If you wish to give more details of what you would wish to see provided, please do so here.

Continued.....

Limiting the impact of the District upon climate change

19. The Council is committed to tackling the problems associated with climate change. What do you think would help us best achieve this (please tick the appropriate box for each)

	Very important	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not important	No opinion
Promoting Energy Efficient Buildings					
Using Renewable Energy in New Development					
Including Sustainable Drainage Schemes (where practical)					
Encouraging use of Public Transport					
Encouraging use of cycling and walking					

20. Are there any limited types of development (in circumstances where other land is not available and where action could be taken to ensure that flooding was not made worse in the area) which we would allow to take place in areas which currently may flood?

Yes No

What would these be?

Meeting the District's needs

Meeting the housing needs of the whole community

21. How important do you think it is that we provide sufficient affordable housing to meet projected needs in the district?

Very important Important Neither important or unimportant Unimportant No opinion

Reducing poverty, social exclusion, crime and anti-social behaviour

22. Good design principles can help to reduce crime. What do you think are the most important factors in 'designing out crime'? (tick one box for each)

- Design to promote community spirit
- Footpaths/cyclepaths of adequate width with any planting to rear of path
- Pathways and play areas overlooked by buildings
- Different lighting for different environments
- Parking provided close to buildings to allow natural surveillance

Very Important	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not important	No opinion
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you think there are others, please list them here

Improving the health and well-being of residents

23. Are there adequate health and community facilities to serve the district?

Yes No

If NO, what would you like to see provided and where?

24. Is there a need for more leisure facilities in the District?

Yes No

If YES, what and where should they be?

25. Do you consider that the district has enough facilities for the arts and cultural events?

Yes No

If NO, what do you think should be provided and where?

Protecting the amenity of local communities and protecting and enhancing accessibility to local services

What single issue most affects the quality of life in the area where you live or work?

26. Are there sections of the community that you believe have outstanding needs that should be met (e.g. elderly, young or disabled people, ethnic minority groups, gypsies and travellers, etc)?

Yes No

If YES, which group of people and what are the issues?

Understanding the key issues affecting our district

27. The above questions explore some key issues arising from the objectives set out by the Council for discussion. Do you think that we have successfully identified all the key issues?

Yes No

If NO, what key issues do you consider we have missed? What evidence do you have to support this view?

Continued.....

About You

Name -----

Address -----

Tel. No: -----

Email: -----

If you are representing the views of an organisation/interest group/agency, Parish or Town Council, please could you give us their name.

Would you like the council to keep you informed of the progress of the Core Strategy?

Yes No

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form

Please note that completion of this form is entirely optional.

Warwick District Council is committed to equality of opportunity, both in the provision of services and in our role as a major employer. We believe that all people have the right to be treated with dignity and respect. We are committed to the elimination of unfair discrimination and are determined to ensure that all service users will receive fair and equitable treatment.

To assist in monitoring fair and effective service delivery and to develop our policies and practices, we request that you complete the monitoring information below. The information will be treated as confidential and used for monitoring purposes only.

Please tick boxes where appropriate

Gender Male Female

Ethnic Origin:

Please note: The question relating to ethnic origin is not to identify nationality, place of birth or citizenship. UK citizens can belong to any of the groups listed below, or other groups not listed, and we seek information on broad ethnic grouping and colour. Please indicate which ethnic group (s) you consider yourself to belong to by ticking one of the boxes which best describes you.

White

English

Welsh

Scottish

Irish

Any other White background

Please specify :

Black or Black British

Caribbean

African

Any other Black background

Please specify :

Mixed

White and Black Caribbean

White and Black African

White and Asian

Any other mixed background

Asian or Asian British

Indian

Bangladeshi

Any other Asian Background

Please specify:

Continued.....

Chinese	<input type="text"/>	Other Ethnic Group	<input type="text"/>
Chinese		Any other ethnic group	

Please specify :

Religion	<input type="text"/>	Muslim	<input type="text"/>
Christian			
Buddhist	<input type="text"/>	Sikh	<input type="text"/>
Buddhist			
Hindu	<input type="text"/>	None	<input type="text"/>
Hindu			
Jewish	<input type="text"/>	Any other religion/belief	<input type="text"/>
Jewish			

Please specify:

Warwick District Council operates within the framework of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, (DAA) which defines disability as:

“A physical or mental impairment which has substantial and long term adverse effect on a person’s ability to carry out normal day to day activities”

Do you consider yourself to be disabled as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act?

Yes	<input type="text"/>	No	<input type="text"/>
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Age					
Under 16	<input type="text"/>	30-39	<input type="text"/>	60-74	<input type="text"/>
16-24	<input type="text"/>	40-49	<input type="text"/>	75-84	<input type="text"/>
25-29	<input type="text"/>	50-59	<input type="text"/>		

Thank you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire. I’m sorry but we are not able to acknowledge receipt of questionnaires. Please return the questionnaire to us using the Freepost envelope provided or direct to Riverside House by 18 January 2008. If you have any questions or require further copies of the questionnaire, please contact Lorna Coldicott, Senior Planner tel. no. 01926 456505 or email ldf@warwickdc.gov.uk

Please note that although the Core Strategy will draw out general points from the questionnaires and not attribute them to groups or individuals, they are public documents and available for public scrutiny. The information will be held on a database and used to assist with the preparation of all LDF documents and with the consideration of planning applications, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

<i>For official use only:</i>	<i>Ref:</i>
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Appendix 9: Deposit Points

The following venues were used as deposit points for all documentation.

- The Council Offices and The Town Hall: Leamington Spa;
- Whitnash Town Council Office
- Whitnash Library & Information Centre
- Leamington Spa Library
- Warwick Library
- Kenilworth Library
- Lillington Library
- Warwick Connection, Warwick
- Warwickshire Direct, Kenilworth
- The Chain, Lillington
- Brunswick Healthy Living Centre

Appendix 10: Those consulted with Full Documentation

Councils outside of Warwick District (including adjoining local planning authorities and adjoining Parish Councils)

<p> Baginton Parish Council Balsall Parish Council Beaudesert Parish Council Berkswell Parish Council Birmingham City Council Brandon & Bretford Parish Council Brinklow Parish Council Charlecote Parish Council Chesterton & Kingston Parish Council Claverdon Parish Council Coventry City Council Frankton Parish Council Fulbrook Parish Council Hampton Lucy Parish Council Harbury Parish Council Long Itchington Parish Council Marton Parish Council Newbold Pacey & Ashorne Parish Council </p>	<p> North Warwickshire Borough Council Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council Solihull MBC Warwickshire County Council Preston Bagot Parish Council Princethorpe Parish Council Rugby Borough Council Ryton on Dunsmore Parish Council Snitterfield Parish Council Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council Stratford upon Avon District Council Stretton on Dunsmore Parish Council Tanworth in Arden Parish Council Ufton Parish Council Wellesbourne Parish Council Wolverton Parish Council All district ward members </p>
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Commercial interests

<p> Bellway Homes West Midlands Redrow Homes (Midlands) Ltd Taylor Woodrow Developments Ltd Stagecoach in Warwickshire Pro Vision West Midlands RSL Planning Consortium Framptons Hallam Land Management Ltd John Burman & Sons Central Trains Court Homes Roger Tym & Partners Jones Lang Lasalle Stoneleigh Planning Greyvayne Properties Ltd Andrew Martin Associates Miller Homes DPP (Tesco Stores Ltd) Entec UK Ltd Bigwood Associates Pettifer Group Ltd </p>	<p> CDS Development Services Ltd Stansgate Planning Consultants Stewart Ross Associates William Davis Ltd Pegasus Planning Group Smith Stuart Reynolds Gallagher Estates Livingston Homes Les Stephan Partnership Planning & General Services Alliance Environment & Planning Ltd William Morrison Supermarkets plc White Mitchell Fisher German Bovis Homes Ltd Lovell Partnership Ltd Deeley Properties Ltd Home Builders Federation Birmingham International Airport Ltd </p>
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Town and Parish Councils within Warwick District

<p> Hatton Parish Council Eathorpe, Hunningham, Offchurch, Wappenbury Joint Parish Council Budbrooke Parish Council Bubbenhall Parish Council Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall Parish Council Cubbington Parish Council Baddesley Clinton Parish Council Rowington Parish Council </p>	<p> Bishops Tachbrook Parish Council Barford Sherbourne & Wasperton Joint Parish Council Radford Semele Parish Council Lapworth Parish Council Whitnash Town Council Stoneleigh & Ashow Parish Council Shrewley Parish Council Old Milverton & Blackdown Parish Council Norton Lindsey Parish Council </p>
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Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Parish Council

Warwick Town Council

Organisations (including local voluntary, amenity and interest groups)

CPRE
 Warwickshire Rural Community Council
 Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce
 Forestry Commission
 Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce
 Advantage West Midlands
 Government Office for the West Midlands
 Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs
 Senior Peoples Forum
 Severn Trent Water
 Road Haulage Association Ltd
 Natural England
 Warwickshire Police
 Environment Agency
 Highways Agency
 Woodland Trust
 Friends of the Earth
 RASE
 Warwickshire Wildlife Trust
 Policy for Older People
 Warwickshire Association for the Blind
 Help the Aged
 Council for Disabled People
 Mid Warwickshire MIND
 Freight Transport Association
 West Midlands Regional Assembly
 MENCAP
 Warwickshire Rural Hub
 Barford Residents Association
 Bath Place Community Venture
 Warwick Chamber of Trade & Commerce
 Stratford & Warwick Waterways Trust
 UK Power Ltd
 Scottish Power
 NHS West Midlands Division
 Department for Education & Skills
 Department for Transport
 Department of Health
 Department for Works & Pensions
 Department for Culture, Media & Sport
 Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance
 Powergen UK plc
 Rail Property Ltd & Network Rail
 Infrastructure

Young Housing Project
 Warwickshire Rural Housing Association
 National Farmers Union
 Theatres Trust
 British Waterways
 Leamington Gospel Hall Trust
 Campaign Against Expansion of Coventry Airport
 Midland Heart Ltd
 West Midlands Ambulance Service
 Southern Windy Arbour Area Residents Association
 Age Concern
 Kenilworth Chamber of Trade
 Kenilworth Society
 Turley Associates
 Sport England
 Friends, Families & Travellers
 National Trust
 Mobile Operators Association
 Kenilworth Society
 Leamington Society
 CLARA
 West Midlands Fire Service
 Home Office
 Network Rail
 Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings
 DEFRA
 Department of Trade & Industry
 Oil & Pipelines Agency
 Central Networks
 uSwitch
 E.ON UK plc
 nPower
 Crown Estates
 British Gas Properties
 British Gas Trading
 Ancient Monuments Society
 CLARA
 British Telecommunications plc
 Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service
 Defence Estates
 HSE
 Ministry of Defence
 South Warwickshire PCT
 English Heritage

Individuals

John Ciriani
 Dr G & Mrs M Delfas
 Mrs J S Drake
 Jeremy Foster
 J H Hardy
 John Henderson
 Peter Hitchin
 R James
 Vernon Lawton
 Julia Lunn
 Rev J R Moore
 Archy Muir

John Myers
 Mr R Page
 Mr P Page
 Matthew Rhodes
 Alan Roberts
 Christopher Robottom
 Mr J C Rogers
 Charles Stevens
 Roger Warren
 Rod Wheat
 Jill Wheat
 Mr A Winterburn

Appendix 11: Summary of responses to draft Vision Statement

Question 1 of the Issues Paper Questionnaire (see appendix 8 above) asked for comments on the draft vision statement. The comments made in response to this question were as follows:-

This is like all 'vision statements' and their like. Bland and difficult to challenge but with no real value

The vision is sufficiently ambiguous

**A bit vague, but what does one expect from a vision?
Everyone has to have one. It's OK, all encompassing and open to interpretation**

Fine

It seems fair

Suitable

Generally 'OK'!

