

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation Statement

January 2023

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This consultation statement has been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. Section 15(2) of the regulations, define that a consultation statement must contain:
- Details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan;
 - An explanation of how the persons and bodies were consulted;
 - A summary of the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted; and
 - A description of how those issues and concerns have been considered and where relevant, addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan.
- 1.2 In order to meet the requirements of the Regulations, this consultation statement sets out:
- The background to the preparation of the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan ('the plan');
 - A summary of the publicity, engagement and consultation that has helped to shape and inform preparation of the plan;
 - Details of those consulted about the plan during its preparation and the extent to which efforts were made to ensure the plan was prepared with support and input from the local community; and
 - A description of the changes made to the plan in response to consultation and engagement.
- 1.3 Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council consider that the extent of the engagement meets the obligations set out in the regulations.
- 1.4 This consultation statement is intended to help the independent examiner review the process of the preparation of the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan and make any appropriate recommendations in relation to the plan.

2. Background to the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.1 The Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council, the qualifying body for the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Area. In October 2017 the town council resolved to commence the process of preparing a neighbourhood plan. The neighbourhood area was designated by Northumberland County Council on 7 February 2018.
- 2.2 In March 2018 a steering group was established, and the first meeting of the steering group took place in September 2018. The steering group membership has changed during the development of the plan. Initially it comprised the chair and vice chair of the town council, county councilors for the area, representatives from estate owners (Bernicia), developers (Persimmon/ Arch), employment (Harworth Group), regeneration (Newbiggin Development Trust), and retail (Newbiggin Traders Association) and Newbiggin Community Ventures. This was refined to reflect the scope of the plan and the preparation of the pre-submission plan and submission plan was led by the full town council membership, with input from key stakeholders as required. Throughout the development of the plan, the steering group and then the full town council have met regularly (online during the Covid19 pandemic) to shape the development of the plan.

2.3 Key stages in the preparation of the plan can be summarised as follows:

- October 2017 – Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council agreed to develop a neighbourhood plan¹;
- February 2018 – Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Area designated by Northumberland County Council²;
- March 2018 – steering group membership agreed by the town council³;
- September 2018 – first meeting of the steering group⁴;
- January 2019 – steering group meet to consider engagement options⁵;
- March to April 2019 – initial consultation to seek feedback on the ‘big issues’ for the neighbourhood plan;
- July 2019 – steering group agreed that there was a need for consultancy support⁶;
- February 2020 – invitation to tender for planning consultancy support;
- June 2020 – grant funding obtained and planning consultant appointed to assist with developing the plan;
- June to July 2020 – review of feedback and preparation of draft vision, objectives and themes for planning policies and community actions;
- August 2020 – housing needs assessment commissioned;
- September to October – consultation on the draft vision, objectives, policy areas and themes for community actions;
- October to November 2020 – review of initial feedback, review of housing needs assessment and preparation of early engagement on housing issues/ options;
- December 2020 to January 2021 – consultation on housing issues;
- February 2021 to May 2022 – review of feedback, refining vision and objectives, agreeing scope of the plan, undertaking evidence work including potential housing site and local green space site assessments, engagement with landowners on potential allocations, developing the draft neighbourhood plan, strategic environmental assessment and habitats regulations assessment process;
- May 2022 – pre-submission draft plan agreed by town council;
- June to August 2022 – eight-week consultation on the pre-submission draft plan;
- September to December 2022 – review of feedback and amendments to draft plan and background papers;
- January 2023 – submission draft plan agreed by town council.

¹ <https://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/minutes171018.pdf>

² <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/Planning-and-Building/planning%20policy/Newbiggin-by-the-Sea-Decision-Document.pdf>

³ <https://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/minutes20180321.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/SG-180904.pdf>

⁵ <http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Minutes-150119.pdf>

⁶ <http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Minutes-190730.pdf>

3. Early engagement and awareness raising

The 'big issues' consultation

- 3.1 In order to inform the scope of the plan an initial community consultation took place between March and April 2019. Appendix 1 provides an outline of the engagement which was promoted through:
- the town council website;
 - coverage in the local media⁷;
 - questionnaire distributed to all households which was also available online; and
 - two drop-in sessions.
- 3.2 An engagement document⁸ was also available which provided background to neighbourhood planning and what the 'big issues' for the plan could be – these included the importance of the separation of settlements, protecting wildlife corridors, transport links, regeneration and employment, tourism, and housing growth.
- 3.3 Feedback was received from 109 people, with 61 residents attending the drop in sessions. A full report from the consultation was made available on the town council website in July 2019 (appendix 2). The results informed the preparation of a vision and objectives for the plan as well as the scope of potential planning policies and community actions.

