Neighbourhood Planning

Neighbourhood planning was introduced through the Localism Act in 2011 and gives communities the opportunity to shape and define how their area should grow and change in the future. In Northumberland, this must be led by parish councils.

What can Neighbourhood Planning do?
This can be used by parish councils to guide and shape development in a defined neighbourhood area.

This includes:
- neighbourhood development plans;
- neighbourhood development orders;
- Community Right to Build orders.

Within a neighbourhood area, parish councils can:
- shape where new homes, shops and offices should be built;
- say what those new buildings should look like;
- grant permission for new buildings that fit with local planning policies for the area.

It is important these plans/orders take into account national planning polices, as well as policies set out in the Northumberland local plan.

Neighbourhood planning should not be used as a way to prevent development, and the council has a statutory role to play in supporting neighbourhood planning. For example, we will:
- support groups involved in neighbourhood planning by providing advice on processes to be followed and advice on current planning policy;
- organise the independent examination of the plan or order;
- organise the referendum.

As part of the Council’s duty to support parish councils involved in, or intending to use neighbourhood planning tools, information on neighbourhood planning is provided on the Council’s website at: [http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Planning/Planning-policy/Neighbourhood.aspx](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Planning/Planning-policy/Neighbourhood.aspx)

Neighbourhood Plan progress in Northumberland

01 April 2012 – 31 March 2013
- **15 January 2013**: Designation of the Civil Parish of Allendale as the Allendale Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Allendale Parish Council;
- **21 January to 15 March 2013**: Allendale Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Consultation under Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.
01 April 2013 – 31 March 2014

- **10 April 2013**: Designation of the Civil Parishes of Alnwick and Denwick (including Denwick Detached) as the Alnwick & Denwick Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Alnwick Town Council (working in partnership with Denwick Parish Council);
- **10 April 2013**: Designation of the Civil Parish of Tarset & Greystead as the Tarset & Greystead Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Tarset & Greystead Parish Council;
- **28 June 2013**: Designation of the Civil Parish of Ponteland as the Ponteland Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Ponteland Town Council;
- **28 June 2013**: Designation of the Civil Parishes of Morpeth, Pegswood, Hebron, Hepscott and Mitford as the Morpeth Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Morpeth Town Council, working in partnership with Pegswood, Hebron, Hepscott and Mitford Parish Councils;
- **18 November 2013**: Designation of the Civil Parish of Stannington as the Stannington Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Stannington Parish Council;
- **04 February 2014**: Designation of the Civil Parish of Cramlington as the Cramlington Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Cramlington Town Council;
- **14 February 2014**: Allendale Neighbourhood Plan formally submitted by Allendale Parish Council under Regulation 15 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;
- **18 February 2014**: Designation of the Civil Parishes of North Sunderland, Beadnell and Bamburgh as the North Northumberland Coastal Area Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is North Sunderland Parish Council (working in partnership with Beadnell and Bamburgh Parish Councils).

01 April 2014 – 31 March 2015

- **16 August to 29 September 2014**: Alnwick & Denwick Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Consultation under Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;
- **30 September 2014**: Designation of the Civil Parish of Longhorsley as the Longhorsley Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Longhorsley Parish Council;
- **17 October to 24 November 2014**: Allendale Neighbourhood Plan publicised by Northumberland County Council under Regulation 16 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 alongside submission of the Neighbourhood Plan to examination under Regulation 17 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;
- **08 December 2014**: Report of Independent Examiner received and published following the Independent Examination of the Allendale Neighbourhood Plan, under Regulation 18 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;
- **14 January to 25 February 2015**: Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Consultation under Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;
- **05 March 2015**: Designation of the Civil Parishes of Rothbury, Cartington, Thropton and Whitton & Tosson as the Mid Coquetdale Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Rothbury Parish Council;
• **13 March to 01 May 2015**: Tarset & Greystead Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Consultation under Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

• **26 March 2015**: Referendum held in relation to Allendale Neighbourhood Plan under The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012. A total of 270 ‘Yes’ votes and 73 ‘No’ votes received, with a turnout of 19.7% of registered electors. Successful Referendum outcome.