As a mission statement, the statement is wordy and patronising. It seems to have been expanded from what we viewed an adequate simple sentence in the 2002-2007 strategy paper just for the sake of making a change.

I think it is an excellent vision

It is clear and concise

I think it looks good.

Excellent Statement. Does not need to be amended

As a vision of the future it is fine - but action is what counts

The vision is ok but can it be sustained given the big pressures to build more and more houses.

Ambitious. Will we be able to live up to it?

Whilst I agree that I want Warwick District to be described as above, I also want it to retain its historic background as well as evolving the innovations of the current era.

**Suggested amendment to first sentence: Warwick District, an attractive and historic area in the heart of the Warwickshire countryside.
Warwick has important historical connections. Leamington has wide streets with trees and it has Jephson Gardens**

Nothing wrong with it, but doesn't every district want all of that? It needs to be shorter

Too wordy and wishy-washy. Suggest "Aiming to achieve a well designed environment for ourselves and future generations". Twelve words instead of forty six.

Too long as a vision. A common error when developed by committees. 'Warwick District is a great place to live and work, where people enjoy the success of the community' (No need for geography or history content - vision is future)

The vision is appropriate, however the core strategy needs to positively recognise the role which the district villages (such as Baginton) should have in ensuring a sustainable approach to future development

We are not convinced that the last sentence carries much relevance to the many communities making up the WDC area.

Does not refer to safety
...Share in the Safety and success of our community.

There is nothing in it about what people can GIVE - only what they can get out of it or 'share in'

The Vision and Core strategy are too focussed on doing things for and on behalf of the people of Warwick District. Like the classic definition of democracy they should celebrate action by the people. ADD:- Where everyone participates in the life of the community and helps to shape its future.

The vision needs amendment. A vision in this instance is about setting a future goal.

The vision you have provided seems to rest entirely on the existing state and is not, therefore, a visionary goal. You should provide the recipe in wording for how Warwick District should be by the year 2026.

The vision is insufficiently visionary particularly in comparison to that contained with Warwick 2020. It should be amended to the following: "Warwick District: A great place, progressing by maintaining its historic foundation alongside securing continuing community pride in providing full and equal access to quality homes, jobs, services and visitor attractions."

For Warwick District to build on its reputation as a great place to live, work and visit. A place where our people are proud to belong to this successful and unique environment, where modern technology and historic tradition live and thrive on each other to the benefit of all

Should emphasise preserving green open spaces and leafy environment. It's why people move here!

Insert 'surrounded by beautiful and important countryside' after 'England'

A sustainable community with ever-decreasing reliance on fossil fuels

It is easy to read this vision statement as referring only to the towns. We would like to see reference to the need to protect rural areas of Warwick district.

Basically sound - needs to be adapted to satisfy each main town/urban area.

Kenilworth should be seen as an area for creating new employment opportunities - in town / edge of town.

Improvements could be made on existing properties, roads, town centres of Warwick and Kenilworth in a sad state.

Wording doesn't flow very well but content is OK.

OK but the first sentence is a statement not a vision

Would be better if it had grammatical sentences.

We believe that the vision is appropriate in responding to the wide range of issues that the core strategy needs to address

Good. I doubt if Warwick could be considered as being a centre Antique shops, now over-run with eating places. More GP services needed

The proposed vision is insufficiently spatial in character. Although the vision should closely relate to the Sustainable Community Strategy, the vision should articulate the spatial elements of that strategy.

The Vision should reflect the capabilities and functions of land use planning. The Vision should be to secure a step-change in the supply of new housing so as to: i) reduce house price to earnings ratios (improve affordability); ii) increase the size of the resident workforce so as to secure a better balance of homes and jobs; and iii) secure inclusive mixed-use communities through sustainable urban extensions. Such a vision would help the District to meet the regional and national policy agendas and the requirements of PPS6

Concerned at the concept of "Growth for the Area". It has already doubled in 50 years. the concept of "high quality" is much preferred for the WDC neighbourhood.

It gives the impression that the District has to develop in order to prosper, which should not be the case.

The vision does not consider the need to shield Warwick District from the impacts of interacting forces i.e. Regional & Government pressures.

The Vision should reflect the capabilities and functions of the land use planning system. The Vision should be to secure a step-change in the supply of new housing so as to: i) reduce house price to earnings ratios (improve affordability); ii) increase the size of the resident workforce to secure a better balance of homes and jobs; and iii) secure inclusive mixed-use communities through sustainable urban extensions. Such a vision would help the District to meet the regional and national policy agendas and the requirements of PPS6.

The key words are "economic growth". If this is the driver of the Town [Leamington? - DR] then it produces another NORTHAMPTON - in 25 years. The alternative is less growth and produce a Stratford upon Avon or Harpendon

KENILWORTH should have more funds, with the majority of Council members on decision making committees dismissing Kenilworth planning etc. English Heritage should have less power over planning.

Definitely more employment and involvement of younger generation is needed. And availability of property that they can afford.

Amend with 'where every citizen can afford a home'.

Generally sound in that it complies with national/regional policy but requires amendments/additions with regard to the issue of housing provision, particularly affordable housing.

The proposed Core Strategy vision is insufficiently spatial in character. According to PPS12 core strategies should set out a long term SPATIAL vision for the development of the local planning authority area.

Support the Core Strategy's vision. In particular the acknowledgement that the district is "striving to improve further on its reputation as a great place to live, work and visit."

Strongly support the vision statement, however would add that the vision should place emphasis on; 1) Protection for the historic cultural heritage, green spaces and facilities that we enjoy (that make Warwick District distinctive) for future generations and; 2) Investment in new sustainable technologies and quality infrastructure that will ensure the local economy, support services, transport links and environment evolve to support the needs of our community

Appendix 12: List of those individuals and groups that responded to the Issues questionnaire

Organisations, Parish/Town Councils, Commercial

Mid Warwickshire MIND (MJM Welsh)
 Warwickshire Rural Community Council (Linda Ridgley)
 Warwickshire Police (C I Tim Bailey)
 Warwickshire Police (Peter Davies)
 CPRE Warwickshire (Mr Michael Jeffs)
 Friends of the Earth (Birgitta Ashworth)
 RPS Planning (Paul Hill)
 Pettifer Group Ltd (Mr Brian Pettifer)
 Eathorpe Parish Council (W Redford)
 Beausale, Haseley, Honily and Wroxall Parish Council, (Anne Beaumont)
 Beausale, Haseley, Honily and Wroxall Parish Council, (C P Lewis)
 Stansgate Planning LLP (Mrs E Brown)
 Kenilworth Town Council (Cllr Norman Vincett)
 Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners (Mr Cem Kosaner)
 Bigwood Associates Ltd (Mr Nigel Gough)
 Entec UK Ltd (Mr Michael O'Connell)
 Roger Tym & Partners (Mr Michael Holliss, on behalf of client)
 Roger Tym & Partners (Mr Michael Holliss, on behalf of client)
 Test Agents Ltd (on behalf of client)
 Norton Lindsey Parish Council (Mr Arthur Fowkes)
 Warwickshire County Council (Mr David Lowe)
 Deeley Homes Ltd (Jane Gardner)
 The Warwick Society (John Turner)
 Woodland Trust (Mr Justin Millward)
 SPAce (Mrs Annette Jackson)
 SPAce (Denis Secher)
 Shrewley Parish Council (Cllr. Paul Tilley)
 Royal Leamington Spa Town Council (David Greenwood)
 Local Conservative Association (Manor Ward) Leamington (Philip Jack Goddard)
 Hunningham Parish Council (A Phillips)
 Old Milverton & Blackdown Joint Parish Council
 Warwickshire Rural Community Council
 Southern Windy Arbour Area Residents Association
 Tetlow King Planning
 Whitnash Town Council
 AC Lloyd
 Opus Land Ltd
 Thomas Bates & Co
 Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd
 Warwick Independent Schools Foundation
 Radford Semele Parish Council (David Chater)
 Kenilworth Chamber of Trade (Charles Smith)
 Warwick Castle
 Warwick Society
 Kenilworth Society
 Budbrooke Parish Council

Individuals

Mr Martyn Carter	David Crisford
Mr P Phillips	J R Moore
A Scaife	Mr & Mrs Hall
Mr Roger Cadbury	John Ciriani
Mr R Whitehouse	Roger Warren
Matthew Rhodes	John Murphy

William Worrall
Dr C J Hayward
George Starkey
V C Lawton
C P Lewis
Mr Clive Henderson
Mr M Polgreen
Peter Hitchen
Mr Adrian Pauling
A E Cox
David A Chater
Stephen Ghent
Mrs J M Hawkins
Mrs I Jenkinson
Mr Alan Roberts
Diana Lester
D Lawrie

P G Swann
Caroline Sharp
R D Baskewell
M Marlow
Mr J C Wilson
Miss Ruth Buckley
Dr O C Mather
Dave Ellis
Robin & Jane Child
Richard Slatern
Peter Appleby
Jenny Patrick
Alex Munro
Ioan Morgan
Unknown
Unknown

Those who responded to consultation by letter and who did not complete the Issues questionnaire.

