

Humshaugh Neighbourhood Plan

Basic Conditions Statement

March 2024

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This statement has been prepared by Humshaugh Parish Council (HPC). It accompanies the Submission Draft Humshaugh Neighbourhood Plan (HNP), which has been submitted to Northumberland County Council (NCC), the lead authority, under section 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations General (2012 – ‘the Regulations’).
- 1.2 The HNP has been prepared by HPC, the qualifying body for the Humshaugh Neighbourhood Area. The neighbourhood area was designated by NCC on 17 March 2022. As part of the parish lies within Northumberland National Park, the Northumberland National Park Authority also designated the neighbourhood area on 16 March 2022 (a copy of the designation documents are included at Appendix 1).
- 1.3 The HNP relates to planning matters (the use and development of land) in the designated neighbourhood area and covers the period from 2024 to 2036. It does not contain policies relating to excluded development¹ as laid out in the regulations.
- 1.4 This statement sets out how the HNP has been prepared in accordance with the regulations and meets the ‘basic conditions’ set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Act, as applied to neighbourhood plans by section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The regulations state that a neighbourhood plan will have met the basic conditions if:
- a. having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood development plan;
 - b. the making of the neighbourhood development plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
 - c. the making of the neighbourhood development plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area);
 - d. the making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations as incorporated into UK law; and
 - e. prescribed conditions are met in relation to the plan and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the neighbourhood plan. The following prescribed condition relates to neighbourhood plans:
 - Regulation 32 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (various amendments) Regulations (2018) sets out a further basic condition in addition to those set out in the primary legislation: that the making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
- 1.5 Sections 2 – 5 of this statement provide information to demonstrate how the Submission Draft HNP meets the basic conditions.

¹ Such as minerals and waste matters or nationally significant infrastructure projects.

2. National policies and advice

- 2.1 National Planning Policy is set out within the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2023 - NPPF) and guidance is set out within the National Planning Practice Framework (NPPG). The Submission Draft HNP has been prepared having regard to the NPPF and NPPG.
- 2.2 The HNP contains 9 policies. The table below provides a summary of how the policies have had regard to national policy and guidance. The paragraphs referred to are considered to be the most relevant to the policy and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of every possible relevant paragraph.

Table 1: Conformity with national polices and guidance

Humshaugh NP policy	National policies and guidance	
	References	Comments on conformity
Policy 1: Community Energy Initiatives	NPPF: 158-164 NPPG: 003/ 5-003-20140306 004/ 5-004-20140306	<p>Policy 1 provides a positive strategy for renewable and low carbon energy developments, as required by paragraph 160 of the NPPF. It specifically refers to energy developments led by or those which meet the needs of the local community. Paragraph 161 requires local planning authorities to support community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy, including developments located outside areas identified in development plans.</p> <p>Footnote 57 highlights that wind energy developments can be permitted through Local Development Orders, Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build orders.</p> <p>Policy 1 highlights the key considerations against which community energy initiative proposals would be considered.</p> <p>NPPG explains that neighbourhood plans are key to delivering development that has the backing of local communities. Also that neighbourhood plans provide an opportunity for communities to plan for community-led renewable energy developments.</p>
Policy 2: Local Green Space	NPPF: 105-1037 NPPG: 007/ 37-007-20140306 to 022/ 37-022-20140306).	<p>The Local Green Space and Protected Open Space Background Paper explains out how the 12 sites which are proposed to be designated as local green space by policy 2 meet the detailed requirements set out within the NPPF and NPPG. The sites do not have planning permission, nor are they designated for development, or an extensive tract of land. The sites are demonstrably important to the local community and are in close proximity to the community to which they serve.</p>

