

Your Ref: Swanton Morley NP Consultation
Reg 16 Draft January 2026

Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care
System
ICS Estates Department

Email [REDACTED]

19th January 2026

By email: planning.policyteam@breckland.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam,

Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2036 (Reg 16)

Introduction

Thank you for consulting the Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System (ICS) strategic estates workstream on the Swanton Morley neighbourhood development plan. The following comments are on behalf of the Norfolk and Waveney ICS, incorporating Norfolk & Waveney Integrated Care Board (ICB), East Coast Community Healthcare (ECCH), Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, and Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust.

Existing Healthcare Position Proximate to the Proposed Development Plan Area

The local Primary Care Network (PCN) that covers the health needs of the Swanton Morley Neighbourhood area residents, is the Mid-Norfolk PCN, this is a collaboration between primary, secondary, community, social, voluntary, and mental health care providers to form an integrated health and social care service to patients.

Swanton Morley Neighbourhood plan area is positioned outside of the Mattishall and Dereham settlements. Alongside the service providers listed in the introduction, and in terms of physical medical infrastructure local to Swanton Morley residents, this is covered by Swanton Morley Surgery, which is a branch Surgery of Elmham Surgery, with Theatre Royal Surgery (Dereham) as the nearest GP practice outside of the neighbourhood plan area, both GP practice catchments cover this area. There are also 6 pharmacies and 3 dental practices that serve the population of Swanton Morley in surrounding areas.

Demand and capacity data indicates that the Theatre Royal Surgery North of Dereham is currently in floorspace deficit for the amount of registered patients they have. The Swanton Morley Surgery has some capacity with regards to floorspace, however with the amount of further housing growth in the area planned via the Breckland local plan this capacity will be quickly absorbed.

Review and Assessment of the Proposed Development Plan

The Plan sets out the parish vision, objectives, and policies across Growth, Landscape and environment, Design, Local economy, Community facilities and Transport and how these are implemented.

There are a 164 dwellings allocated to Swanton Morley via the Breckland Local Plan between 2024 and 2042. There is the potential for a substantial amount of growth if the Robertson Barracks development comes forward within this plan period.

There is already concern among local residents about the accessibility of healthcare facilities and the impact of further growth on these services. The plan highlights the need to ensure that healthcare services can meet the demands of a growing population.

Swanton Morley currently has a nurse-led medical practice with one full-time doctor. This practice is part of the North Elmham Surgery Group. The practice also serves non-registered patients referred from other local surgeries for specific services such as ultrasound. It is important that any growth within the area does not affect the sustainability of healthcare services for the local population.

Policy areas with health relevance:

Policy 4: Housing for the Local Community (Local Lettings):

Here policy 4 aims to ensure that new affordable housing is made available to local residents, which could help alleviate some of the pressure on healthcare services by providing stable housing for those in need.

Policy 6: Delivery of Planning Obligations:

This policy emphasises the importance of planning obligations, including Section 106 (S106) agreements, to ensure that new developments contribute to the improvement of local services and infrastructure, including healthcare facilities. This will be vital to ensure sustainable healthcare facilities in the future.

Policy 15: Additional Community Facilities:

Policy 15 supports the provision of additional community facilities, including healthcare services, to meet the growing needs of the local population. The ICB welcomes this policy as way of support for any future health centre infrastructure needs.

Policy 20: Management of Community Infrastructure:

This policy discusses the sustainable management of community infrastructure, including healthcare facilities, and encourages developers to demonstrate an effective and sustainable management program for any new infrastructure.

Given the potential Plan for a substantial development at Swanton Morley Barracks, we expect demand on Swanton Morley Surgery to grow over the Plan period.

The ICB would therefore support explicit recognition within the Neighbourhood Plan that additional primary care capacity will be required, and we ask that policy 6 highlights health infrastructure as a priority for developer mitigation.

It is recommended that developers initiate early engagement with the Parish Council and Breckland District Council to determine the scope of any required planning obligations. This process should encompass potential contributions to healthcare infrastructure to address the impact of new developments on existing services. Additionally, early communication with the ICB is also advisable for developers to gain a comprehensive understanding of healthcare requirements at the earliest possible stage.

Conclusion

The Norfolk and Waveney ICB welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan and supports its overall objectives, particularly the emphasis on sustainable community infrastructure. However, existing pressures on primary care provision, combined with the level of committed and potential future growth in the area, including any future proposals for the Robertson Barracks site, mean that additional primary care capacity may be required over the Plan period.

To ensure that local healthcare services remain sustainable and able to meet the needs of a growing population, we recommend that Policy 6 makes explicit reference to health infrastructure as a priority for developer mitigation.

The ICB would also encourage continued early engagement between the Parish Council, Breckland

District Council and the ICB as development proposals come forward, so that appropriate planning obligations can be identified at the earliest possible stage. This will help to secure the necessary funding to maintain sustainable healthcare provision for the Swanton Morley residents.

Yours faithfully,

NHS Norfolk & Waveney ICB - Strategic Estates