WICKEN PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Dear Resident of Wicken, Upware, and Padney,

Wicken Parish Council is developing a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. A map of the designated Neighbourhood Plan Area is on page 2. To help shape the plan's direction, we invite you and your household to complete the attached questionnaire and share your views.



What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan gives local communities a say in how their area develops. Covering at least a 10-year period, it enables residents to:

- Create a shared vision for the Parish
- Decide where new housing and other developments should be located
- Influence the type and style of development
- Identify and protect valued green spaces and community assets

Why Do We Need One?

District Councils must maintain up-to-date Local Plans to guide development and conservation. East Cambridgeshire's current Local Plan is 10 years old and lacks clear guidance on long-term housing growth, making the Parish vulnerable to speculative development.

By creating a Neighbourhood Plan, we can influence where future development should or shouldn't occur and highlight areas that deserve protection or improvement. With expected housing growth over the next 15 years in line with the government's housing growth, the Plan offers a chance to shape this change rather than have decisions made without local input.

Once adopted, the Neighbourhood Plan must be considered by the District Council (or whatever unitary authority emerges), when deciding on planning applications, alongside the Local Plan and national policy.

A Working Group of residents and councillors is helping to prepare the Plan. Many of you shared ideas at our open day in March. Based on that feedback, we are now seeking your views on specific topics to include in the Plan.

Completing the Survey

Please return the completed survey to the collection box at Wicken Village Hall or the following addresses in Wicken:

4 Butts Lane

42 Chapel Lane

26 Church Road

Paddock House, 6a Lower Road

Alternatively, you can complete it online at: https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Wicken-Survey/ or scan the QR code using a mobile device.



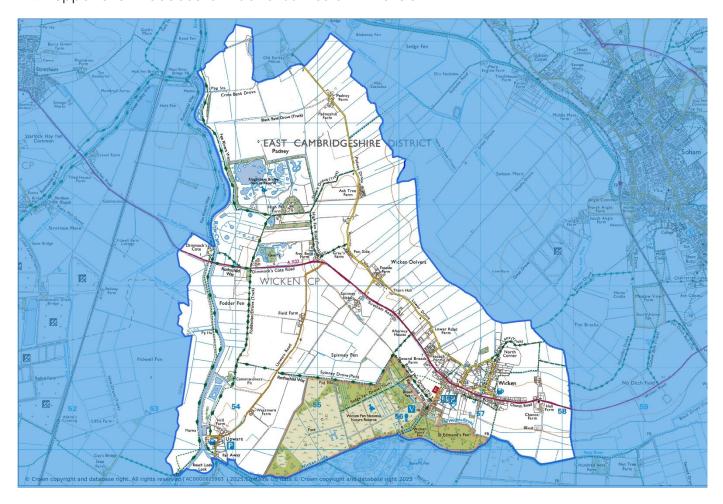
Completed surveys must be received by 15 September 2025

Each household has received one copy. Anyone aged 16 or over who would like to fill in their own copy can download it from https://wicken-village.org.uk/ contact Bill Pepper 07971 885639 or Rachel James 07772 319821 or access it using the link above.

Questions 30-36 should be completed once per household only.

Need Help?

If you need help completing the survey, please contact: Bill Pepper 07971 885639 or Rachel James 07772 319821



Wicken Parish

Neighbourhood Plan Topics

Residents have suggested that the following ardisagree?					
Please tick only one box per row Limited transportation services School places Lack of off-road parking in the Parish Lack of a Parish shop Proposed battery storage facility Potential loss of green spaces due to housing development (note that designated public spaces such the greens, allotments and recreational grounds are protected)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	St Di
Water pressure Sewage Unreliable broadband					
Are there other issues about living in Wicken that can	use you conce	m?			
Are there other issues about living in Wicken that can have the see Wicken in 20 years?	·	m?			Cı
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	St Di
How would you like to see Wicken in 20 years? Please tick only one box per row Our green spaces have been retained New housing is of high-quality design New housing preserves space between houses The Parish has ample off-street parking for residents	Strongly		Neutral	Disagree	
How would you like to see Wicken in 20 years? Please tick only one box per row Our green spaces have been retained New housing is of high-quality design New housing preserves space between houses The Parish has ample off-street parking for residents and visitors Wicken Parish is a safe place for people and pets Wicken Parish has retained its small village charm Wicken Parish is a good place for wildlife as well as	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	

Residential Development

In the 20 years to 2021, 45 new homes were built in the parish. This represents a growth of 13%.