Humshaugh NP policy	National policies and guidance	
	References	Comments on conformity
Policy 3: Protected Open Space	NPPF: 102-103 NPPG: 001/37-001-20140306,002/37-002-20140306,003/37-003-20140306	The NPPF highlights the importance of access to a network of high-quality open spaces for the health and well-being of local communities. In addition, that existing open spaces should not be built on unless key criteria are met. NPPG identifies that open space, which includes all open space of public value, can take many forms. The Local Green Space and Protected Open Space Background Paper describes the methodology for the identification of protected open space and describes the reasons spaces are proposed for designation of the three areas. Policy 3 identifies the open spaces and includes criteria which will be used for the assessment of development proposals which could result in the loss of protected open space. The criteria accord with the requirements of the NPPF.
Policy 4: Humshaugh Conservation Area	NPPF: 195, 194, 197, 199-208 NPPG: 019 18a-019-2019072318a-040-20190723	Paragraph 196 of the NPPF requires plans to set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment. Policy 4, has been informed by the draft Humshaugh Conservation Area Character Appraisal and a Heritage Background Paper. The policy identifies the key considerations to be used when assessing the impact of development on the character or appearance of the conservation area and its setting. It also highlights key (unlisted) buildings which are an important part of the significance of the conservation area.
Policy 5: Humshaugh Design Code	NPPF: 131-140 NPPG: Gov.uk/guidance/Design National design guide	Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development. The NPPF attaches great importance to achieving high quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places. It identifies that neighbourhood planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development both through their own plans and by engaging in the production of design policy, guidance and codes by local planning authorities and developers. Policy 5 requires new development to conserve and enhance local distinctiveness and includes policy criteria which reflect the qualities of the plan area. The policy has been informed by the Humshaugh Design Code.
Policy 6: Small Scale Rural Exception Sites	NPPF: 82-84 NPPG: 011/ 67 - 011-20210524 to	The NPPF states that in rural areas planning policies and decisions should respond to local circumstances and support housing developments

Humshaugh NP policy	National policies and guidance	
	References	Comments on conformity
	015/ 67-015-20210524	that reflect local needs. Also that LPAs should support opportunities to bring forward rural exception sites that will provide affordable housing to meet needs and consider whether allowing some market housing on these sites would help facilitate this. NPPG reiterates the NPPF and encourages neighbourhood planning groups to produce policies that specify in further detail the proportions of market housing that would be considered acceptable and under what circumstances. Neighbourhood planning is identified as an appropriate way to identify and support the delivery of affordable housing on exception sites. Policy 6 accords with the provisions of both NPPF and NPPG by defining the criteria that should be met by any application for the development of an exception site, informed by the Humshaugh Housing Needs Assessment.
Policy 7: Community Facilities	NPPF: 96-97	Policy 7 reflects the requirements of the NPPF as it identifies those facilities which have great importance to the local community and seeks to guard against their loss.
Policy 8: Tourism	NPPF: 88-89	The NPPF requires planning policies and decisions to enable the diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses, as well as enabling sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which respect the character of the countryside. It highlights that planning policies should recognise that sites to meet local business and community needs in rural areas may have to be found adjacent to or beyond existing settlements and in locations that are not well served by public transport. In these circumstances, the NPPF explains that it will be important to ensure that development is sensitive to its surroundings, does not have an unacceptable impact on local roads and exploits any opportunities to make a location more sustainable (for example by improving the scope for access on foot, by cycling or by public transport). This approach is reflected in policy 8 which supports tourism development within the settlement boundary and explains when specific tourism development would be supported in the open countryside.
Policy 9: Sustainable Transport	NPPF: 108-110	The NPPF highlights that planning policies should provide for attractive and well-designed walking and cycling networks. Policy 9 provides support for

Humshaugh NP policy	National policies and guidance	
	References	Comments on conformity
		development proposals that would maximise the use of sustainable modes of transport and defines criteria to be met, including improving sustainable transport choices, providing an appropriate level of parking, ensuring priority is given to vulnerable road users, and mitigates negative impacts.

3. Sustainable development

3.1 The NPPF defines the Government’s view of what sustainable development means in practice for the planning system in England. Paragraph 8 explains that there are three overarching objectives to sustainable development which are independent and need to be pursued in mutually supporting ways: economic, social and environmental. This section of the report illustrates the alignment of objectives and policies of the HNP with the three objectives of sustainable development. In many cases, the HNP aims and policies are applicable to more than one dimension of sustainable development, in these cases they have only been placed within one dimension.

3.2 The economic objective of the planning system is defined as:
‘to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure.’

3.3 Table 2 illustrates the alignment of the HNP with the economic objective of sustainable development.

Table 2: Economic alignment

HNP Aim/ Policy	Commentary
Policy 8: Tourism	This policy provides local detail to guide the location of new tourism facilities and visitor accommodation. In the open countryside it seeks to focus new development to the conversion of existing buildings but identifies when new buildings and changes of use may be appropriate. This approach will support the economic objective of sustainable development. The specific criteria included within the policy seek to ensure that the development will not result in environmental harm, therefore supporting the environmental objective.