Advantage West Midlands
The Leamington Society/CLARA
English Heritage
Coventry City Council
West Midlands Regional Assembly
University of Warwick (Turley Associates)
C J Brookesmith (respondent 187)
Warwickshire County Council
Theatres Trust
Warwick District Council Arboriculture
MONO Mobile Operators Association
CPRE
Pam Lunn

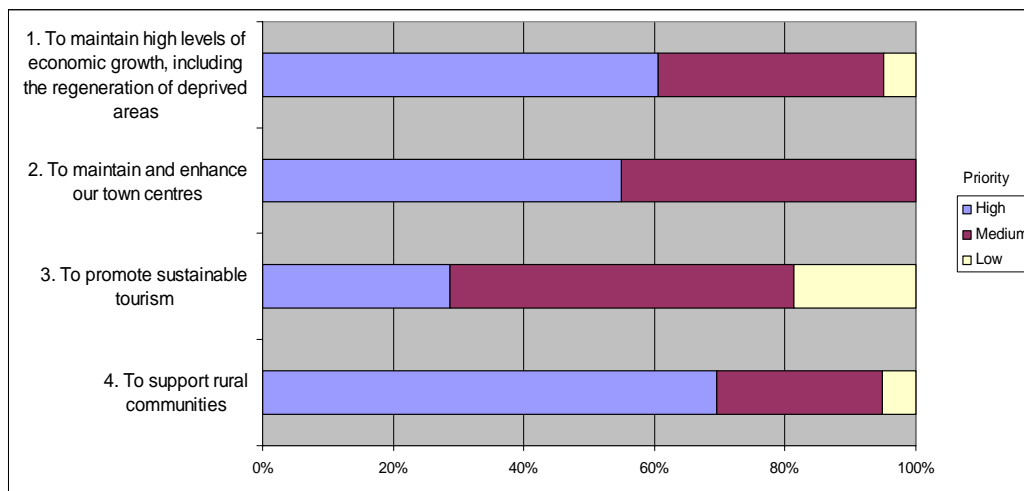
Robert Nash
Somerfield Stores
Warwickshire Wildlife Trust
Cushman & Wakefield
Government Office West Midlands
Stoneleigh Planning
William Davis Ltd (Hallam Land Management)
APH Development
Home Builders Federation
Highways Agency
Whitnash Town Council
Mrs L Hodge
Thomas Bates & Co Ltd

Appendix 13: Results from the Issues Paper questionnaire

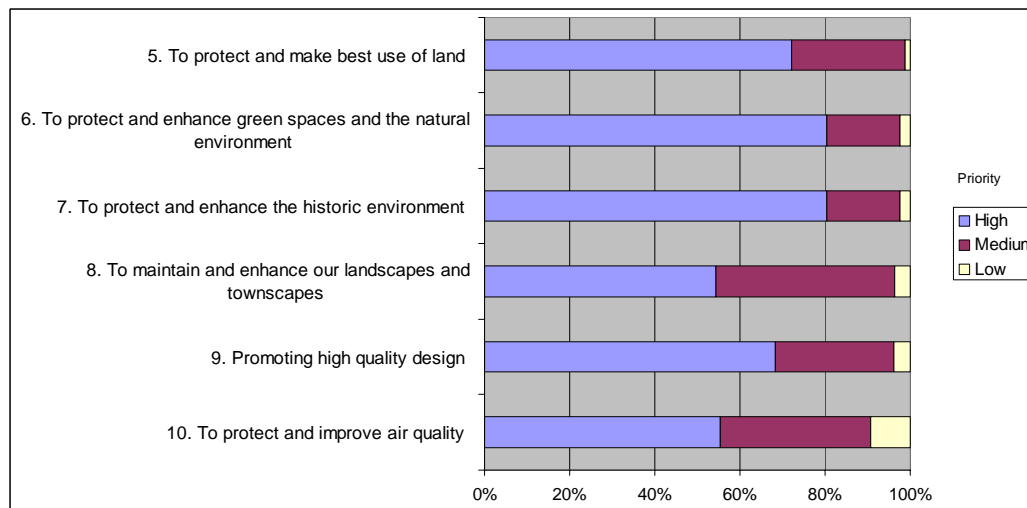
During the issues consultation 89 questionnaires were completed. This document summarises the results.

Question 2. As we seek to meet the land-use requirement set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy over the period to 2026, and achieve our vision for Warwick District, the Council has identified a number of key objectives. Do you agree that these should be a high, medium or a low priority?

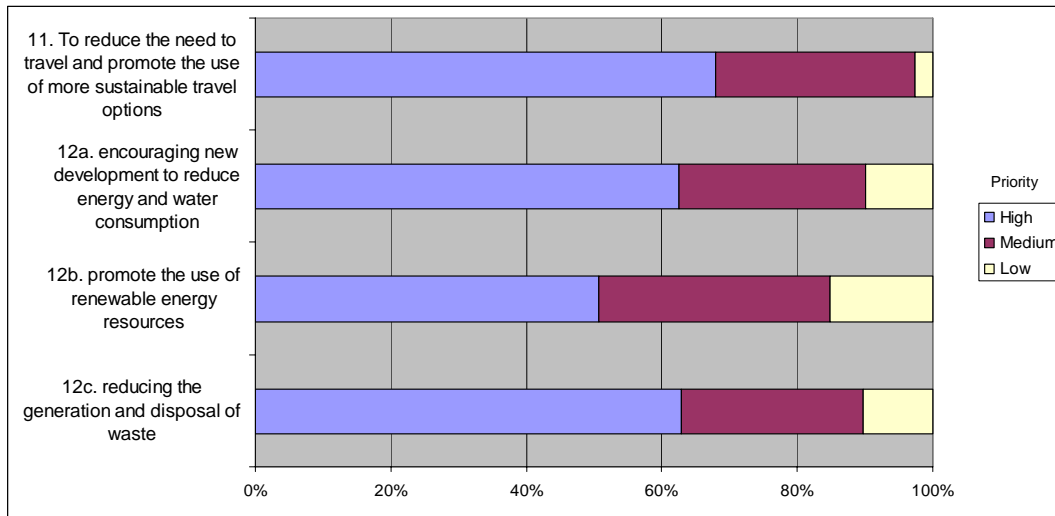
Maintaining a vibrant and prosperous district



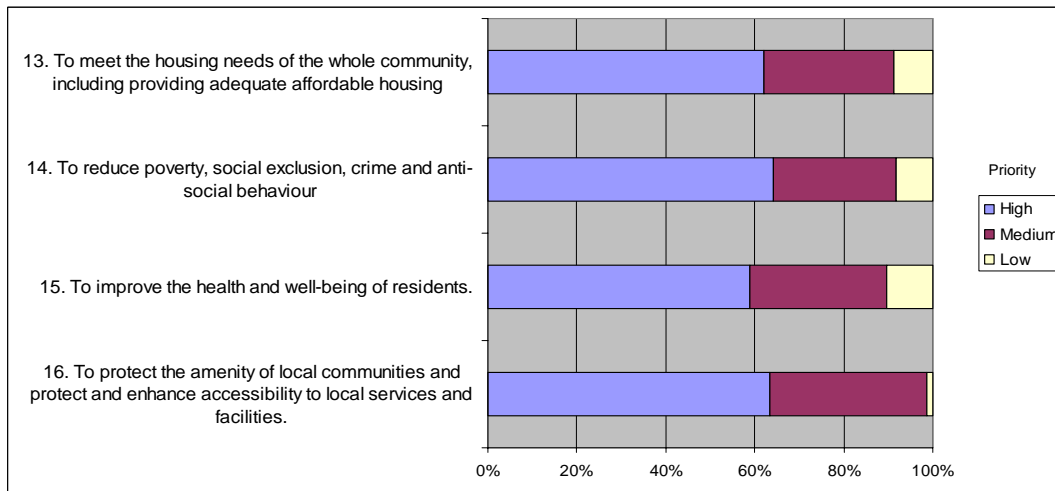
Protecting the District's key assets



Securing a more sustainable district



Meeting the needs of the district

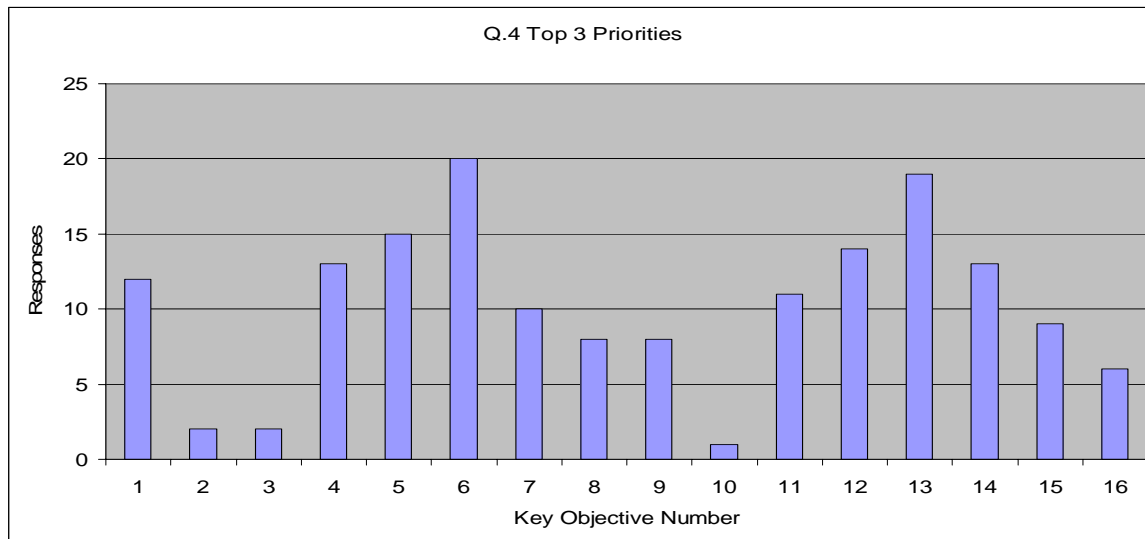


‘To protect and enhance green spaces and the natural environment’ (6) and ‘to protect and enhance the historic environment’ (7) were the two objectives that most people considered should be given a high priority.

Of the key objectives, ‘maintaining a vibrant and prosperous district’, economic growth (1), maintaining our town centres (2) and supporting communities were cited as high priority. In contrast, ‘Promoting sustainable tourism’ (3), was the least popular and seen as a lower priority than the other objectives.

Over 80% of people considered all of the key objectives under ‘protecting the district’s key assets’ should be a high or medium priority. From the key objectives under ‘securing a more sustainable district’, the least popular objective was ‘promoting the use of renewable energy’ (12b) although this still represents more than 80% of those responding. Again, more than 80% think that the key objectives from ‘maintaining the needs of the district’ are a high priority.

Question 4. What would be your top three priorities?



1. To maintain high levels of economic growth, including the regeneration of deprived areas
2. To maintain and enhance our town centres
3. To promote sustainable tourism
4. To support rural communities
5. To protect and make best use of land
6. To protect and enhance green spaces and the natural environment
7. To protect and enhance the historic environment
8. To maintain and enhance our landscapes and townscapes
9. Promoting high quality design
10. To protect and improve air quality
11. To reduce the need to travel and promote the use of more sustainable travel options
12. To limit the impact of the District upon climate change
13. To meet the housing needs of the whole community, including providing adequate affordable housing
14. To reduce poverty, social exclusion, crime and anti-social behaviour
15. To improve the health and well-being of residents.
16. To protect the amenity of local communities and protect and enhance accessibility to local services and facilities.