We know that Government growth forecasts mean that East Cambridgeshire has to deliver 683 new homes a year, a 64% increase when compared with the annual average over the 20 years to 2021.

If a similar proportion of this growth were to take place in Wicken, around 60 additional homes would be needed between 2024 and 2040, although there were already planning permissions for 41 in the parish in 2024 that had yet to be built.

In de	velopments of 10 or more homes, a minimum of 30% ha	ve to be "affo	ordable" home	!S.		
6.	If additional housing were to be developed in V	Vicken Paris	sh, what wou	ld be accepta	able to you?	
	*In developments of 10 or more homes, a those that can't afford to pay open market		of 30% hav	e to be "affc	ordable" hon	nes for
	Please tick all that apply Developments of more than 10 houses which income small groups of less than 10 houses which do NO Infill plots of one or two houses including self-but No preference/ don't know	OT have to inc	•	le housing		
7.	If additional housing were to be developed in V be built between now and the next 15 years?	Vicken Paris	sh, which of	the following	do you think	should
	Please tick all that apply Social rented housing (housing association or local Shared ownership housing Rented privately on open market Owner occupied No preference/ don't know	cal authority)				
8.	Do you agree or disagree that future homes bu	ilt in Wickeı	ո Parish shoւ	ıld be:		
	Please tick only one box per row Suitable for first time buyers For people with a local connection Suitable for downsizing Suitable for the elderly Built to the highest environmental standards Designed to fit with the local character of the village Adaptable to meet lifetime needs	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
9.	What type of homes do you think should be bu	ilt?:				
	Please tick only one box per row 1 bedroom homes 2 bedroom homes 3 bedroom homes 4 or more bedroom homes Small bungalows (1 or 2 bedrooms)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagre

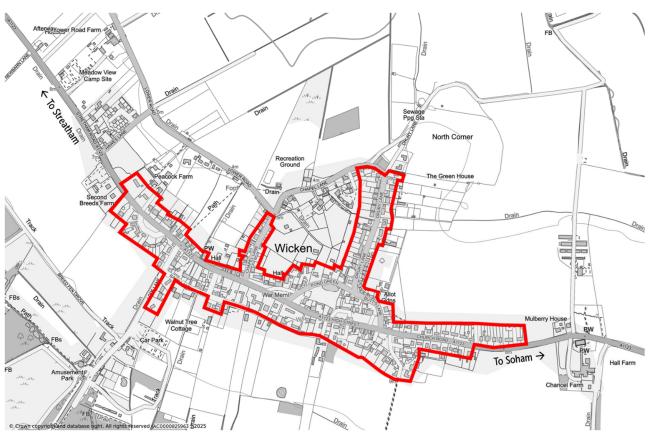
Larger bungalows (3+ bedrooms)

10. Do you have any other comments about residential development?

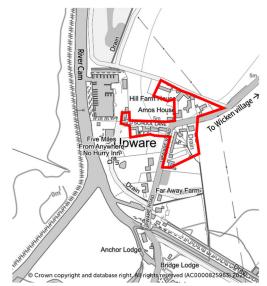
Comments			

Location of future homes

The current Local Plan designates a "Development Envelope" around the main centre of the village and for Upware, as illustrated.



Wicken Development Envelope



Upware Development Envelope

The Development Envelope is a planning tool that helps to manage the spread of towns and villages into the open countryside. Where they are defined in a local or neighbourhood plan, development proposals within them would normally be acceptable, subject to complying with other planning policies. Proposals outside a Development Envelope are only supported in specific or exceptional circumstances, such as essential dwellings for rural workers or affordable housing.