3.4 The social objective of the planning system is defined as:
‘to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities’ health, social and cultural well-being.’

3.5 Table 3 illustrates the alignment of the HNP with the social objective of sustainable development.

Table 3: Social alignment

HNP Aim/ Policy	Commentary
Objective 3: Communities and the economy	Seeks to ensure that new development meets the needs of residents, visitors and the local economy. This includes supporting the right type of housing and economic development which reflects the distinctive character of the

HNP Aim/ Policy	Commentary
	area and local needs, as well as protecting and supporting the development of community services and facilities. This aim supports the social, economic and environmental objectives of sustainable development.
Objective 4: Transport and accessibility	Seeks to promote access to sustainable modes of transport, especially public transport, which connect people to a wider range of services, facilities, employment and educational opportunities. Meeting the transport needs of all residents and enhancing opportunities for cyclists, horse riders and pedestrians, including those using wheelchairs or mobility scooters. This objective therefore supports both the social and environmental objectives of sustainable development.
Policy 2: Local Green Space	Policy 2 identifies 12 areas of local green space which are important to the local community. Their protection will ensure these sites are not lost to development other than in very special circumstances. Their protection will support the delivery of both the social and environmental objectives.
Policy 3: Protected Open Space	Policy 3 identifies three of areas of open space which are valued for the local amenity value and for informal/formal recreational purposes. Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for health and recreation are important to the health and well-being of local communities, as well as the environment of the area, therefore supporting the delivery of both the social and environmental objectives.
Policy 6: Small scale rural exception sites	Policy 6 supports the delivery of affordable housing adjacent to the settlement boundary as an exception when defined criteria are met. The provision of affordable housing to meet local needs will help to deliver the social objective of sustainable development.
Policy 7: Community facilities	Policy 6 identifies six facilities which are considered to have great importance to the local community and seeks to protect them from loss. The policy also supports applications which would sustain or protect existing shops, facilities and services. This will therefore support the social element of sustainable development. The retention/ expansion of facilities within the parish will also reduce the need to travel and support the local economy. The policy therefore supports the delivery of the environmental and economic objectives.

3.6 The environment objective is:

‘to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.’

3.7 Table 4 illustrates the alignment of the HNP with the environmental objective of sustainable development.

Table 4: Environmental alignment

HNP Aim/ Policy	Commentary
Objective 1: Sustainable development and climate change	Seeks to ensure that new development makes a positive and sustainable contribution to social, environmental and/or economic needs, and takes a proactive approach to reducing the Parish’s contribution to climate change and to adapting the Parish to cope with the impacts of climate change. This objective supports all three objectives of sustainable development.
Objective 2: Distinctive environment	Seeks to ensure that development protects and enhances the distinctive natural, built and historic character of the Parish. This includes our landscape, important spaces, biodiversity and heritage assets. This objective primarily supports the environmental objective of sustainable development but also the social element.
Policy 1: Community energy initiatives	This policy supports the delivery of renewable or low carbon energy generation initiatives, particularly those that are led by the local community. This policy therefore supports both the environmental and social elements of sustainable development.
Policy 4: Humshaugh Conservation Area	Policy 4 requires new development within or affecting the setting of the conservation area to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the area. It identifies several key considerations that should be assessed. This policy therefore supports the environmental element of sustainable development. In addition, a rich historic environment is also important to the well-being of local communities, therefore relevant to the social element of sustainable development.
Policy 5: Humshaugh Design Code	Policy 5 defines specific codes to be met by new development to ensure that new development conserves local distinctiveness by demonstrating high quality design. The criteria within the policy seek to ensure that new developments responds positively to character of the area. The policy therefore supports the environmental element of sustainable development.
Policy 9: Sustainable transport	This policy supports development which maximises the use of sustainable modes of transport. It refers to improving sustainable transport choices, providing sufficient car and cycle parking and giving priority to vulnerable road users. This policy therefore supports both the environmental and social elements of sustainable development.

4. Development Plan – strategic policies

4.1 This section considers the extent to which the policies contained within the HNP are in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the neighbourhood area, which are contained within the Northumberland Local Plan (2022 – NLP) and the Northumberland National Park Local Plan (2020 – NNPLP). The strategic policies contained within the NLP and NNPLP are listed in appendix 2. Table 5 sets out how the HNP policies are in general conformity with the relevant strategic development plan policies.