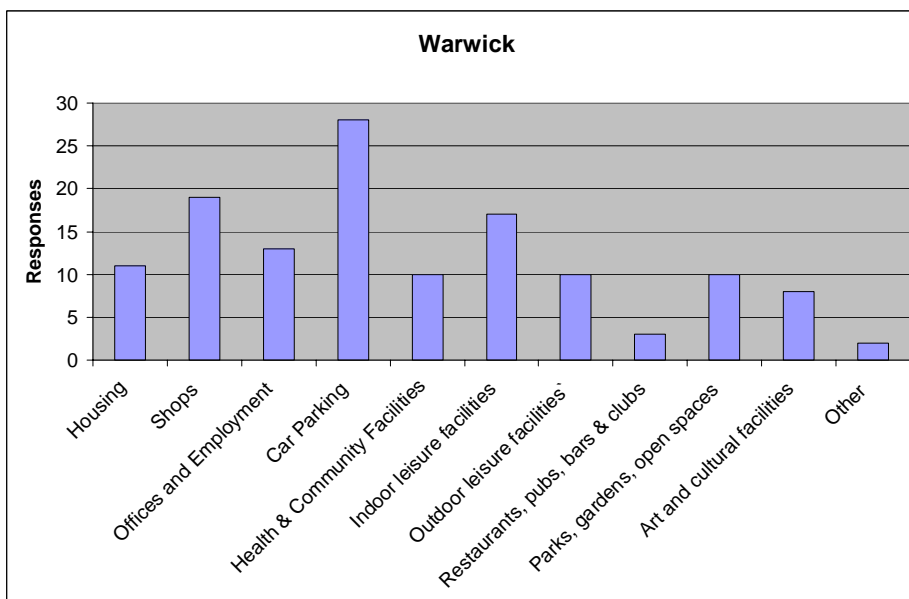
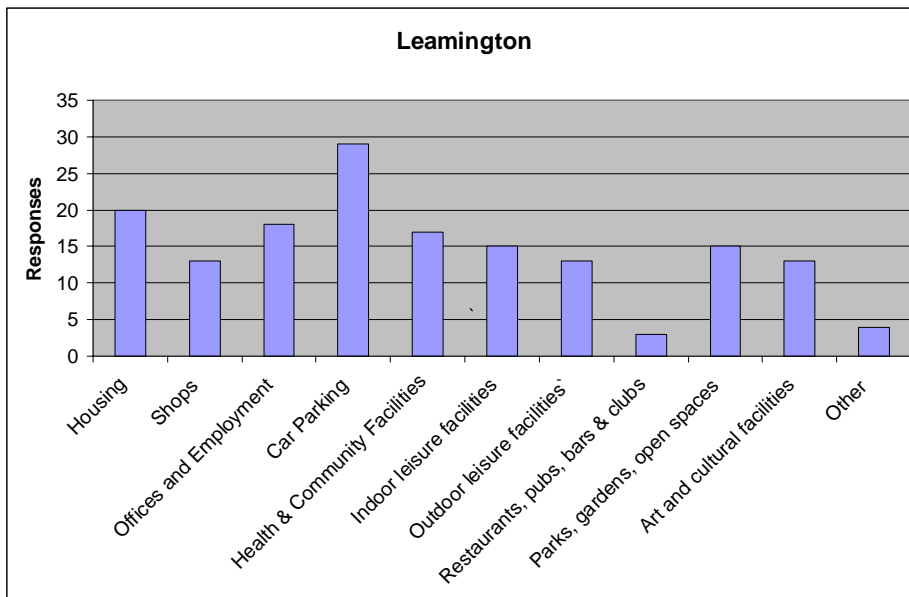
'Protecting and enhancing green spaces and the natural environment' (6) and 'meeting housing needs of the whole community' (13) was the most popular key priority, followed by 'to protect and make best use of land' (5). 'To maintain and enhance our town centres' (2), 'promote sustainable tourism' (3), and 'protect and improve air quality' (10) were thought to be of lower priority in this category.

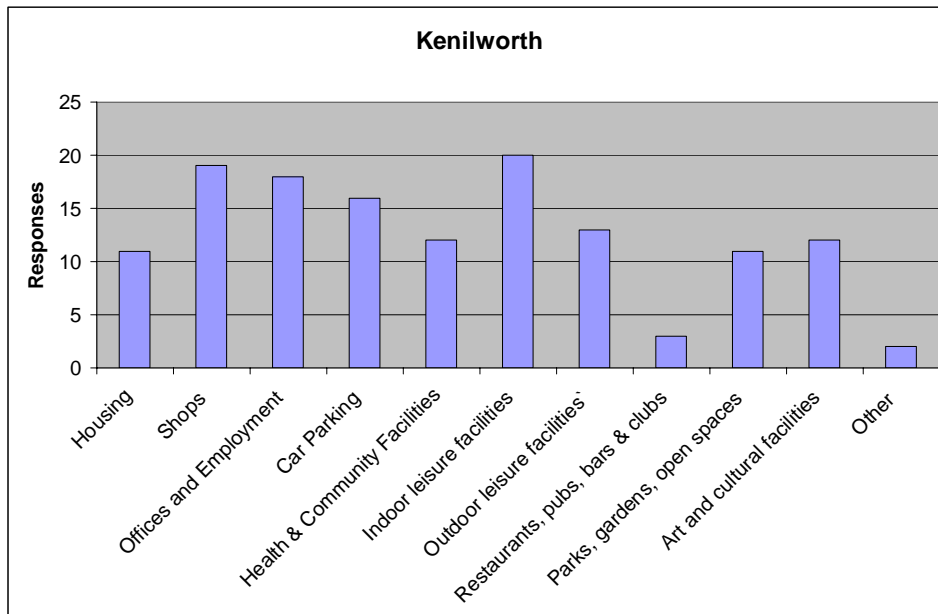
Maintaining a vibrant and prosperous district

Question 5. Do we need to encourage further employment to the district?

A majority of people (66%) considered that further employment should be encouraged to locate in Warwick District. Suggestions for the types of business we should target included, light industry, manufacturing, hi tech industry, service sector jobs, tourism, creative industries, bio-technology and IT, professional and financial/business services and Government departments. Some suggested that new jobs should be limited to local skills but that there is also a need for apprenticeships for the young and recent graduates.

Question 6. Would any of our town centres benefit from more of the following?





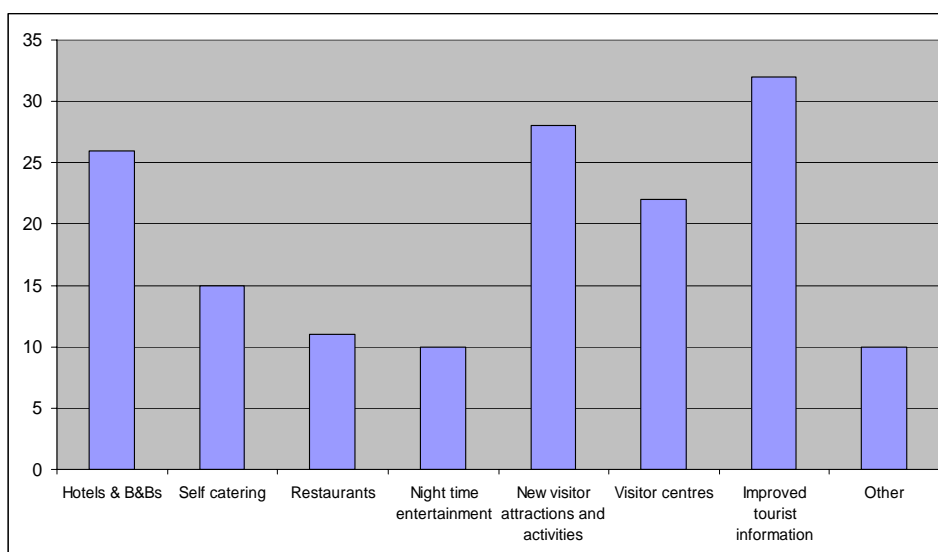
Results for Warwick and Leamington were similar with car parking perceived as the most important requirement. In all our town centres respondents thought that more restaurants, bars and clubs are needed than other suggested facilities. Park and Ride facilities and a high quality hotel were other suggestions for Leamington. One suggestion was for shops that meet local needs in Warwick.

In Kenilworth, indoor leisure facilities were considered to be needed slightly more than shops, offices & employment in the town centre. Other suggestions for new facilities included a cinema, gallery, museum and facilities for young people.

Question 7. Should we try to expand tourism in the district?

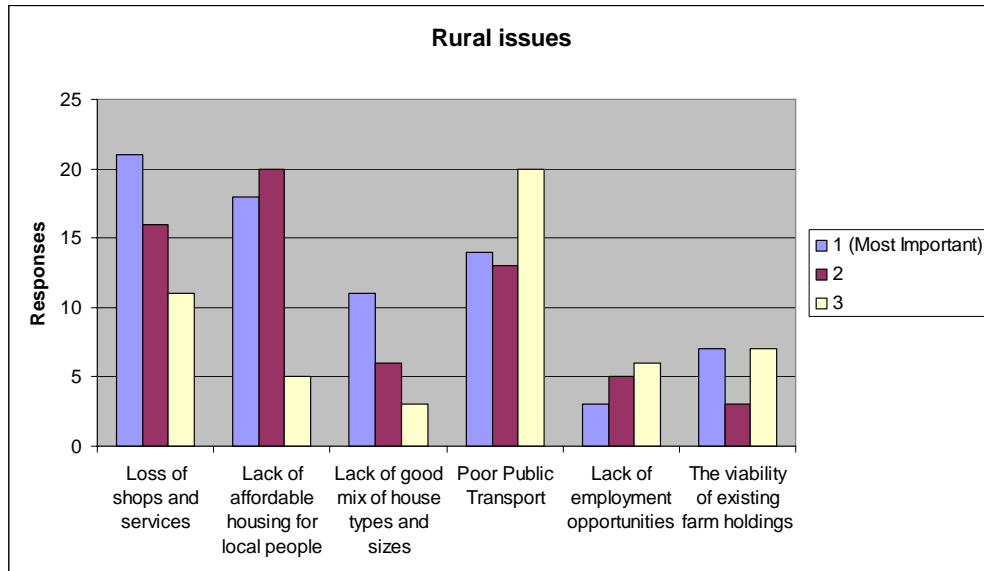
A majority of people (69%) thought that we should try to expand tourism in the district.