Preparing the Neighbourhood Plan provides a chance to update the Development Envelope.

To meet future housing needs, some land outside the current Development Envelope may need to be used.

Residents will be invited to give feedback after potential development sites are identified.

Do you agree that the following factors should	be taken in	to account w	hen identify	ing potential s	sites?
Please tick only one box per row Avoiding impact on areas important to wildlife Avoiding impact on historic buildings Residents should have good pedestrian links to the village centre Development should not impact on important views Development should not impact on footpaths, bridleways or cycle paths Development should have good vehicular access Development should not impact on sewage infrastructure	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagre
n of Wicken Parish's charm comes from its m I layout. We hope to have design guidance in		•			ively
Please tick only one box per row Use of local building materials Use of local traditional building styles Use modern design Reflecting building densities of the locality Incorporation of water saving measures Incorporation of energy saving measures Provide sufficient on-site parking Incorporate covered storage for cycles Incorporation of adequate storage for wheelie bins Incorporation renewable energy features Provision of electric vehicle charging points Anything else? Please tell us:	Very	Important	Neutral	Not Important	Don't
)	Avoiding impact on areas important to wildlife Avoiding impact on historic buildings Residents should have good pedestrian links to the village centre Development should not impact on important views Development should not impact on footpaths, bridleways or cycle paths Development should have good vehicular access Development should not impact on sewage infrastructure ding Design of Wicken Parish's charm comes from its manalyout. We hope to have design guidance in playout. We hope to have design guidance in playout. We hope to have design guidance in playout important to you are the following? Please tick only one box per row Use of local building materials Use of local traditional building styles Use modern design Reflecting building densities of the locality Incorporation of water saving measures Incorporation of energy saving measures Provide sufficient on-site parking Incorporate covered storage for cycles Incorporation of adequate storage for wheelie bins Incorporation of electric vehicle charging points	Please tick only one box per row Avoiding impact on areas important to wildlife Avoiding impact on historic buildings Residents should have good pedestrian links to the village centre Development should not impact on important views Development should not impact on footpaths, bridleways or cycle paths Development should have good vehicular access Development should not impact on sewage infrastructure ding Design n of Wicken Parish's charm comes from its mix of building allow to high standards. How important to you are the following? Please tick only one box per row Use of local building materials Use of local traditional building styles Use modern design Reflecting building densities of the locality Incorporation of water saving measures Incorporation of energy saving measures Provide sufficient on-site parking Incorporation of adequate storage for wheelie bins Incorporation renewable energy features Provision of electric vehicle charging points	Avoiding impact on areas important to wildlife Avoiding impact on historic buildings Residents should have good pedestrian links to the village centre Development should not impact on important views Development should not impact on footpaths, bridleways or cycle paths Development should not impact on sewage infrastructure ding Design of Wicken Parish's charm comes from its mix of building styles are layout. We hope to have design guidance in the Plan and to make gned to high standards. How important to you are the following? Please tick only one box per row Use of local building materials Use of local traditional building styles Use modern design Reflecting building densities of the locality Incorporation of water saving measures Incorporation of adequate storage for cycles Incorporation of adequate storage for wheelie bins Incorporation renewable energy features Provision of electric vehicle charging points	Please tick only one box per row Avoiding impact on areas important to wildlife Avoiding impact on historic buildings Residents should have good pedestrian links to the village centre Development should not impact on important views Development should not impact on footpaths, bridleways or cycle paths Development should have good vehicular access Development should not impact on sewage infrastructure ding Design of Wicken Parish's charm comes from its mix of building styles and materials layout. We hope to have design guidance in the Plan and to make sure that b speed to high standards. How important to you are the following? Please tick only one box per row Use of local building materials Use of local traditional building styles Use modern design Reflecting building densities of the locality Incorporation of energy saving measures Provide sufficient on-site parking Incorporation of adequate storage for wheelie bins Incorporation renewable energy features Provision of electric vehicle charging points	Please tick only one box per row Avoiding impact on areas important to wildlife Avoiding impact on historic buildings Residents should have good pedestrian links to the village centre Development should not impact on important views Development should not impact on footpaths, bridleways or cycle paths Development should have good vehicular access Development should not impact on sewage infrastructure ding Design of Wicken Parish's charm comes from its mix of building styles and materials and its relative layout. We hope to have design guidance in the Plan and to make sure that buildings are med to high standards. How important to you are the following? Please tick only one box per row Important Important Use of local building materials Use of local traditional building styles Use modern design Reflecting building densities of the locality Incorporation of water saving measures Incorporation of dater saving measures Incorporation of adequate storage for cycles Incorporation of adequate storage for wheelie bins Incorporation renewable energy features Provision of electric vehicle charging points

