# Welcome

The Council has published the latest draft of a planning policy document known as the 'Northumberland Local Plan'.



**Northumberland Local Plan** Publication Draft Plan (Regulation 19)

The purpose of this drop-in session is to provide an introduction to the contents of the Northumberland Local Plan (Publication Draft Plan) document and provide advice on how you can make representations in relation to the plan.

Staff involved in writing the Local Plan are in attendance if you have any queries.





## What is a Local Plan and what will it do?

We have a duty to plan for new homes, workplaces, services and facilities, whilst protecting the natural, built and historic environment.

The new Local Plan will guide future development and planning decisions in Northumberland up to 2036.





### The Vision

The vision sets out what the Local Plan seeks to achieve and informs all the policies and proposals in the Plan:

Northumberland's physical and cultural identity will be conserved and nurtured; its resources will be utilised in a sustainable way. The breadth, scale and quality of its special, varied landscapes and biodiversity will be conserved, enhanced and increased. The quality of its buildings and spaces will be conserved and improved. New development will be well designed, minimise environmental harm and reduce the effects of climate change.

The economy will be thriving and competitive, and deliver more and better jobs. Supported by investment and infrastructure, building on existing strengths whilst diversifying and realising the potential of the rural and visitor economy.

The health and wellbeing of the county's people and communities will be safeguarded by continually improving education and skills, and ensuring access to decent, affordable homes, services and facilities is secured.

### The Objectives

The strategic objectives below have been developed to deliver the vision.

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### **ECONOMY & JOBS**

To grow and diversify the Northumberland economy by making it an attractive and competitive place to start, grow and invest in a broad range of businesses, attracting more and better jobs, and attracting and retaining working age people. To drive improvements in education, training and skills to enhance the employability of Northumberland residents.

#### ENVIRONMENT

To conserve and enhance Northumberland's distinctive and valued natural, historic, water and built environments, ensuring that these assets continue to be experienced and valued by residents of and visitors to the County and protected from inappropriate development.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING** 

#### HOMES

To extend housing choice across Northumberland by delivering homes for existing and future communities, and to support the Northumberland economy. To provide well designed, and affordable homes, and housing to meet the diverse needs of Northumberland's population.

### CONNECTIONS

To improve connectivity and movement utilising existing infrastructure, and securing the delivery of new and necessary infrastructure upgrades in order to meet the changing needs of people and places.

To support sustainable communities across Northumberland; working to improve the quality of services and facilities to support physical and mental health, social and cultural wellbeing for all including responding to the needs and opportunities created by Northumberland's population.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE**

To ensure the delivery of sustainable development which mitigates climate change, whilst acknowledging and anticipating the likely impact of a changing climate on Northumberland and adapting to its effects.

#### RESOURCES

To manage the prudent use of Northumberland's natural resources, including minerals, energy, land, existing built fabric and water, while producing less waste and minimising adverse impacts on communities and the environment.

#### QUALITY OF PLACE

To ensure the high quality design of buildings and spaces, in order to create attractive, inclusive places which instill a sense of civic pride and enrich, rather than harm the diverse character of Northumberland.

## How will the objectives be met?

To deliver the vision and the objectives, the policies and proposals in the Local Plan seek to:

HOMES

**CONNECTIONS** 

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- Support the provision of 15,000 new jobs
- Provide high quality employment sites, including **new allocations** in Hexham, Ponteland, Prudhoe, Ashington and Lynemouth
- Support the rural economy business hubs, home run enterprises, farm diversification, and the visitor economy

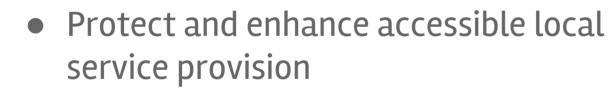
- Support the delivery of 17,700 new homes (885 dwellings per year)
- Allocate sites for housing in some locations to encourage delivery
- Support the delivery of affordable homes to meet identified need
- Support the delivery of homes for older and vulnerable people, including extra care schemes
  - Restrict new build second and holiday homes in parts of the county.
- Support improvements to town centres and support their roles as service centres.



COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING

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- Conserve and enhance Northumberland's natural, built and historic environment
- Direct development to less sensitive locations.





- Support new and improved community infrastructure
- Protect open space from development and support a Green Infrastructure network.



QUALITY OF PLACE

- Give priority to walking, cycling and public transport
- Support for reintroduction of passenger services on the Northumberland Line
- Support improvements to the road network, including dualling of the A1 and A69
- Support for the development of ports at Amble, Berwick and Blyth and expansion of Newcastle Airport
- Support the rollout of superfast broadband and improvements to mobile communications.
- Focus development in locations that reduces the need to travel
- Support the generation of decentralised, renewable and low carbon energy
- Encourage sustainable construction practices and building design
- Reduce flood risk through effective risk assessment of new developments.

- Allocate new sites for sand and gravel and rock extraction.
- Minimise the adverse impacts of extraction on local communities and the environment
- Support the provision of facilities that maximise recycling and recovery
- Identify areas potentially suitable for wind energy development, but restricts development by applying criteria, and requiring community support.

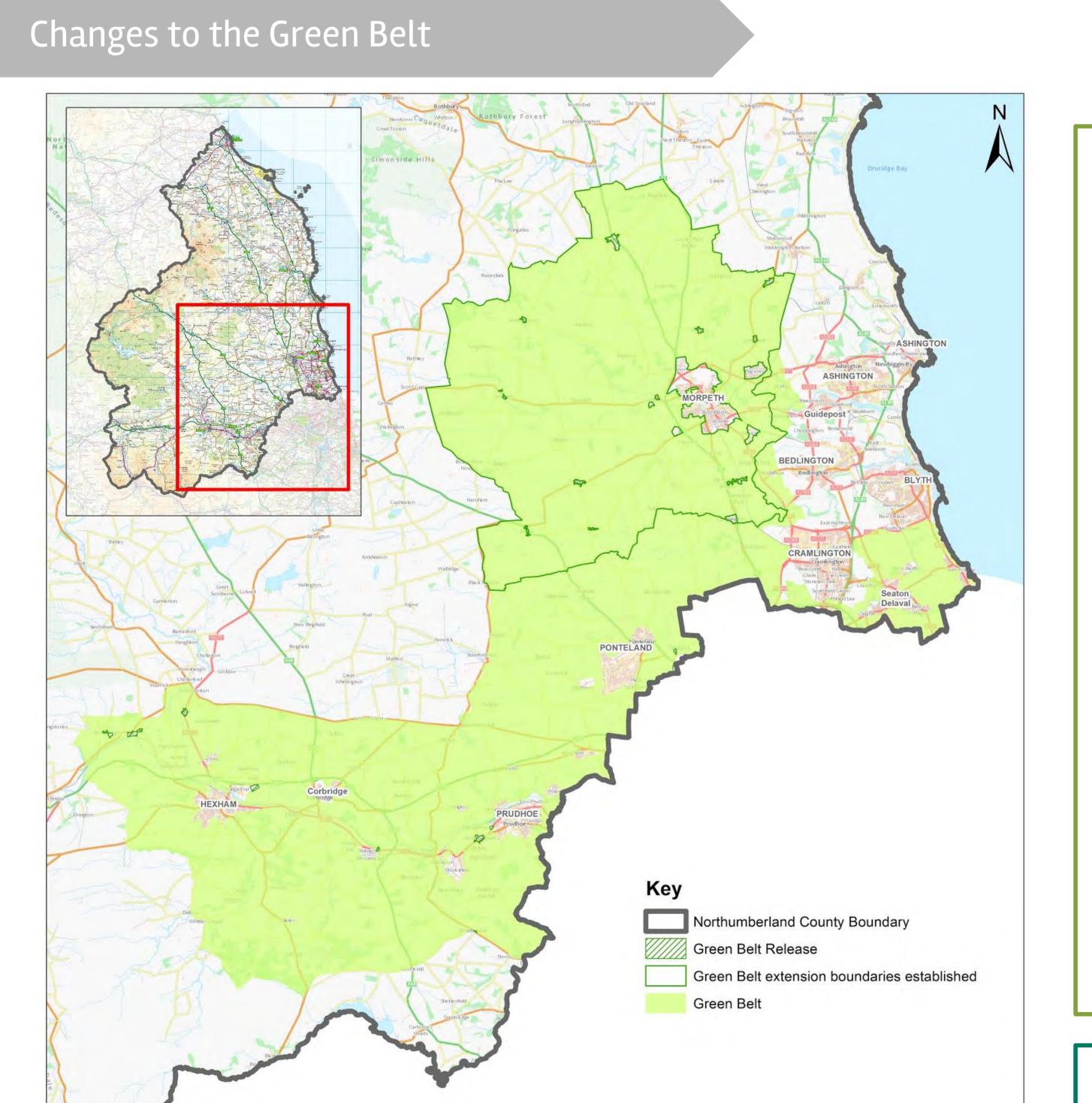


- Maintain and enhance the individual character of places
- Provide attractive living and working environments.

### Green Belt

The main function of the Green Belt in Northumberland is to prevent the unrestricted sprawl of the Tyne and Wear conurbation by keeping land permanently open.

The protection of the Green Belt is a key element of the development strategy.



**Green Belt extension around** 

## Morpeth

Detailed boundaries for the Green Belt extension around Morpeth, have been defined, including insets from the following:

- Belsay
- Hartburn
- Hebron
- Hepscott
- Longhirst
- Longhorsley
- Mitford
- Morpeth
- Ogle
- Netherwitton
- Pegswood
- Stannington
- Stannington Station
- Ulgham
- Whalton

### Land releases for



### **Settlements inset from the existing defined Green Belt**

The following settlements, previously washed over, have been inset from the Green Belt:

- Broomhaugh
- Fourstones
- Mickley Square
- Newbrough
- Wall
- Whittonstall

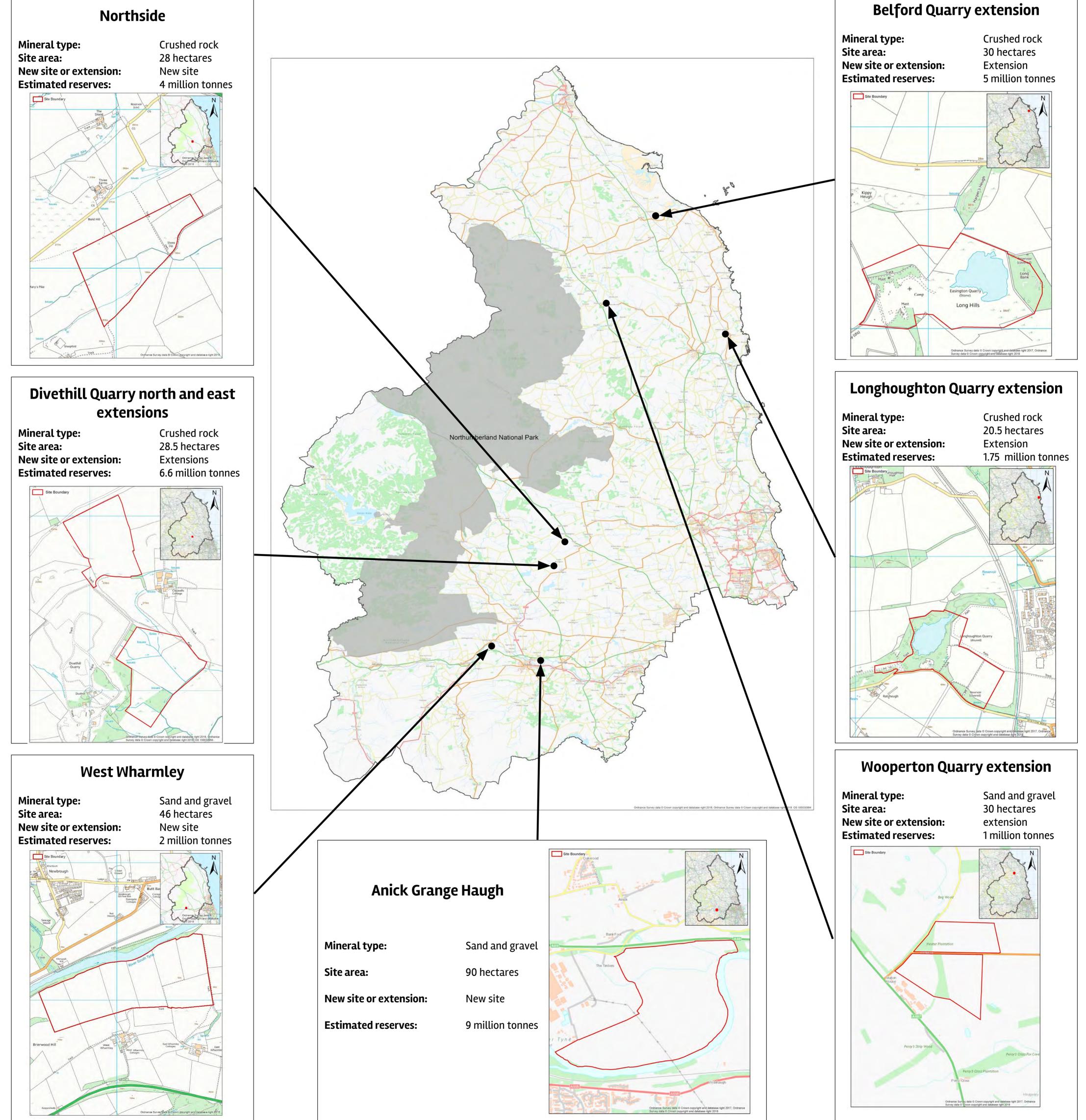
### employment purposes

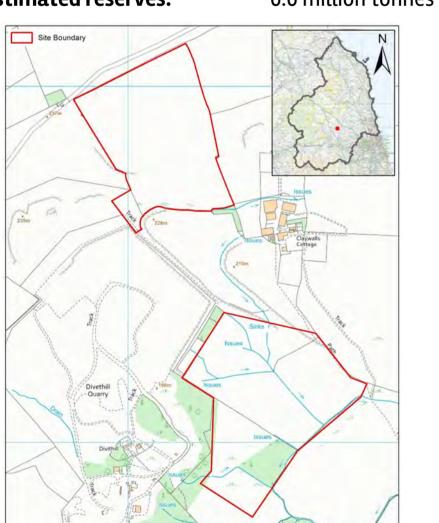
It is purposed to release current Green Belt land for employment uses at:

- Hexham (Land east of the Egger factory)
- Ponteland (Land at Prestwick Park and Prestwick Pit)
- Prudhoe (Land at Eltringham)

Aggregate minerals

In order to meet demand for crushed rock and sand and gravel for use as construction aggregates, the Local Plan allocates three sites for the extraction of sand and gravel and four sites for the extraction of crushed rock. Some of these sites are new sites, while others are extensions of existing sites.