If YES, what facilities should we provide? (tick all those that apply)



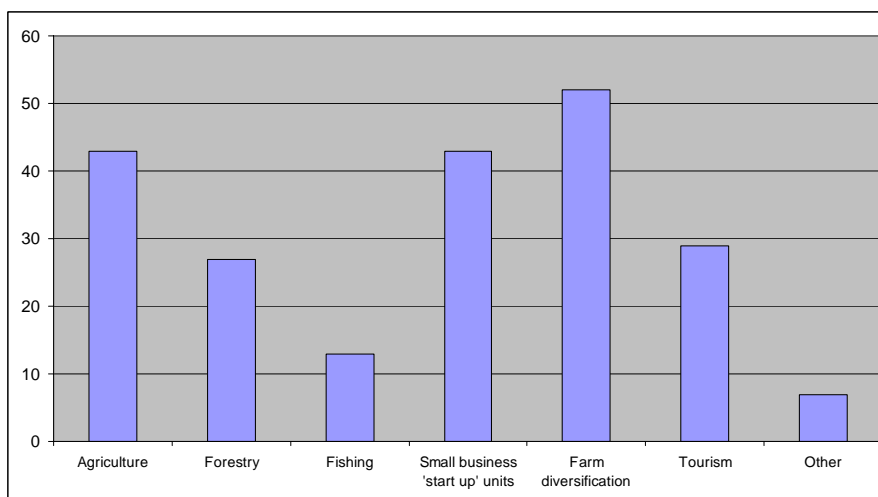
The most popular suggestions for facilities included improved tourist information (including signage), hotels and tourist accommodation, new visitor attractions and activities. Some other suggestions included improved public transport; car parking; emphasising the historic attractions and natural beauty of the area; improving access to the rivers and canal; and on street entertainment.

Question 8. What do you think are the three most important issues facing rural areas?



Loss of shops and services; lack of affordable housing and poor public transport provision are the three most important issues facing rural areas based on responses to the survey. Other problems suggested by respondents include loss of schools, lack of police presence, commuting patterns, cycle routes and the lack of social mix.

Question 9. What sort of employment is needed in rural areas to ensure they are economically viable? (please tick all that apply)



Farm diversification was the viewed as the best suggestion for meeting employment needs in the rural areas, followed by small business units and agriculture. Respondents also suggested computer services, live/work units, businesses that

utilise locally produced goods, and improved infrastructure, especially improved broadband speeds for home workers.

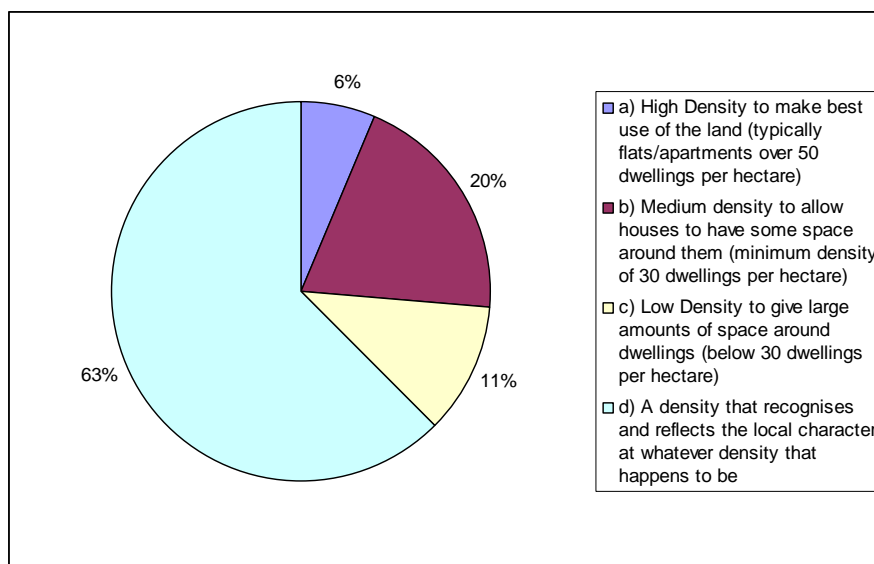
Protecting the District's key assets

Protecting and making best use of land

Question 10. If land needs to be found to accommodate the growing needs of the District, is it acceptable to allocate some green field land on the edge of our towns?

A close result emerged for this issue, with 55% agreeing that it was acceptable to allocate some green field land on the edge our towns. Comments following this question were varied, with some suggesting using as much brown field land as possible, to others recognising the possibility/need to use some green field land whilst others suggested that green field land should never be used.

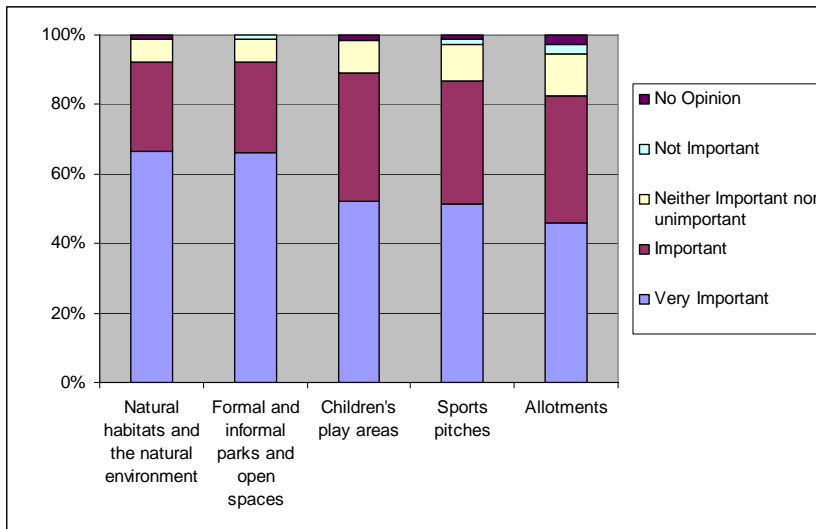
Question 11. A major factor influencing the amount of land required for new development is the density of new housing. Should the density of new housing development be (choose one):



A majority of respondents (63%) considered that building to a density that reflects the local character of an area is the most suitable for new housing development. Developing at a high density (over 50 dwellings per hectare), was least favoured which is in direct conflict with the previous question regarding the need for building on greenfield land, since lower densities would inevitably lead to a requirement for greenfield sites.

Protecting and enhancing green spaces and the natural environment

Question 12. How important is it that we should protect the district's:



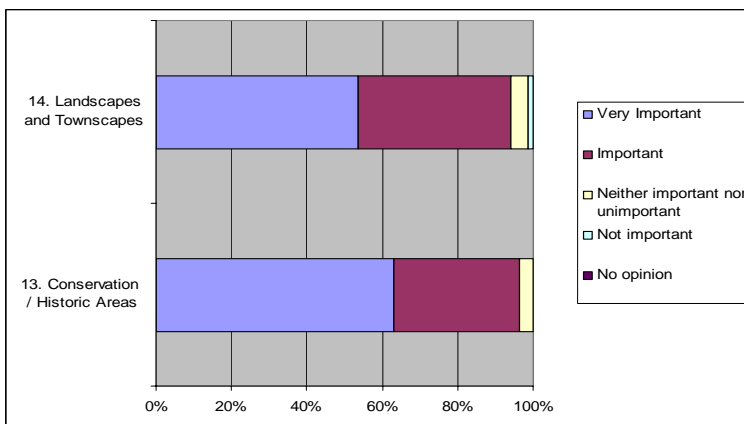
Most people considered it very important to protect natural habitats and the natural environment; parks and open spaces. Although fewer people considered allotments should be given such importance, this still represents over 80% of respondents.

The question invited other suggestions for the types of open space that should be protected. Respondents suggestions included churchyards and cemeteries; private gardens; common land; managed woodland; small areas of public open space in the street scene, the green belt and areas of restraint.

Protecting and enhancing the historic environment

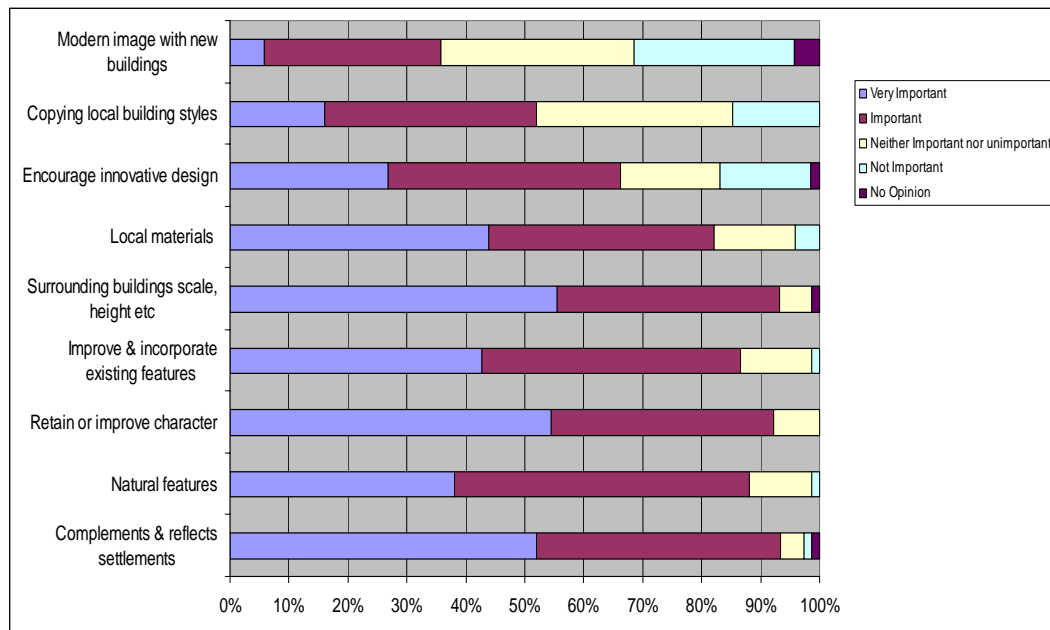
Question 13. How important do you think it is to protect and enhance the district's conservation/historic areas?

Question 14. How important do you think it is that we protect the district's landscapes and townscapes?



A high percentage of respondents considered it either very important or important to protect both landscapes & townscapes and conservation or historic areas.

Question 15. The Council wishes to ensure that new development meets a high standard of design. How would you rate the following in achieving this

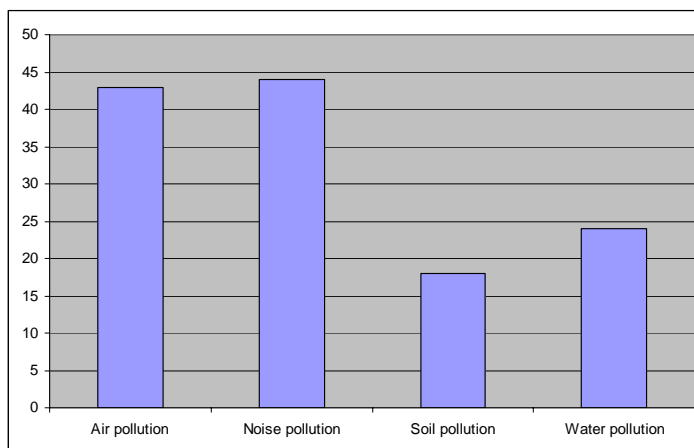


Respondents considered that the most important ways to meet a high standard of design for new development are ‘acknowledging surrounding buildings’ scales, height and massing’, ‘retaining and improving character’ and ‘development that complements and reflects existing settlements’. Fewer (35%) respondents considered creating a modern image with new buildings very important or important.