Our Natural Environment

We live in a unique flat open landscape with few trees containing a high density of sites of historic and ecological significance. Wicken Fen is of international significance and areas around the River Cam are of national importance.

The south of our Parish is primarily in the National Trust's Vision Area reflecting its national and regional value for conservation and recreation.

The questions in this section are based on themes expressed by those that attended our Neighbourhood Plan launch event and at previous consultations about the importance of preserving the unique character of our Parish and its surroundings.

The Neighbourhood Plan could provide an additional layer of protection for those aspects of our landscape that we cherish.

		Very			Not	Don
Please tick only one box p	er row	Important	Important	Neutral	Important	knov
The village greens						
Millenium Wood (at the	bottom of the Rec)					
The edge of the fens Hedgerows						
Mature trees						
Green spaces between	existing housing					
Anything else? Please te		1 1	,	, I	,	l .
How important to yo	ou are the views ap	proaching and leav	ing Wicken ai	nd from with	in the Parish it	self?
Please tick only one bo	X					
		Neutral	Пи	ot important	☐ Don't kn	ow
Please tick only one bo Very important	Important	Neutral	N	ot important	Don't kn	ow
Very important	Important			·		
_	Important			·		
Very important How important do year	Important	e following is to ma		·	the quality of l	ife in
Very important How important do you Wicken Parish?	Important ou think each of th		intaining and	·	the quality of l	ife in Don
Very important How important do you Wicken Parish? Please tick only one box p	Important ou think each of the	e following is to ma Very Important		I improving t	the quality of l	ife in Don
Very important How important do you Wicken Parish? Please tick only one box p The small size of the villandscape	Important ou think each of the ner row lage and its relationsh	e following is to ma Very Important ip with the	intaining and	I improving t	the quality of l	ife in
Very important How important do ye Wicken Parish? Please tick only one box p The small size of the vill landscape The presence of the vill	Important ou think each of the ner row lage and its relationsh	e following is to ma Very Important ip with the	intaining and	I improving t	the quality of l	ife in Don
Very important How important do yew Wicken Parish? Please tick only one box porthe small size of the villandscape The presence of the village The presence of an interview of the presence of an interview of the presence of an interview of the presence of the village	Important ou think each of the ner row lage and its relationsh age greens at the hea	Very Important ip with the rt of the	intaining and	I improving t	the quality of l	ife in Don
Very important How important do you Wicken Parish?	Important ou think each of the ner row lage and its relationsh age greens at the heach rnationally important	Very Important rt of the nature site,	intaining and	I improving t	the quality of l	ife in Don
Very important How important do you Wicken Parish? Please tick only one box poor The small size of the vill landscape The presence of the vill village The presence of an inter Wicken Fen	Important ou think each of the ner row lage and its relationsh age greens at the heach rnationally important her Bridge Nature Res	Very Important rt of the nature site, serve	intaining and	I improving t	the quality of l	ife in Don

