

Wantage Neighbourhood Plan

Housing Need Summary

The Residents Survey included a question about the style of housing which people would like to see included in any new housing developments. This question was completed by 1,392 people.

The priority amongst respondents was for more off-street parking with over 90% wanting developments to be partially or mainly two-storey, semi-detached homes with garages and/or off street parking. Only 12% of respondents wanted the developments to be mostly detached properties and 84% wanted some life-time homes with greater accessibility.

The largest number wanted at least some properties to be bungalows or single storey dwellings and 70% wanted some homes with granny flats or annexes. Over 77% of respondents wanted some homes with space to work or a home office, reflecting the increasing desire for homeworking.

The lowest number of respondents expressing a preference wanted any three-storey dwellings reflecting the low number of such properties in Wantage.

Comments stressed the need for wide pavements and at least two parking spaces per dwelling.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that there are a number of retired homeowners in Wantage wanting to downsize but not being able to find smaller properties with generous room sizes and sufficient parking to move into. Any developer building that type of property is likely to be able to charge a premium and sell all properties quickly.

Answers to other questions in the survey stressed the fact that people wanting to move want to stay in the area (although a significant number are concerned about the scale of development and the impact on the town).