The question invited other suggestions for how the council could meet a high standard for design. Respondents suggestions included careful consideration of soft and hard landscaping, using design codes, encouraging environmentally friendly design, avoiding pastiche, encouraging local residents to get involved and encouraging diversity in design.

Addressing the problems of pollution

Question 16. Does the Council need, as a priority, to tackle any of the following forms of pollution?

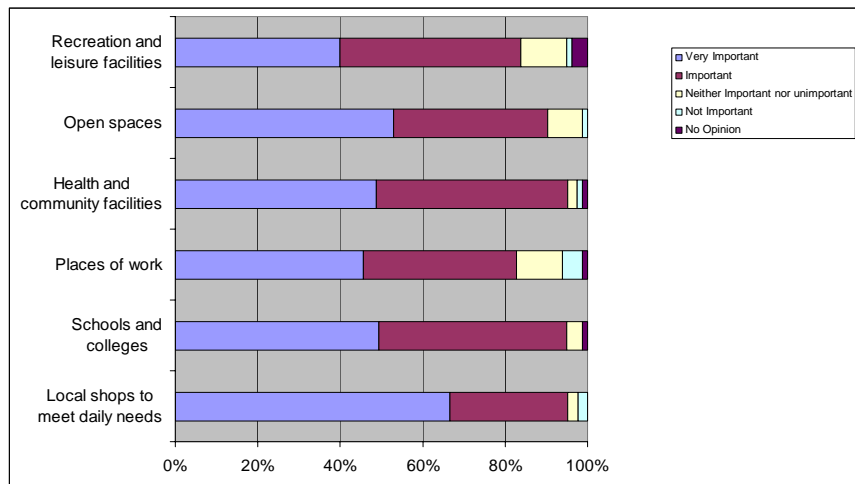


Respondents considered noise and air pollution to be a higher priority. Suggestions as to how pollution can be tackled included; cleaning up the rivers, sustainable drainage systems, traffic management, park and ride, monitoring and pedestrianisation of central areas.

Securing a sustainable district

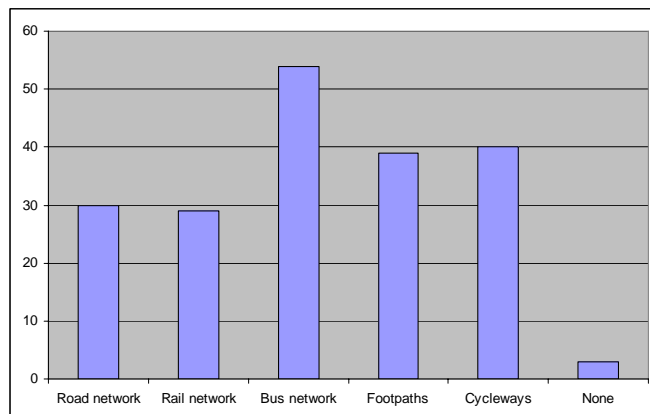
Reducing the need to travel and promoting the use of more sustainable travel options

Question 17. How important is it that we seek to provide the following land uses and services close to where people live wherever possible?



Most of the options given were considered either important or very important by respondents, with local shops receiving the highest number of 'very important' responses. Places of work, and recreational facilities located close to where people live were considered slightly less important than other options.

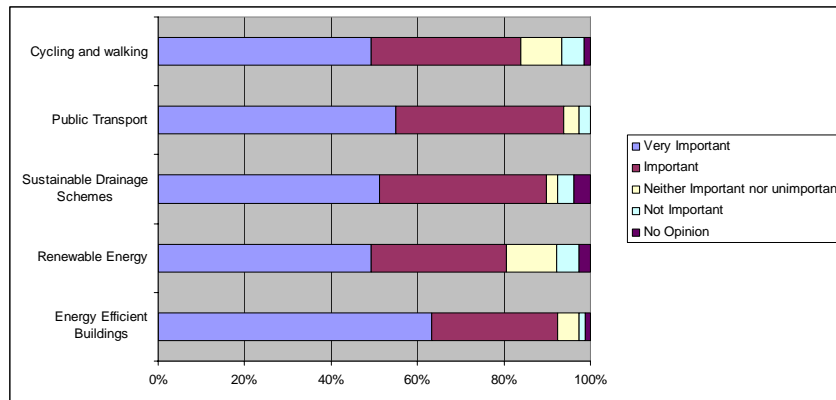
Question 18. Are there any aspects of the district's transport system that we should be looking to improve?



Improving the bus network in the district proved to be the most popular option, with strong support for cycle-ways and footpaths. Respondents also suggested that more and better railway stations, park and ride schemes, greater integration of different networks and improvements to canals and river corridors would improve the transport system.

Limiting the impact of the District upon climate change

Question 19. The Council is committed to tackling the problems associated with climate change. What do you think would help us best achieve this?



All options were considered either important or very important, energy efficient buildings particularly so. Although fewer respondents considered using renewable energies to help tackle climate change either very important or important, this still represents more than 80% of respondents indicating a high level of interest overall in this topic.

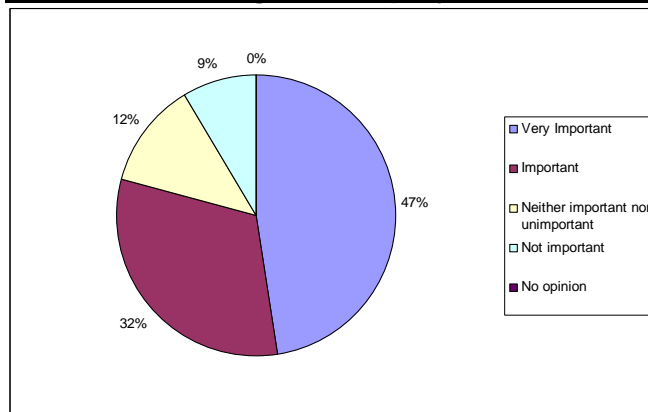
Question 20. Are there any limited types of development (in circumstances where other land is not available and where action could be taken to ensure that flooding was not made worse in the area) which we would allow to take place in areas which currently may flood?

72% of people considered that limited types of development should not be allowed to take place in areas which currently may flood, even if it were possible to ensure that they were unlikely to flood in the future. Of those that answered 'Yes' to this question, suggestions as to what types of development might be allowed included, sports pitches, temporary visitor attractions, nature reserves and amenity space, cycleways and footpaths.

Meeting the District's needs

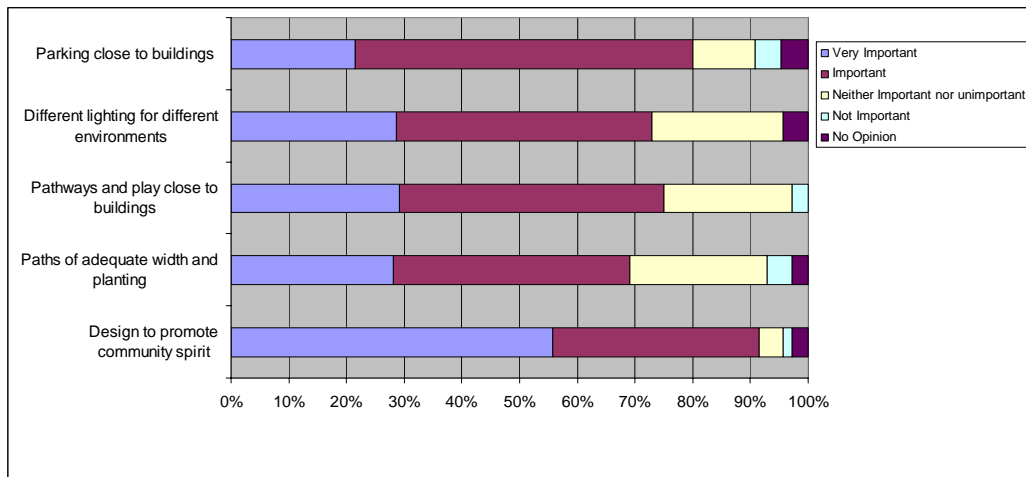
Meeting the housing needs of the whole community

Question 21. How important do you think it is that we provide sufficient affordable housing to meet projected need in the district?



Almost half (47%) of all respondents considered it very important that affordable housing to meet projected need in the district is provided. The majority of people (79%) considered that this is an ‘important’ issue at the very least. The overall importance of this issue is demonstrated throughout the survey. Responses to question 2 above show that more than 60% of respondents think that meeting the housing needs of the whole community (including affordable housing) is a key priority. In question 4 above, when asked to list these priorities in order of importance, meeting housing need is rated the second most important overall.

Question 22. Good design principles can help to reduce crime. What do you think are the most important factors in 'designing out crime'?



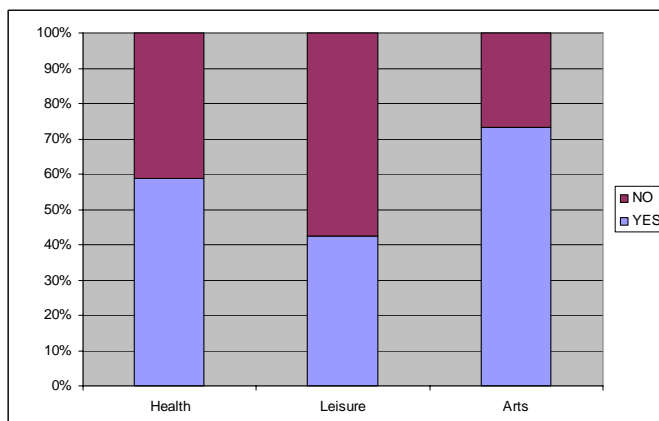
More respondents considered ‘design to promote community spirit’ to be very important over other factors in ‘designing out crime’. Most people considered all factors important or very important. Other suggestions for achieving a reduction in crime through design included, providing other services and infrastructure, adequate lighting, youth facilities and engaging people in their own environment.

Improving the Health and Well Being

Question 23. Are there adequate health and community facilities to serve the district?

Question 24. Is there a need for more leisure facilities in the District?

Question 25. Do you consider that the district has enough facilities for the arts and cultural events?



In viewing responses to the questions relating to health and well being (nos. 23, 24 and 25) it is important to look at each column on the graph individually, as they cannot be judged directly against each other due to the wording of the questions. Almost 60% of people considered that there are adequate health facilities in the district. Suggestions from respondents of what else needs to be provided include more and better health services closer to communities and improved community facilities.

In terms of leisure facilities, just over 40% of respondents felt that there is a need for more such facilities in the district. Additional suggestions for leisure facilities include more sports pitches and health and fitness centres together with indoor venues such as a cinema in Kenilworth.

