

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Application form for the designation of a neighbourhood area

This application must be made by the relevant parish or town council wishing to apply to Northumberland County Council for the designation of a neighbourhood area. The submission of an application to the local planning authority is a requirement under The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 as a pre-requisite to preparing a neighbourhood development plan or order.

A map indicating the boundary of the proposed neighbourhood area must accompany this form.

(Please place X in box to indicate that the proposed neighbourhood area map is included)

X

Please give a brief statement in the space below telling us why the proposed area shown on the map has been chosen as being appropriate for the purpose of neighbourhood planning.

With reference to UK National Government legislation and documentation (specifically the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Localism Act 2011 and the associated National Planning framework published in March 2012 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012) and following discussions with NCC representatives, Hexham Town Council wishes to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan.

The Hexham Town Council therefore seeks formal designation by NCC for the area its authority covers as a neighbourhood area, in accordance with the above Regulations. The precise location and coverage of this area is shown on the map below.

The formulation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Hexham figures prominently in the Town Council's Vision 2020 and Town Plan 2014-15; in the ensuing consultation and survey, 57% of respondents viewed this as a high priority and 29% as a medium priority. There is thus much support for the production of a Hexham Neighbourhood Plan.

Hexham is a small market town with a population of just under 12,000 which is expected to grow in the coming years. The population of the town of Hexham is very diverse, in terms of housing, qualifications and employment. In addition, it serves the people of a much wider area of central Tynedale as a service and leisure centre.

Hexham's role as the service hub for many local parishes will oblige it to engage with the respective parish councils as important consultees in the planning process.

I can confirm that Hexham Town Council is a relevant body for the purpose of neighbourhood planning in accordance with section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Signed

J. Polson

(Chair of Town Council)

Date:

10/12/2014

(Please find additional information overleaf).