Table 5: General conformity with the strategic policies

HNP Policy	Strategic Development Plan Policy	
	Policy	Comments on conformity
Policy 1: Community energy initiatives	<p>NLP: STP4</p> <p>NNPLP: ST1</p>	<p>Community energy initiatives accords with the provisions of NLP policy STP4 which supports proposals that contribute to meeting targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Similarly this also accords with NNPLP policy ST1 which looks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through improved energy efficiency and making full use of small-scale renewable energy.</p>
Policy 2: Local Green Space	<p>NLP: STP5 STP6 QOP1 ENV1</p>	<p>There are no specific strategic policies within either the NLP or NNPLP regarding local green space. However, they are of great importance to the character and identity of an area and valued for a wide range of issues including visual amenity, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity and richness of wildlife. As a result, their identification accords with several NLP strategic policies, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STP5 (health and wellbeing) – the protection of green spaces will support the mental and physical health and wellbeing of the local community. • STP6 (green infrastructure) – LGS are part of the green infrastructure of the parish and their identification and protection will therefore accord particularly with part 2 of the policy which seeks to protect the GI network. • QOP1 (design principles) – refers to the importance of development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness. LGS are an important part of the character of the area. • ENV1 (natural, historic and built environment) – requires the character and/ or significance of Northumberland’s distinctive and valued natural, historic and built environments to be conserved, protected and enhanced. The assessment of proposed LGS within the parish included consideration of their visual amenity, historic significance and richness of wildlife. <p>The proposed LGS allocations do not lie within NNP.</p>
Policy 3: Protected Open Space	<p>NLP: STP5 STP6 QOP1</p>	<p>There are no specific strategic policies within either the NLP or NNPLP regarding protected open space. However, they are important to the environment of an area and for recreation. As a</p>

HNP Policy	Strategic Development Plan Policy	
	Policy	Comments on conformity
	NLP: ENV1	<p>result, their identification accords with several NLP strategic policies, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STP5 (health and wellbeing) – the protection of open spaces will support the mental and physical health and wellbeing of the local community. • STP6 (green infrastructure) – open spaces are part of the green infrastructure of the parish and their identification and protection will therefore accord particularly with part 2 of the policy which seeks to protect the GI network. • QOP1 (design principles) – refers to the importance of development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness. Open spaces are an important part of the character of the area. • ENV1 (natural, historic and built environment) – requires the character and/ or significance of Northumberland’s distinctive environment to be conserved, protected and enhanced. <p>The proposed open space allocations do not lie within NNP.</p>
Policy 4: Humshaugh Conservation Area	NLP: ENV1	<p>Policy 4, informed by the draft Humshaugh Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Heritage Background Paper, identifies key considerations when assessing the impact of development on the character or appearance of the conservation area and its setting. It also highlights key buildings which are an important part of the significance of the conservation area. NLP policy ENV1 requires appropriate weight to be given to designated heritage assets and their settings, policy 4 therefore accords with this.</p> <p>The conservation area lies outside the NNP.</p>
Policy 5: Humshaugh Design Code	NLP: QOP1 NNPLP: ST2	<p>The NLP highlights the importance of achieving high quality and inclusive design through the planning process. NNPLP policy ST2 requires proposals to be of high quality design that will make a positive contribution to the special qualities of the national park. Reference is also made to the use of appropriate materials and sustainable design and construction. Policy 5 requires new development to embed high quality and sustainable design and includes policy criteria which reflect the qualities of the plan area, this accords with the provisions of NLP strategic policy QOP1 and NNPLP strategic policy ST2.</p>
Policy 6: Small scale rural exception sites	NLP: HOU2 HOU6 NNPLP: ST5	<p>NLP policy HOU2 supports the delivery of housing to meet objectively assessed housing needs and housing priorities that are identified in up to date housing assessment. NLP policy HOU6 supports the delivery of affordable housing and identifies the level of affordable housing that should be delivered on specific sites.</p> <p>NNPLP policy ST5 supports housing development that will contribute towards the creation of sustainable, balanced and inclusive communities.</p>