**01 April 2015 – 31 March 2016**

• **13 March to 01 May 2015**: Tarset & Greystead Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Consultation under Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

• **22 April 2015**: Designation of the Civil Parish of Hexham as the Hexham Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Hexham Town Council;

• **02 June 2015**: Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan formally submitted by Morpeth Town Council under Regulation 15 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

• **19 June 2015**: Designation of the Civil Parish of Lowick as the Lowick Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Lowick Parish Council;

• **19 June to 03 August 2015**: Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan publicised by Northumberland County Council under Regulation 16 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 alongside submission of the Neighbourhood Plan to examination under Regulation 17 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

• **26 June 2015**: Tarset & Greystead Neighbourhood Plan formally submitted by Tarset & Greystead Parish Council under Regulation 15 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

• **01 July 2015**: Allendale Neighbourhood Plan ‘made’ by Northumberland County Council as Local Planning Authority under the provisions of Regulations 19 and 20 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

• **29 July 2015**: Designation of the Civil Parish of Berwick-upon-Tweed as the Berwick Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Berwick-upon-Tweed Town Council;

• **04 September 2015**: Alnwick & Denwick Neighbourhood Plan formally submitted by Alnwick Town Council under Regulation 15 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

• **22 September 2015**: Designation of the Civil Parish of Belford as the Belford Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Belford Parish Council;

• **29 September 2015**: Report of Independent Examiner received and published following the Independent Examination of the Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan, under Regulation 18 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

• **02 October to 16 November 2015**: Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan publicised by Northumberland County Council under Regulation 16 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 alongside submission of the Neighbourhood Plan to examination under Regulation 17 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;
09 October to 23 November 2015: Alnwick & Denwick Neighbourhood Plan publicised by Northumberland County Council under Regulation 16 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 alongside submission of the Neighbourhood Plan to examination under Regulation 17 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

15 October 2015: Designation of the Civil Parish of Seaton Valley as the Seaton Valley Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Seaton Valley Community Council;

17 November 2015: Designation of the Civil Parish of Acomb as the Acomb Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Acomb Parish Council;

23 November 2015: Designation of the Civil Parish of Wooler as the Wooler Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Wooler Parish Council;

18 December 2015: Report of Independent Examiner received and published following the Independent Examination of the Alnwick & Denwick Neighbourhood Plan, under Regulation 18 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

29 January 2016: Report of Independent Examiner received and published following the Independent Examination of the Tarset & Greystead Neighbourhood Plan, under Regulation 18 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

25 February 2016: Referendum held in relation to Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan under The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012. A total of 4099 ‘Yes’ votes and 283 ‘No’ votes received, with a turnout of 29.5% of registered electors. Successful Referendum outcome;

02 March 2016: Designation of the Civil Parish of Whittington as the Whittington Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Whittington Parish Council;

21 March 2016: Designation of the Civil Parish of Ellington & Linton as the Ellington & Linton Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Ellington & Linton Parish Council;

01 April 2016 – 31 March 2017

25 April 2016: Designation of the Civil Parish of Ellingham as the Ellingham Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Ellingham Parish Council;

03 May 2016: Designation of the Civil Parish of West Bedlington as the West Bedlington Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is West Bedlington Parish Council;

10 May 2016: Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan ‘made’ by Northumberland County Council as Local Planning Authority under the provisions of Regulations 19 and 20 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

17 May 2016: Designation of the Civil Parishes of Chatton, Chillingham and Lilburn as the Tillside Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Tillside Parish Council;

14 June 2016: Designation of the Civil Parishes of Ord, Ancroft, Duddo, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kyloe, Norham and Shoreswood as the Norham and Islandshire Neighbourhood Area. The qualifying body is Ord Parish Council (working in partnership with Ancroft, Duddo, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kyloe, Norham and Shoreswood Parish Councils);
• **01 November to 16 December 2016:** Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Consultation under Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012;

• **20 January 2017:** Tarset & Greystead Parish Council informed Northumberland County Council and Northumberland National Park Authority of the withdrawal of the Tarset & Greystead Neighbourhood Development Plan. As a result the plan will not be proceeding to a referendum and will not be made;

• **17 March 2017:** Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan formally submitted by Ponteland Town Council under Regulation 15 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.