More than 70% of respondents considered that there are sufficient facilities for the arts and cultural events in the district. Respondents who felt that there is a need for more such facilities suggested that these should include more theatres and concert venues, conference facilities and open air events.

What single issue most affects the quality of life in the area where you live or work?

Given the local nature of this question, there were many different responses. Generally these included lack of employment opportunities, the protection of green and open spaces, noise, traffic levels at peak times, crime, lack of affordable and suitable housing, and the loss of local services.

Question 26. Are there sections of the community that you believe have outstanding needs that should be met (e.g. elderly, young or disabled people, ethnic minority groups, gypsies and travellers, etc)?

56% of those responding to this question considered that there are people in the district with outstanding needs that should be met. These included primarily, older people, young people, and people with disabilities.

Question 27. The above questions explore some key issues arising from the objectives set out by the Council for discussion. Do you think that we have successfully identified all the key issues?

59% of respondents to this question considered that the Council had successfully identified all of the key issues. However some people felt that we had not raised or covered in sufficient detail some of the following issues:-

- Climate change
- the countryside
- rural areas
- the protection of the Green Belt
- the protection of open spaces
- renewable energy generation
- integration of key issues
- infrastructure considerations.

Appendix 14: Summary of 'Front-Loading' meetings

A range of meetings took place with organisations, agencies and interest groups commencing in the summer of 2007. A list of all the meetings can be found in appendix 2. Before each of these meetings took place, the organisation(s) was sent a briefing sheet. A full copy of this can be found in **appendix 15**. This sheet included five questions which formed the basis of the discussions. These questions were:-

1. What do you consider to be the key issues/challenges as they affect your organisation/agency now within Warwick District?
2. In the light of the above, what do you think are going to be the key issues/challenges as they affect you over the period of the core strategy to 2026?
3. Is there a spatial element to these issues? (i.e. do the issues/challenges that face you have a different impact upon different areas within the district?) Do you have any evidence of this that you could share with us?
4. What strategies would you like to have in place to address these issues?
5. If the Core Strategy could do one thing for you, what would that be?

What follows is a brief summary of the issues raised at each of these meetings.

Warwickshire Rural Community Council

- Need balance of growth in jobs and housing
- Need healthy balance of age groups
- Creating balanced, sustainable communities
- Affordable homes remain an issue
- East/West divide in the district. Arden to west and Feldon to east
- Sustainability, climate change, energy efficiency, insurrection will be/still be a problem. Communities will want to develop own energy

West Midlands Regional Planning Bodies

- GOWM sees itself as a critical friend to LAs for the LDF process.
- Water is seen as the main issue to tackle, both the treatment and supply
- Waste is also important, waste management facilities should be targeted in key areas.
- Renewable energy is a priority as well
- The onus is on WDC to come to the WMRA for advice on conformity.

Government Office for the West Midlands

West Midlands Regional Assembly

Highways Agency

Advantage West Midlands

Senior People's Forum

- Older people need to participate in the larger community.
- Care homes are needed, but caution over retirement villages
- Social infrastructure needed where there is growth.
- Sheltered housing is better located in urban areas
- Rural areas suffer lack of services and amenities
- Attention needs to be given to promoting independence and social activity/mixing

HBF & various local house builders

- Certainty and consistency are important to delivering sites
- Housing needs and demand should be balanced
- Developers would welcome Green Belt review, particularly in the case of Coventry
- Need to be zero carbon by 2016 to meet new standards.
- Major development on greenfield sites provides an easier delivery as on larger sites it is easier to deal with problems in the most efficient/sustainable way.
- The current moratorium means small developers have moved to new areas resulting in no speculative development and ideas suppressed (e.g. development in Old Town).
- House-builders would be happy to be given a maximum number of units to provide, as they could then concentrate on the design and layout, producing better sites.

Environment Agency

- Housing needs to be in areas where flood routing can take place around the site. Will make situation worse on brownfield sites.
- SUDS - incorporate wherever practical. Different types of SUDS are more appropriate than others. Planning conditions (including maintenance agreements) regarding these will be approved by EA.
- If greenfield sites utilised and watercourses exist on site, these need to be incorporated into the scheme as a positive feature.
- Employment sites provide possibility for green roofs.
- SFRA best place to start
- Use sequential test of Flood Zone 1 first, then 2 then 3.
- Don't build in the floodplain.
- Ecology and Biodiversity along watercourses. Culverting will not be acceptable on urban sites.

Rural Hub and RASE

- Farmers will need to become more commercially minded and consider a wider range of options such as non-food crops and other non-agricultural uses.
- Balancing the character and appearance of the countryside with the need to maintain a healthy rural economy is an issue.
- Farmers need support in understanding the regulations.
- A framework should be in place which will allow for a range of different rural diversification projects including bio-energy schemes.

Policy for Older People in Warwickshire

- One of the biggest issues facing older people is transport. Parking and access to public transport
- Good maintenance of pavements is essential
- Many older people are asset rich and cash poor and ideally wish to stay in the family home and retain their independence.
- If older people do move, they often want to be close to shops and services.
- Older people like to be living amongst a mix of generations.
- Retirement Villages may be attractive to some, but for many they are unaffordable and fail to offer a generational mix.
- There is no real evidence of a shortage of residential/ nursing homes except for homes which meet the needs of ethnic minority groups
- Need for shops on large housing estates
- There is a need for convalescent homes to bridge the gap between hospital and home.
- There are a lot of older people living in Old Town. Home maintenance is a big issue here as well as maintaining shops and services.
- In future housing schemes, ensure the provision of adequate public transport services, good sized food shops and homes built to Lifetime Homes standards.

Youth & Community Services (Warwickshire County Council)

- Brunswick Ward is a targeted area for funding.
- In Warwick Town there are fewer issues but a lack of facilities.
- In Whitnash there has been considerable growth of mainly family homes but few facilities for young people.
- Greater flexibility in planning policy for changes of use to/ new facilities for young people
- In developing new housing estates, consider the need for facilities as the children of young families grow up.
- Fear of crime is high amongst young people
- Poor health, poor educational attainment and unemployment are of major concern.
- There is an increasing problem around intolerance between generations
- Cycle routes are proving very popular with young people and should be extended.
- Transport is a major problem for many young people
- There is a good level of parks, leisure and youth centres in the District although they are not always in the places where they are most needed.
- The types of businesses which locate /grow in this area will have a large impact on the educational needs of the young.
- There is concern about social housing developments with no facilities for young people

Help the Aged

- Sustainable communities
- Older people want to be able to remain independent and in their own homes.
- Need to encourage older people to use equity to fund their own

needs. Need to provide homes that offer the incentive to do so. This would release more family housing.

- Types of housing – ‘Extra Care’ facility in Telford is like a ghetto. Size is the key when looking at retirement villages. Bigger options would be anonymous – need to be more involved in the community therefore needs to be located in a residential area – need to feel an integral part. We need to be creating intergenerational societies.
- Transport – A major factor for older people, especially in rural areas. The harder it is to get around the less likely they are to feel like getting out and travelling to services.
- Demise of local services.
- Bringing services into areas where the older population live
- Affordable housing is not only needed for older people but also for those who will care for them who will be on a low income.
- How will climate change and housing issues affect older people for example.
- The environment needs to feel safe with good street lighting, well maintained paving, benches for rest stops.
- Older people need to be encouraged to get out and about. They need community venues in which to meet and cafes. Post offices are very important as they serve an additional service by assisting with form filling for example. Need to replace that function where PO’s are closing.

Road Haulage Association

- Recognise the role of road freight to the prosperity of the region.
- Industrial Parks: need to be located close to core road network.
- Developments, especially in Warwick, are in the wrong places.
- Lorry Parking: Needed temporarily whilst deliveries take place.
- Problems where new housing development has been built next to existing operating centre. Residents complain about the noise from such an operation, but that was there first and new residents should have been aware.
- Need places to stop over night with facilities - WCs and washing
- Warwick district is a crime ‘hot spot’ where lorries are stolen regularly complete with loads, often with drivers injured by the thieves
- Signage: This needs addressing particularly outside the town centre limits
- Provision for lorry access in residential areas is needed.

Campaign to Protect Rural England

Friends of the Earth

- Parks and open spaces should be preserved
- sustainable communities required. Brownfield sites preferred but most of these have now come forward. Town cramming puts pressure on infrastructure and services.
- Villages – Political will does not seem to support developing just affordable housing without a private, executive type element attached.
- University of Warwick – Application to extend has supporting EIA which has only 4 benefits but 30 negatives. The plans should therefore be ruled out. Difficult to balance the extension

into the Green Belt however with the increasing of the capacity of a seat of learning.

- CPRE - will object to any development that isn't brownfield
- FOE – keep as many green spaces as possible in urban areas but utilise brownfield sites. Need to assess these for natural environment as they may be rich in flora and fauna.
- It would make sense for Kenilworth to have more jobs allocated to support building sustainability
- We need to make it easy for people to cycle.
- Green spaces should be linked through developments.

Representatives of Disability Groups

Mencap

Warwickshire Association for the Blind

Council for Disabled People

- The disabled (particularly those with learning difficulties), would like to be closer to towns and resources where there is more on offer and more chance of anonymity.
- Developing 'drop in' centres where they can try out new equipment before committing money to purchase.
- Need access to local transport. Railway stations not sufficiently local. (This goes for older people too).
- Need facilities for walking –
- Street planning – *shared pavements* – white cane users are unable to use the kerb as a guide for navigation. Dangers in them wandering into the wrong section. *Indented crossings* – fine for wheelchair users but confusing for visually impaired as they are trained to walk along the road they wish to cross to avoid being too close to the corner
- Lifetime homes – 'support' in council docs. Layouts in new developments could be adapted to achieve reasonable densities. Should have at least a % target.
- *Housing* – the allocation of homes is important to ensure that those with disabilities are able to access the type of home that they need.
- '*Changing Places*' initiative – accessible wc's (with hoists/changing benches etc) in centres (information will be sent) for changing adults where they need to lie down. Ideally in shopping centres, supermarkets and leisure centres (good e.g. in Nottingham) (see attached internet reference)
- *Transport* – need for good, safe transport. Need to get out from rural areas too.

Mid Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce

Advantage West Midlands

- Mixed estates which provide smaller houses which the graduate wage can afford should be encouraged.
- There is a need for more effective working and greater cohesion between adjacent local authorities.
- It would be a mistake if planning in the district moved away from its core assets associated with the Spa Town heritage
- Fostering pride in the towns and overall environment is important. Would like to see improved and coordinated signage within the historic environment and existing signage maintained properly.
- IT and high technology sector, and green technology companies. To do this it is important to consider what the wider

requirements of the high technology sector and of the growing number of people who are home working.