HNP Policy	Strategic Development Plan Policy	
	Policy	Comments on conformity
		HNP policy 6 supports the delivery of affordable housing on small scale rural exception sites to meet locally identified needs. It includes criteria that would need to be met in order for a proposal to be acceptable. These criteria are considered appropriate in the context of the strategic policies of the development plan.
Policy 7: Community facilities	<p>NLP: STP5</p> <p>NNPLP: ST1</p>	There are no specific strategic policies within the development plan regarding community services and facilities. However, as they are vital to the health and wellbeing of the local community it could be argued that the policy is relevant to NLP policy STP5 and NNPLP policy ST1, to which it accords.
Policy 8: Tourism	<p>NLP: STP1 ECN1</p> <p>NNPLP: ST4</p>	<p>NLP policy STP1 supports the principle of sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments in the open countryside and policy ECN1 also requires relevant development proposals to support and promote tourism and the visitor economy. NNPLP policy ST4 supports tourism development in the open countryside where there is an essential need for the development.</p> <p>HNP policy 8 supports tourism development within the settlement boundary and explains when specific tourism development would be supported in the open countryside. This approach is considered to accord with the strategic policies of the development plan.</p>
Policy 9: Sustainable transport	<p>NNP: TRA1</p> <p>NNPLP: ST1</p>	Policy 9 provides support for development proposals that would maximise the use of sustainable modes of transport and defines criteria to be met, including improving sustainable transport choices, providing an appropriate level of parking, ensuring priority is given to vulnerable road users, and mitigates negative impacts. This approach accords with the provisions of NLP policy TRA1 which promotes sustainable transport choices including supporting, providing and connecting to networks for walking, cycling and public transport. It also accords with NNPLP policy ST1 which supports development that reduces the need to travel and encourages sustainable modes of transport.

5. Legal obligations and prescribed conditions

European Convention on Human Rights

- 5.1 Throughout the preparation of the HNP emphasis has been placed to ensure that no sections of the community have been isolated or excluded. The HNP is fully compliant with the requirements of the European Convention on Human Rights. There is no discrimination stated or implied, nor any threat to the fundamental rights guaranteed under the convention.

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations

- 5.2 European Directive (2001/42/EC) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment is known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive. SEA is required for all plans that may have a significant effect on the environment. European Directive (92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna protects habitats and species of European nature conservation importance. It is a requirement that a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is undertaken in line with the provisions set by the amended Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) to assess the effects of the neighbourhood plan on European Sites.
- 5.3 SEA and HRA screening opinions were undertaken by NCC. The conclusion was that neither HRA or SEA were required. The screening opinions are available on the NCC website.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 This statement, which is required under Regulation 15 of the Town and Country Planning (Neighbourhood Planning) Regulations 2012 has demonstrated that the HNP:
- has regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
 - will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;
 - is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area (the Northumberland Local Plan and Northumberland National Park Local Plan); and
 - does not breach and is compatible with European Union and European Convention on Human Rights obligations, including the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations.
- 6.2 The HNP also complies with the legal requirements set out in Paragraph 8(1) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Appendix 1: Neighbourhood area designation document

Northumberland County Council



Neighbourhood Area Designation Application Decision Document

Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (Regulation 7)

DECISION REGARDING APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION OF HUMSHAUGH PARISH AS A NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA

In accordance with Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (Regulation 7) Northumberland County Council hereby gives notice on the designation of the Civil Parish of Humshaugh as the 'Humshaugh Neighbourhood Area' for the purposes of neighbourhood planning under Section 61G(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended. The designated area is shown on the attached map.

Under Section 61H(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended, the area has not been designated as a business area because it is not wholly or primarily business in nature. The relevant designation information is set out below:

Name of Neighbourhood	Humshaugh
Relevant qualifying body	Humshaugh Parish Council
Decision published	17 March 2022

1. Determination

Is the organisation making the area application under Section 61G of the 1990 Act?	Yes
Is the neighbourhood area considered appropriate?	Yes, whole civil Parish
Does the area overlap another designated area?	No
For joint area applications, have all relevant parish councils given their consent for inclusion of all or part of their area?	N/A
Are any modifications required to this or any adjoining neighbourhood area?	Notify Northumberland National Park Authority as small eastern part of Parish falls within NNPA

2.

a) Parish/Parishes comprising the neighbourhood area: Humshaugh

b) Map of the neighbourhood area: See below



Report: 9 Humshaugh Parish Neighbourhood Plan

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to designate Humshaugh Parish as a Neighbourhood Area for neighbourhood planning purposes.

2. Recommendations

The Authority is recommended to:

- a. Agree to designate Humshaugh Parish as a Neighbourhood Area.