The ready access to open countryside

16. Please tell us if you agree or disagree with these statements.

Please tick only one box per row	Agree	Disagree	Not sure
lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:			
Our lodes are an important asset to the village			
Local greens, verges and recreation grounds are an important asset to the village			
Our hedgerows and mature trees need to be protected			
The relatively dark night sky in our neighbourhood is an asset			
Would you support any of the following initiatives in the parish?			
Please tick one box per row: Important		Not important	No opinion
Leave verges to grow wild.			
Improve planted areas within the Parish			
Partnership with National Trust to extend their work out into the villages.			
Partnership with Kingfisher Bridge Reserve to extend their work out into the villages			
Identify, improve and enhance local ponds and create new ponds			
Assist wildlife within the Parish eg provide hedgehog routes through fences, install bird and bat boxes			
Community gardens			
Community allotments			
Community orchards			
Additional tree planting			

Communication and Transport

We want to collect up-to-date robust information on communications and transport to help guide potential support for initiatives.

Very good Satisfactory	Not very good	Don't know	Don't have broad
Who is your supplier?			
How do you view the mobile phone	e service in Wicken Pari	sh?	
Please tick only one box Very good Satisfactory	Not very good	Don't know	Don't have a mob
Who is your supplier?			
How often do you generally use the	e bus services through \	Nicken Parish (Tiger	on Demand and Thur
services)?	e bus services through \	Wicken Parish (Tigei	on Demand and Thur
	e bus services through \	Wicken Parish (Tiger	on Demand and Thur
services)? Please tick only one box Daily Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	
services)? Please tick only one box Daily Weekly What changes to the bus service w	Monthly	Occasionally	
services)? Please tick only one box Daily Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	
services)? Please tick only one box Daily Weekly What changes to the bus service w	Monthly	Occasionally	
services)? Please tick only one box Daily Weekly What changes to the bus service w	Monthly rould increase your usag	Occasionally	

Traffic

The Parish Council has taken all cost-effective measures to slow down traffic. Although speed cameras would effectively address the speeding problem in the village, the Parish Council does not have the authority to install them.

Speeding has been included in the survey, as new affordable solutions may become available in the future.

Whilst many highway improvements do not require planning permission, we want to collect up to date, robust information to help guide potential initiatives in the future.

24.	Do you think we need to do more to slow down throu	ıgh tra	ffic?			
	Yes No					
25.	Do you think we need to do more to discourage thro	ugh tra	affic?			
	Yes No					
26.	Do you think we need to do more to stop HGVs trans	iting th	ne village?			
	Yes No					
Serv	vices and Amenities					
27.	How often do you use the following facilities?					
	Please tick only one box per row The Maids Head pub The Five Miles from Anywhere pub St Laurence's Church The Methodist Church The Village Hall Wicken Fen including café and shop Kingfisher Nature Reserve and shop Spinney Abbey Farm Wicken Windmill The tennis court The football pitch The play equipment on the Rec The allotments Exercise machines on the Rec Hard surface Multi-Use Games Area at the Rec (tennis court) Fishing rights on the Lode	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Less often	Never
28.	What other services and amenities would you like to Please write your views here	see in t	the village?			

29.	If applicable, do you agree that any of the following would help your experience of working, running a
	business, or studying in Wicken Parish?

	Strongly				Strongly
Please tick one box per row:	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree
Flexible/shared office or workshop facilities					
Meeting rooms					
Private office or workshop facilities					
Rentable office space					
More reliable broadband					
Greater advertising of local employment opportunities					
Something else? Please tell us.					

About you and your household

These final questions will help us in the analysis of the results and in developing recommendations for the Neighbourhood Plan. We will not be using the results to identify individuals but to look at the views of specific groups within the village.

You can omit any questions you prefer not to answer.

