



The countryside charity
Norfolk

CPRE Norfolk - more about us

By volunteering with CPRE Norfolk you'll be helping us to find positive solutions for the issues facing the countryside and the environment. Here is a little more about us.

Who we are

The Norfolk branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England ([CPRE Norfolk](#)) fights for a better future for the Norfolk countryside. We work locally and, with our head office nationally, to protect, shape and enhance a beautiful, thriving countryside for everyone to value and enjoy. We are an independent voice for the landscape, engaging with local and regional planning systems to ensure that our views are heard by decision makers. We campaign locally for positive solutions that will support the long-term future of Norfolk – one of England's most rural areas.

Campaigning for the countryside

We work with individuals, parish councils and public and private sector organisations to support public access to the countryside, take action against light pollution and litter and find positive solutions to climate change. Through the CPRE Norfolk Awards we reward excellence in local authorities, schools, architectural practices and conservation bodies to highlight and improve public understanding of exemplar projects that enhance the Norfolk countryside.

Monitoring Planning

CPRE Norfolk provides independent 'on the ground' expertise on major planning issues affecting the countryside. We provide planning support to parish councils, conservation groups and individuals in the countryside and run seminars and conferences on planning topics.

Challenging Decision Makers

CPRE Norfolk monitors 'the big picture' of how the land, coast, skies and communities of Norfolk are developing and engage with decision-makers on an ongoing basis. Our team responds to a wide range of high level planning policy consultations every year and seeks to protect the landscape and influence the shape of Norfolk in the years to come. We press Norfolk MPs, councillors, planning departments and other decision makers to support the countryside, safeguard precious and protected areas of Norfolk, promote urban renewal, restrict development on greenfield sites, protect country lanes and preserve rural tranquility.

Our work at present

The vast majority of our work is based around our core campaign brief 'A Vision for Norfolk' which aims to bring common-sense solutions to all the issues currently facing the Norfolk countryside - everything from planning, to design, to transport, energy, water resources, tourism, agriculture and more. Read more [here](#).

Particular areas featuring in our work are:

- The local impacts of the government's White Paper on planning reforms which could lead to huge numbers of extra housing in the Greater Norwich Area - way above numbers that have already been agreed;
- A continued push for a Green Belt around Norwich which would take the form of green wedges, radiating from the city into open countryside, following existing green corridors and giving access to rural tranquility for residents and green commuting routes for those living outside;
- Our concerns about plans to build an A47 link road across the Wensum Valley;
- Our successful Parish Partnership Alliance, which now engages with 157 parishes and town councils, which have signed up to make the case for building existing housing allocations before new allocations are made. This phased approach to the delivery of housing tackles land banking and ensures that additional greenfield sites aren't sacrificed to development;
- Our campaign to reduce light pollution in the Norfolk countryside, which includes a 'light pollution clause' in every planning application response we make to limit the impact of outdoor lighting on the environment
- Norfolk's unique environment allows us to grow a substantial amount of the UK's food and supports a major tourism industry. We want to see businesses expanding in a sustainable way, valuing the environment at least equally to economic considerations.

Subcommittees

CPRE Norfolk has 3 subcommittees:

1. Vision for Norfolk (V4N), which covers campaigns, planning, water, agriculture, transport, energy, light pollution, biodiversity;
2. Events, Membership and Communications (EMC), which covers events, fundraising, volunteers, membership, PR, media, youth, profile and awards;
3. Finance and General Purpose (FGP), which covers finance, administration, secretarial, governance, compliance, staffing and training.

Committees meet four times a year in central Norwich (or virtually on Zoom).

Volunteers join one of the subcommittees, and are line-managed by the chair of that group.

Volunteering

By volunteering with a local CPRE, you'll be helping enhance the countryside where you live and meeting people with similar interests. We want you to have an excellent volunteering experience with us, and so we've made [this commitment](#) to our volunteers.