- Incentives to encourage businesses to recycle in particular through recycling facilities for commercial waste
- Need for more business premises in Kenilworth particularly as these are being lost to other uses.
- A key issue is developing tourism in the future.
- Also the need to build upon skills in particular those associated with the high technology corridor.
- There is potential to build on the creative industries built around the loft theatre but also the 'gaming' industries.

Industries such as Prodrive should be embraced. There may be potential for collaboration with local universities through engineering modules. Small and medium sized business have trouble expanding due to lack of suitable premises. Infrastructure is very important as part of this as well as more widely.

Public transport needs to be improved. Need to change the stigma particularly within the business community associated with using public transport. There may be potential to reverse work patterns to encourage people to flow inwards rather than outwards.

To do this we need to consider what we can offer as a district, and what we aren't already providing.

- Out of town development should be restricted as the town centre will suffer.
- The district needs to offer high quality office space
- The green belt should be revisited to reflect modern needs.

Major organisations won't be attracted unless new, dedicated facilities are provided on the edge of town centres. Need medium sized rather than large premises.

- Recognise that work patterns have changed.
- More investment in town centres.
- Provide high quality office space to attract new investment. This may mean greenfield development.
- Retaining and balancing employment and housing as part of the creation of Sustainable Communities. Need to understand changes and not lose employment sites.

Foster better links with colleges and universities.

Highways Agency

Highways Authority (Warwickshire)

- HA are now pushing sustainability issues to the front and protecting the SRN is key.
- HA are particularly interested in the options, in partnership with County they can test options in the SRN. HA are happy to share

County Council)

assessments on a continual basis.

It is difficult to model piecemeal unidentifiable sites as opposed to Greenfield sites.

- Need to know types and scale of development. The following should issues need be considered:-
 1. Warwick Town Centre - amount of traffic using the town centre as a through route.
 2. Park and Ride – a site somewhere to the South and North of Leamington/Warwick
 3. Possibilities to improve the Europa Way / Old Warwick Road Roundabout in light of the Ford foundry closing.
 4. The amount of traffic going to Warwick Technology Park and coming off the motorway in general.
 5. Traffic on routes into Warwick/Leamington area. A4177 and A452 from the North and the South especially.
 6. Public transport issues: North/South Corridor and the SPARK initiative.
 7. Ongoing capacity issues at Longbridge.
 8. Kenilworth Station - still lobbying rail operators.
- It is difficult to provide contributions to the issues, but rather develop the tools to test the options.

Mid-Warwickshire MIND

- Aim to get people back into normal life.
- Maintain people in their own homes.
- Accommodation is needed for those coming out of hospital with facilities close at hand as they are unable/unwilling to travel far
- Need to integrate these people back into the community
- New developments would need to be in urban areas
- Things such as allotments are useful as they keep people busy and gives them a quiet place to be alone, or to communicate with other people participating in the same hobby, as they desire.
- Community Centres have to be big enough to offer a number of rooms to different groups/functions.
- Housing should not be isolated
- Facilities (especially shops) need to be interspersed within residential areas rather than focussed at one central point.
- The ageing population won't be able to access centrally located shops and facilities as they may not be able to drive or walk long distances carrying goods.

Warwickshire Police

- Community Safety most important aspect
- Need protection but also policing problems associated. Design – open surveillance required guardianship
- Location and design of new development needs careful consideration.
- Need to keep the flow of pedestrians to wider, well lit streets and main routes rather than isolated footpaths.
- *Many suggestions of issues and improvement* Need to be involved right from the start where business parks are proposed.
- New developments need to include facilities for leisure but

needs to be considered carefully.

- It would be useful to direct developer contributions toward supporting the police and emergency services to provide for e.g. police contact points (where a police officer is available to speak to the public during the day) within new developments.

Warwick Town Centre Management Group

Supporting services – especially with new growth since infrastructure will be required to meet increased demand.
Transport – the traffic situation, particularly in Warwick town centre is already poor and will only deteriorate with increased growth. The centre of Warwick is already gridlocked at rush hour.

Birmingham area is not prepared to take a fair share of the housing requirement leaving districts such as Warwick to take the lions share. This is unfair given that many residents here commute to the Birmingham conurbation to work.

- Housing development needs to level off so that a similar number of completions take place year on year.
- Allow the development of more family homes.

Offices – there is concern about locating new office development in town centres since it puts a strain on car parking provision, which is in direct competition with shoppers parking. Extra traffic flow conflicts with the requirement for shopping.

Strengthening town centres – policies do nothing to ensure this since new out of town housing and villages deflect people from the town centres, especially where out of town supermarkets offering a full range of goods are provided.

Freight Transport Association

- Look at night time delivery possibilities and reduce rigidity in planning conditions which restrict hours of delivery to daytime only
- there will need to be a major increase in the movement of goods and services
- The increased need/demand for goods will increase the number of journeys required by HGVs.
- Problems with infrastructure/access in new developments
- With additional traffic movements, climate change becomes an even bigger issue.
- There is a lack of facilities for drivers nationally.
- Ideally, driver facilities within the curtilage of business parks/industrial estates could be provided (new developments as retro-fit not possible now).
- In some places (e.g. Newcastle) there are 'no car lanes' which means that lorries can share space with buses, bicycles etc. where movement tends to be faster.
- Foreign drivers continue to be a problem.

**Warwickshire
Wildlife Trust**

Natural England

**Warwickshire
County Council
Ecology Unit &
Biodiversity Officer**

**Forestry
Commission**

- the focus for attention for environmental protection should be the identification and protection of local sites SINC's pSINC's etc.
- There are also concerns regarding the RSS figures
- (new housing in particular) that will put pressure on our ability to safeguard and enhance 2nd tier environmental assets.
- There is a need for more effective working to identify the District's non – statutory sites of nature conservation interest, and the emphasis to join these sites up and form 'corridors of spaces' with good connectivity being essential to the future success of these areas.
- The importance of the District's river SINC systems should be recognised and these should be protected accordingly
- The Core Strategy should consider looking at the identification of core areas of associated habitat and consider combining sites to afford protection to large scale areas of core habitat (including forestry areas).
- The value of trees should not be underestimated we are seeing changes in our landscape as old trees are being lost and no / few new trees are being re-established, (particularly hedgerow trees).
- In general terms it would be preferable to get the amount of tree stock in the District back to the level available in the 1960's (pre-Dutch Elm disease).
- The District should do everything possible to defend its Capital assets (Biodiversity).
- 90% of flooding is not caused by rivers/ intensity of rain. Areas of open space / habitat resources provide areas for water re-charging. The development of private garden space for car parking etc adds to the problem of more run – off causing drains to be over-burdened.

Warwick Society

- Employment land, whilst only being for land and not the number of jobs, doesn't include all types of employment e.g. retail, hospital, services. The jobs are in 'B' class uses and these may employ very few people in large areas of warehousing for e.g.
- Areas of restraint are now likely to become the subject of pressure for development and should therefore be retained. This should allow them to be protected from development in the near future.
- Housing – if 10,800 new homes required, there may be a choice of part brownfield and part Greenfield or maximising the brownfield sites. Warwick Society are mid-way between these two options.
- The most important issue is sustainable travel. The use of intensive urban areas would therefore be supported.
- Warwick – Motorway area= lost landscape, so could look there for a major new development of a Greenfield site – not in area of restraint but would result in additional use of the car.
- Potential South Of Coventry

- Green belt additional pressure therefore protection very important.
- West Warwick needs regeneration
- Protect all Open space
- Mixed communities in town centres needed
- Warwick town centre has become an evening economy – should be mixed use.
- Meeting needs locally more important to decrease people travelling i.e. sustainable travel.
- Conservation of existing residential areas.

**Gypsy and Traveller
Liaison Officer
(Warwickshire
County Council)**

- Refer to Circular 01/06 for details of the location of and criteria for potential sites.
- Land needs to be identified by 2009, but CLG recognise that this is going to be difficult.
- One transit site will be required in Warwick District and probably a couple of private ones.
- The transit site is one which the council (Housing) will need to pick and manage.
- Running water and toilets are the minimum requirements on such a site.
- The permanent sites could possibly be owned and run by the gypsies themselves or could be on private land e.g. a farmers field (there is some money to be made in running such a site).
- A government grant scheme is available, but early bids are encouraged as they really need to be in the first tranche to be successful.
- Rural areas, but with reasonable access to facilities are preferred.
- The sites need to appear in the Core Strategy.
- WCC could assist in finding sites, public consultation and sourcing grants.
- Need to identify several possible sites to consult upon and reduce final number to two or three.
- A liaison forum group is being set up to deal with consultations between the local authorities and the gypsy and traveller community.

**Waste Core Strategy
team (Warwickshire
County Council)**

- Spatial Options Document to be published May 2008 for consultation during June 2008.
- WCC is currently meeting with Districts to discuss the proposed options which have been developed with stakeholder involvement through the Waste Forum.
- WCC will work with the WDC and other districts to ascertain the predominant use classes of industrial areas and suitability for site location.
- As part of the options consultation WCC are also looking to define what are 'Strategic Sites'.
- The RSS sets a 600,000 treatment gap which needs to be provided for in Warwickshire.
- WCC are also considering whether waste facilities should be expected to meet a renewables requirement.

Appendix 15: Briefing sheet sent to all key stakeholders prior to “frontloading” meetings

Core Strategy Issues for discussion with Key Stakeholders



Warwick District Council is preparing its Core Strategy as part of its Local Development Framework. The Core Strategy will set a framework of planning policies for Warwick District up to 2026. As we begin this work, we would like to meet with all key stakeholders over the next few weeks. The purpose of this is to explain our work on the Core Strategy in more detail and to understand the issues facing key stakeholders in the district. What issues and challenges are facing us now? What challenges will be facing us in the period to 2026? What should our key objectives and priorities be for this period?

When we meet with you, we would wish to cover a number of issues. The purpose of this note is to briefly set these so that you can consider them before we meet.

Context

Along with other areas in the West Midlands, Warwick District will continue to grow up to 2026. Precisely by how much is still being considered at a regional level through a review of the Regional Spatial Strategy. However, for the purpose of beginning our work on the Core Strategy, the following can act as a guide. Warwick District **may** be required to provide housing or employment land **up to** the following levels.

	To be provided - 2001 to 2026	Completed 2001 – 2006	Available 2006	Additional to be provided 2006 - 2026
Housing	15,600	4,106	2,161	9,333
Employment (hectares)	155	25	54	76

Key questions

6. What do you consider to be the key issues/challenges as they affect your organisation/agency now within Warwick District?
7. In the light of the above, what do you think are going to be the key issues/challenges as they affect you over the period of the core strategy to 2026?
8. Is there a spatial element to these issues? (i.e. do the issues/challenges that face you have a different impact upon different areas within the district?) Do you have any evidence of this that you could share with us?
9. What strategies would you like to have in place to address these issues?
10. If the Core Strategy could do one thing for you, what would that be?