Under 10	6 16-29	30-44	45-59	60-74	75 and ov	/er
Person 1						
Person 2						
Person 3						
Person 4						
Person 5						
Person 6						
Person 7						
How many years has your ho	usehold live	d in Wicken	Parish?			
• • •						
Please tick one box:						
0-5 years 6-10 y		11-15years		over 15 yea		
0-5 years 6-10 y	tus of the per	rsons over 10	6 in your h	ousehold	?	er per row:
Please tick one box: 0-5 years 6-10 y What is the employment state Please tick the box for the number of	tus of the per	rsons over 10	6 in your h	ousehold	?	er per row: 5
0-5 years 6-10 y What is the employment state Please tick the box for the number of	tus of the per	rsons over 10	6 in your h	ousehold	? ovide one answ	
0-5 years 6-10 y What is the employment state Please tick the box for the number of Norking full time paid employment	tus of the per	rsons over 10	6 in your h	ousehold	? ovide one answ	
0-5 years 6-10 y	tus of the per	rsons over 10	6 in your h	ousehold	? ovide one answ	
O-5 years 6-10 y What is the employment state Please tick the box for the number of Norking full time paid employment Norking part time paid employment Not working, looking for work Not working, not looking for work	tus of the per f people who fit of ent nent	rsons over 10	6 in your h	ousehold	? ovide one answ	
0-5 years 6-10 y What is the employment state Please tick the box for the number of Working full time paid employment Working part time paid employment Not working, looking for work	tus of the per f people who fit of ent nent	rsons over 10	6 in your h	ousehold	? ovide one answ	
O-5 years 6-10 y What is the employment state Please tick the box for the number of Norking full time paid employment Norking part time paid employment Not working, looking for work Not working, not looking for work	tus of the per f people who fit of ent nent	rsons over 10	6 in your h	ousehold	? ovide one answ	
O-5 years 6-10 y What is the employment state Please tick the box for the number of Working full time paid employment Working part time paid employment Not working, looking for work Not working, not looking for work Not able to work	tus of the per f people who fit of ent nent	rsons over 10	6 in your h	ousehold	? ovide one answ	

33. Of those over 16 living at home and in work or full-time study, where do they usually work or study?

Please tick the appropriate box for the number of people who fit each category (ie each row) and only provide one answer per row:

	1	2	3	4	5
Work/study from home					
Wicken parish		\square			
Burwell					
Soham					
Swaffham Prior		\Box		\Box	
Swaffham Bulbeck				\square	
Ely					
Newmarket					
Fordham					
Burwell					
Cambridge					
Elsewhere in Cambridgeshire					
London					
Elsewhere, please specify:	<u> </u>	1 1		-11	
How do you and those in work or full time		mally traval	to work or	(درامینام	
How do you and those in work or full-time	ie study nor	many trave	to work or	study?	
Please tick the box for the number of people who fit	each category i	ie each rowl a	nd only provide	ono ancivior n	OK KOLL!!
ricase tiek the box for the hamber of people who he	cacii calegory (ic cacii i ovv) ai	ia offity provide	one answer p	er row.
Thease lick the box for the number of people who he				4	
	1	2	3		5
Work/study from home Car/van driver					
Work/study from home Car/van driver					
Work/study from home					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle Bicycle					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle Bicycle Taxi					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle Bicycle Taxi Train					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle Bicycle Taxi Train Walk					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle Bicycle Taxi Train Walk					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle Bicycle Taxi Train Walk					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle Bicycle Taxi Train Walk					
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle Bicycle Taxi Train Walk Other, please specify		2	3	4	5
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle Bicycle Taxi Train Walk Other, please specify Do you or anyone in your household inte		2	3	4	5
Work/study from home Car/van driver Car/van passenger Car share Bus, including work or school bus Motorcycle Bicycle Taxi Train Walk Other, please specify		2	3	4	5

34.

35.

36. If you answered YES to question 35, what are the main reasons for wanting or needing to move?

Tick all that apply:	
To move closer to family or friends	Retirement
Wanting an easier home to maintain	Traffic impacts on my quality of life
Wanting to buy a home	To move to an accessible home
Wanting to buy a new build home	To move to a larger home
Wanting to rent a home	To move to a smaller home
To set up own home	To provide care for family/friends
To be closer to work or a new job	Wanting a bigger garden
To make it easier to receive care/support	Wanting a smaller garden
To move to a different school catchment area	To move to a better neighbourhood
To move to an area with more accessible services i.e	. GP, shops, public transport
Other reasons, please specify:	

If you t	think there are any important points missed by this survey, please note them in the box be	elow.

Thanks for completing the survey.