## Timetable and Key Milestones

JUL 2017

FEB

2018

APR

2018

JUL

2018

JAN

2019

Commencement of work to develop and update the evidence base

'Call for Sites' consultation



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WE ARE

HERE

Consultation to capture high-level views on strategic locations for development

Consultation on the Draft Local Plan (Regulation 18)

(4 July 2018 to 15 August 2018)

Publication Draft Local Plan (Regulation 19)

(30 January 2019 to 13 March 2019

Submission of the Local Plan to the Government for examination by an independent inspector

**MAY** 2019

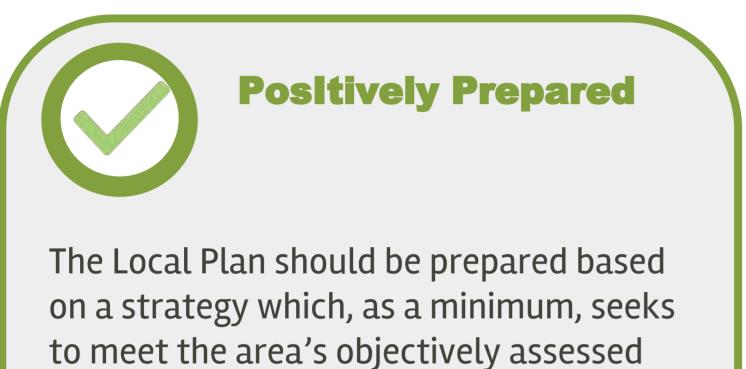
MAR 2020 Examination hearings involving round table discussions led by the Inspector

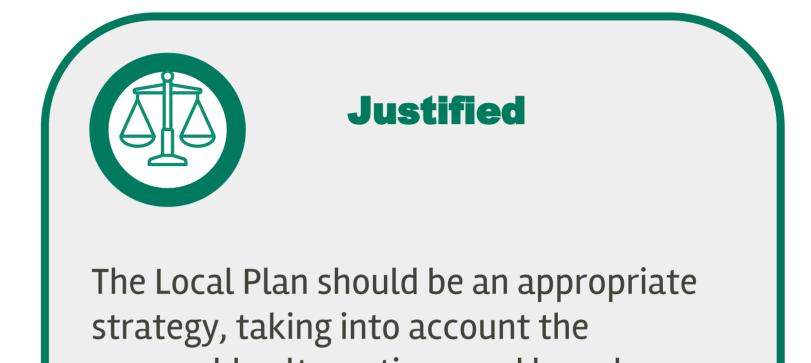
Adoption



How to comment on the Publication Draft Local Plan.

As a formal stage, representations submitted on the Local Plan <u>**must</u>** relate to matters of legal compliance and the soundness of the Local Plan. To be sound the Local Plan should be:</u>





needs, and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development.



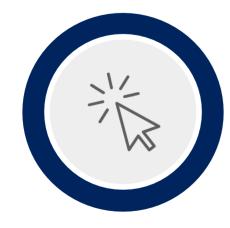
### Effective

The Local Plan must be deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground. reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence.

### **Consistent with National Policy**

The Local Plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

Representations need to be made in writing to us and received no later than **5pm on** Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 via the following methods:

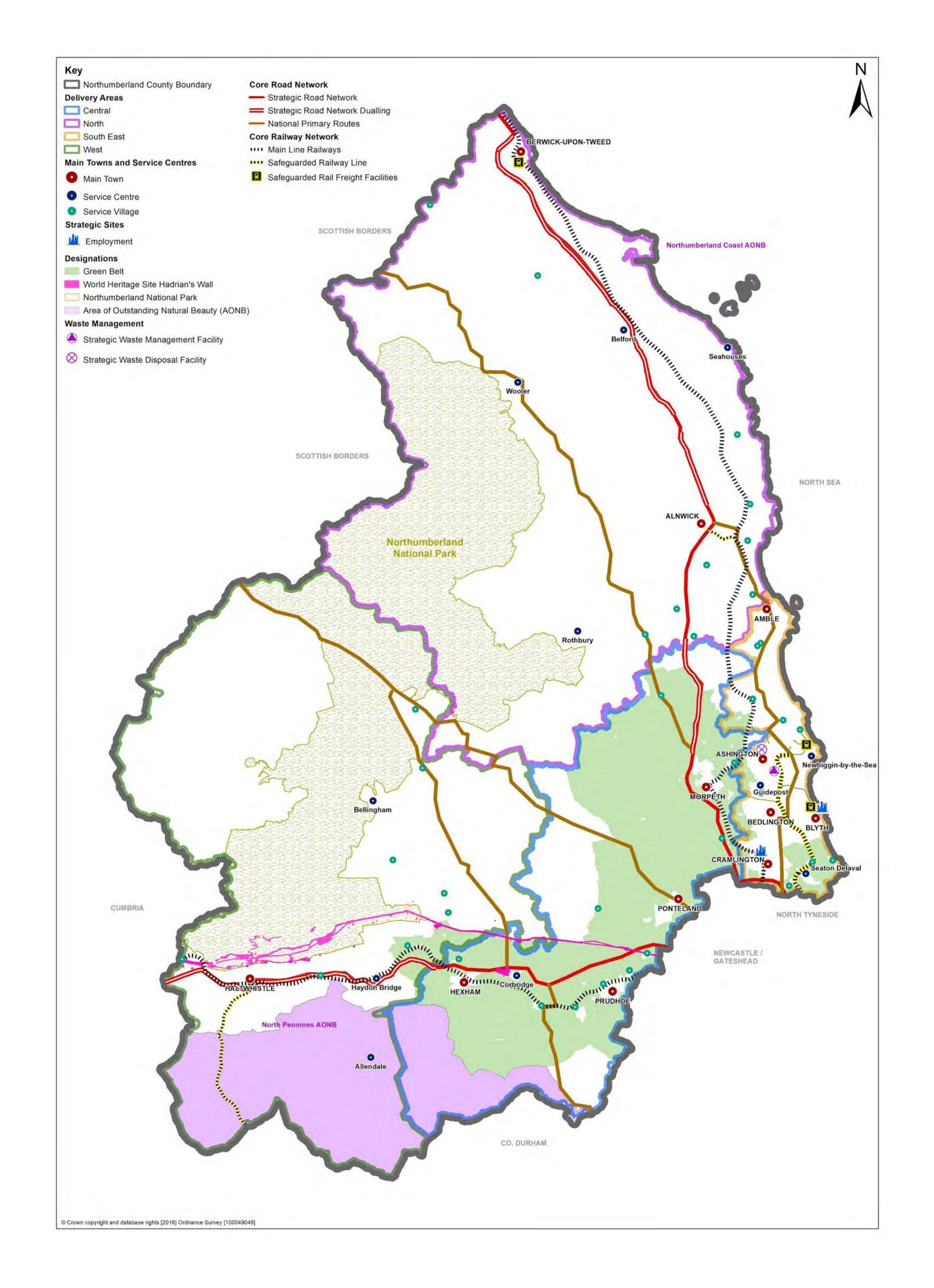


Online via the Consultation Portal at <u>www.northumberland.gov.uk/localplan</u>



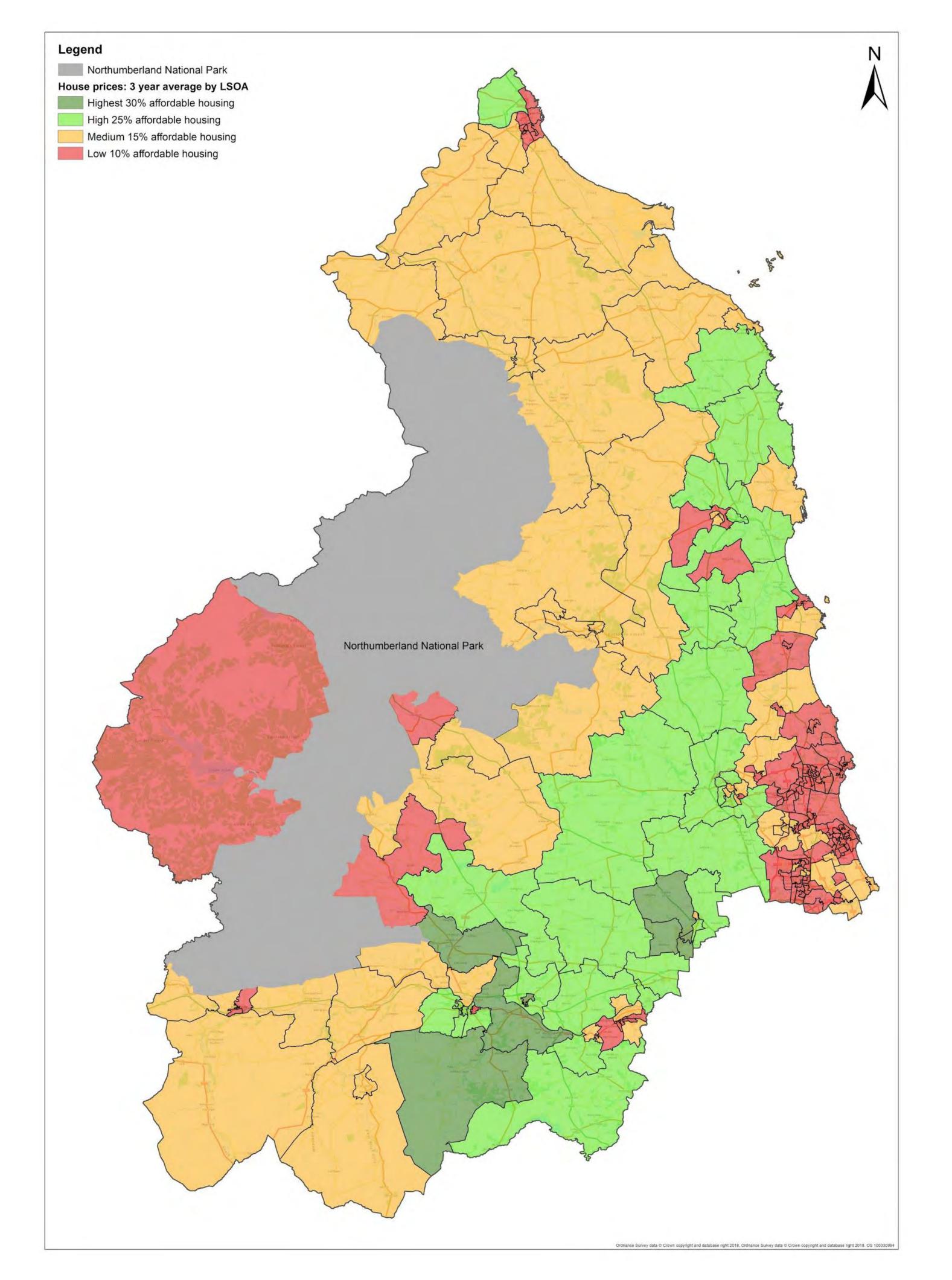
Returning a comment form by either: Email: <u>planningstrategy@northumberland.gov.uk</u>, or Post: Planning Policy, Northumberland County Council, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF

### The Key Diagram



# Affordable Housing

The plan supports the delivery of affordable housing. To meet the identified need for affordable housing across Northumberland, while taking into account the viability of delivering affordable housing, the Local Plan proposes different affordable housing requirements based on value areas.



Onshore wind energy development

The plan proposes to restrict the development of wind turbines, by identifying areas potentially suitable for wind energy development for turbines up to 40m, and requiring community support for development proposals. Applications for all turbine developments, including the repowering of existing turbines will be assessed against a set of criterion.

Areas potentially suitable for wind energy development are identified below.