3. Implications

- a. **Financial:** There are no financial implications arising from this report. Northumberland County Council will be lead Authority.
- b. **Equalities:** The introduction of Neighbourhood Planning by the Localism Act 2011 gives local communities strong powers to play a more positive and proactive role in planning for their areas. Neighbourhood Plans are subject to a local referendum providing an incentive for full and genuine engagement with all sectors of the community.
- c. **Link to the Business Plan:** Working with local communities to assist them in developing Neighbourhood Plans is a key action of Aim 4; Contributing to Thriving Communities.
- d. **Climate Action:** The Neighbourhood Plan is likely to contain policies to address climate action in the plan area.

4. Background

- a. The Localism Act of 2011 allows local communities (particularly Parish Councils) to prepare 'Neighbourhood Plans' which, if supported by the wider community in a referendum, become part of the development plan and so have a strong influence on planning decisions in the area. Neighbourhood planning powers are only available to qualifying bodies. Parish Councils automatically apply as qualifying bodies.
- b. Humshaugh Parish Council is the relevant qualifying body for the purposes of Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and therefore qualifies to undertake neighbourhood planning. The Neighbourhood Area designation enables Humshaugh Parish Council to undertake neighbourhood planning and in particular to prepare a neighbourhood development plan for the Civil Parish of Humshaugh.
- c. A small area of the parish falls inside the National Park boundary (Blackcarts and Greencarts farms to the west of the parish), with the majority of the area falling within Northumberland County Council. NCC have not yet designated the Neighbourhood Area but propose to in March 2022.

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5. Humshaugh Area Designation Application

- a. Humshaugh Parish Council have applied to be designated as a Neighbourhood Plan area. In line with Regulation 5 the application includes a map identifying the area and a statement explaining why the area is considered appropriate.
- b. As a significant part of the Humshaugh parish area falls within Northumberland County Council, it has been agreed that Northumberland County Council acts as the Lead Authority to handle the neighbourhood planning in that area.
- c. There is no requirement for the National Park Authority to publicise this designation. However, it is good practise for the details of the designation to be included on the Authority's webpages.

