

Form A: Local Plan Consultation Response Form

NO

10d) Should the Local Plan require new development to be entirely electric based (i.e. not connected to the gas network), thereby future proofing the development to how homes and businesses will be powered in the future?

NO

Question 11: Minimise Carbon Losses from Wider Activities

Whilst using gas, petrol and diesel to power our homes and cars is an obvious contributor to greenhouse emissions and climate change, there are other less obvious activities which can result in high levels of greenhouse emissions. In Fenland, the biggest contributor is through the farming of peat soils.
Should the Local Plan:

11a) Set out a specific policy on the loss of peat-based soils, and the carbon impacts of it?

NO

11b) Require developers, as part of their contribution to open space provision, to create 'carbon sinks', such as through tree planting, creation of wet-grasslands or preservation/restoration of peat soils?

ENCOURAGE BUT NOT ~~RE~~ REQUIRE

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Question 12: Other Proposals to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Local Plan could require developers to create new communities which directly or indirectly help minimise carbon emissions.

12a) Should the Local Plan require developers to provide allotments or other growing areas, which can help reduce damaging 'food miles'?

NO

12b) Should the Local Plan make provision of cycle and footways, which are designed in a way so that they become the natural choice to use for short journeys, rather than the car?

YES

Question 13: Design and Amenity

Good design can help create attractive places and spaces for people to live, work and visit and can contribute to the creation of healthy and sustainable places. Design is not only about appearance, it is also about how places function.

Achieving good design is about creating places, buildings, or spaces that work well for everyone, look good, last well, and will adapt to the needs of future generations.

13a) Do you think the new Plan should include a strategic design policy for the district?

YES

13b) Do you think there is a need for different local design policies for each individual town and / or village?

Form A: Local Plan Consultation Response Form

NO

13c) Are there any specific local issues which need to be addressed through design policies?

IN CHATTERIS - SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS WHICH ARE AT CAPACITY.

13d) Should the Local Plan require developers to use national toolkits, such as Building for Life?

ENCOURAGE BUT NOT REQUIRE

Question 14: Optional Standards

Since the adoption of the 2014 Local Plan, the government has set out policy preventing Local Plans from setting their own standards for the design of new homes. New national standards have, instead, been introduced via the Building Regulations system. However, government allows three exceptions to this general rule. A Local Plan can require:

- Internal minimum space standards for all homes, but the standards can only be those as prescribed by government;
- Water efficiency measures in new houses which would aim to reduce average household use of water down from 125 litres per person per day (as required by Building Regulations) to 110 litres per person per day; and
- Higher access standards in relation to access to, from and within buildings, than required by Building Regulations. Such higher standards are generally beneficial to people who are disabled, elderly or have limited mobility, and also allow homes to more easily be adapted in the future.

14a) Do you think the Local Plan should include any of the following optional standards (subject to need and viability testing)? If so why?

i) Internal Space standards of new homes

Form A: Local Plan Consultation Response Form

- ii) Water efficiency of new homes
- iii) Access standards to new homes

i) YES
ii) NO
iii) ENCOURAGE BUT NOT REQUIRE

14b) Do you have any evidence to suggest the introduction of the above standards would significantly affect viability of housing schemes?

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Question 15: Meeting Housing Need

The Council will, over the coming months assess the local need for different sizes and types of homes and the amount and type of affordable housing required. This will inform the draft policy in the new Local Plan to be consulted upon next year. However, at this early stage, we would like your views on the types and size of homes you think are needed in the area.

15a) What size, types and tenure of homes do you think are needed, either across Fenland or in your local area?

ALL TYPES ARE NEEDED, IN CHATTERIS THERE IS A PARTICULAR SHORTAGE OF LARGER BUNGALOWS

15b) Do you think the Local Plan should have a rural exception site policy to help provide affordable homes in areas with a need?

NO