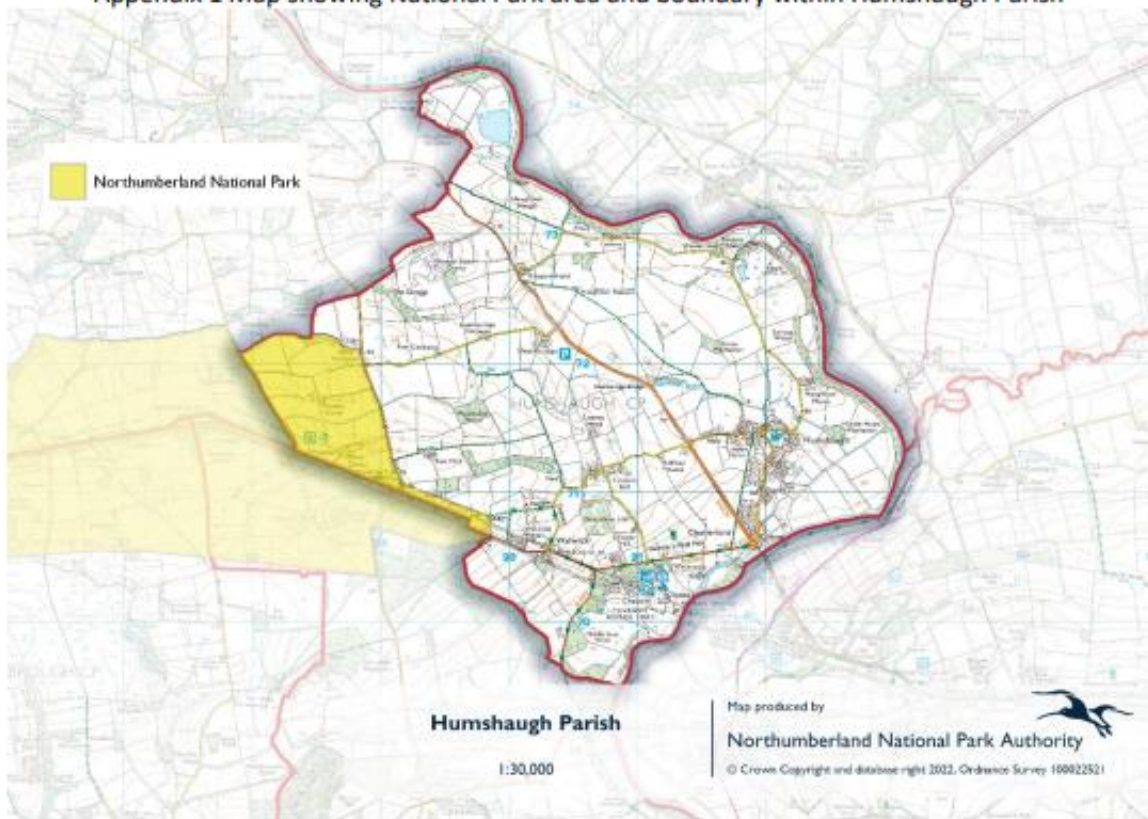
6. Conclusions

- a. There are no practical reasons why the area of Humshaugh Parish could not form the basis of a Neighbourhood Area for neighbourhood planning purposes.
- b. Members are asked to formally agree the designation of Humshaugh Parish as a Neighbourhood area.

Contact Officer: For further information contact: Susannah Buylla, Head of Planning & Policy on Telephone: 01434 611577 or Susannah.Buylla@nnpa.org.uk

Report 9: Humshaugh Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Appendix 1 Map showing National Park area and boundary within Humshaugh Parish



Appendix 2: Development Plan - strategic policies

Northumberland Local Plan:

- Policy STP 1 - Spatial strategy
- Policy STP 2 - Presumption in favour of sustainable development
- Policy STP 3 - Principles of sustainable development
- Policy STP 4 - Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Policy STP 5 - Health and wellbeing
- Policy STP 6 - Green infrastructure
- Policy STP 7 - Strategic approach to the Green Belt
- Policy STP 8 - Development in the Green Belt
- Policy STP 9 - Safeguarded land
- Policy ECN 1 - Planning strategy for the economy
- Policy ECN 2 - Blyth Estuary Strategic Employment Area
- Policy ECN 3 - West Hartford Prestige Employment Area
- Policy ECN 4 - 'Round 2' Enterprise Zones
- Policy ECN 5 - Large-scale windfall employment development
- Policy ECN 6 - General employment land - allocations and safeguarding
- Policy ECN 12 - A strategy for rural economic growth
- Policy ECN 13 - Meeting rural employment needs
- Policy TCS 1 - Hierarchy of centres
- Policy TCS 2 - Defining centres in Main Towns
- Policy TCS 3 - Maintaining and enhancing the role of centres
- Policy HOU 1 - Making the best use of existing buildings
- Policy HOU 2 - Provision of new residential development
- Policy HOU 3 - Housing requirements for neighbourhood areas
- Policy HOU 4 - Housing development site allocations
- Policy HOU 6 - Affordable housing provision
- Policy HOU 11 - Homes for older and vulnerable people
- Policy QOP 1 - Design principles
- Policy TRA 1 - Promoting sustainable connections
- Policy TRA 8 - Ports, harbours and beach launch facilities
- Policy ENV 1 - Impact of development on the natural, historic and built environment
- Policy MIN 1 - Environmental criteria for assessing minerals proposals
- Policy MIN 2 - Criteria for assessing the benefits of minerals proposals
- Policy MIN 3 - Mineral and landfill site restoration, aftercare and after-use
- Policy MIN 4 - Safeguarding mineral resources
- Policy MIN 6 - Safeguarding minerals related infrastructure
- Policy MIN 7 - Aggregate minerals
- Policy MIN 8 - Aggregate mineral site allocations - Sand and gravel
- Policy MIN 9 - Aggregate mineral site allocations - Crushed rock
- Policy MIN 10 - Coal
- Policy MIN 11 - Clays
- Policy MIN 12 - Natural building and roofing stone
- Policy MIN 13 - Conventional and unconventional oil and gas
- Policy MIN 14 - Peat
- Policy WAS 1 - Principles for the location of waste re-use, recycling and recovery facilities
- Policy WAS 3 - Waste disposal

- Policy WAS 4 - Safeguarding waste management facilities
- Policy INF 1 - Delivering development related infrastructure

Northumberland National Park Local Plan:

- Policy ST1 – Sustainable Development
- Policy ST2 – General Development Principles
- Policy ST3 – Major Development
- Policy ST4 – Spatial Strategy
- Policy ST5 – New Housing