Engagement on vision, objectives, planning policy areas and community action themes

- 3.4 During September and October 2020 consultation took place on a draft vision and objectives for the neighbourhood plan. An approach was proposed for various areas, including the natural environment, built and historic environment, open spaces, economic and tourism development, town centre, community services and facilities, as well as transport and accessibility. The consultation was promoted on the town councils website and a hard copy of the consultation document was sent to all households in the parish (appendix 3). Comments could be made using an online form, by email or in writing.
- 3.5 Responses were received from 70 people. A report from the consultation is available in appendix 4.

Engagement on housing issues

- 3.6 Early engagement on housing issues took place during December 2020 and January 2021. This consultation took place separately from the vision, objectives and plan scope consultation as the results from the housing needs assessment was delayed. The consultation was promoted on the town council website and a hard copy of the consultation document (appendix 5) was sent to all households in the parish and landowners/ developers. Comments could be made using an online form, by email or in writing.
- 3.7 The responses received (41) are included in appendix 6.

⁷ Press releases were issued to the News Post Leader, however this website no longer exists

⁸ <https://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Consultation-background-Paper-FINAL-26-March-2019.pdf>

4. Pre-submission engagement

- 4.1 Consultation on the pre-submission draft plan took place for eight weeks between 27 June and 22 August 2022. Awareness was raised of the consultation in the following ways:
- Consultation bodies, identified by NCC (appendix 7) and other interested parties (appendix 8) were sent a letter (appendix 9);
 - The draft plan, policies maps and all evidence documents were available on the town council website and were promoted via Facebook (appendix 10);
 - Hard copies of the plan and policies maps were available for inspection at the town council offices and available on request to those without internet access;
 - A leaflet was set to all households informing them of the consultation (appendix 11);
 - Comments could be provided online, via a feedback form (appendix 12) or in writing (by email or post).
- 4.2 A drop in event took place on Saturday 23 July 2022, between 10am and 4pm at St Bartholomews Church Centre. Hard copies of the plan and background papers were available to view and a summary of the plan proposals included on display boards (appendix 13). The event was attended by 44 people.
- 4.3 Responses were received from 10 consultees and nine residents. Appendix 14 provides a table of responses and details of how the comments have been taken into account in the submission draft plan. The town council also took the opportunity for the pre-submission plan to be reviewed using the 'health check' technical support package. The comments made as part of the health check process and amendments made as a result are included in appendix 15.
- 4.4 The proposed amendments were discussed and agreed by the town council on 26 October 2022 before the submission draft plan was considered and approved at its meeting on 18 January 2023.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 The submission draft Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan is built upon broad engagement with the community since March 2019 until the end of the consultation period in August 2022. The outcome is a submission plan that reflects both the aspirations of the local community and is in general conformity with both local and national planning policy, meeting the basic conditions.
- 5.2 This consultation statement demonstrates that the consultation and engagement process for the plan has been substantial, effective and proportionate. It has also been extremely effective in shaping a plan that is aimed to benefit both current and future generations of Newbiggin by the Sea.

Appendix 1: Big issues consultation – awareness raising activities (March 2019)

Details on town council website:

<https://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/2019/03/21/help-to-plan-newbiggins-future/>

Help To Plan Newbiggin's Future

21st March 2019 by: Newbiggin.TC Tags: Development, Neighbourhood Planning, Newbiggin, Newbiggin by the Sea Category:

The Town Council is producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Newbiggin by the Sea, which will enable the Community to guide where and how future development happens within the Parish.

A Neighbourhood Development Plan consultation document will be delivered to every household and business within the Newbiggin Parish over the next few days and we look forward to hearing the views of local people and organisations working for the improvement of the town about planning issues.

This initial consultation will run from 21st March to 15th April.

Two community consultation drop-in sessions will be held as follows:

Wednesday 27th March 14.00-19.00 at St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

Saturday 30th March 11.00-15.00 at St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

The drop-in sessions will include a small exhibition and our Officers will be present to help answer questions.

If you require an additional copy for members of your household we have hard copies available to collect from the Town Council office or you can complete via our online survey on the following link:

[Newbiggin Neighbourhood Development Plan Questionnaire](#)

[Consultation background Paper](#)

Extract from News Post Leader Facebook



Questionnaire distributed to all households



Help to Plan Newbiggin's Future

The Town Council is producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Newbiggin, which will enable the Community to guide where and how future development happens in the Parish.

Come along to one of our drop-in events to find out more:

Wednesday 27th March 2pm-7pm at St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

Saturday 30th March 11am -3pm at St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

If you want to send us **your ideas** on what you think are the main issues affecting how Newbiggin should grow and change over the next 10 to 15 years, you can do so:

By email: neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk

By post: Neighbourhood Plan, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea Town Council, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, NE64 6QD

The closing date for all comments is: Monday 15th April.

Further Information

Neighbourhood Plans are planning documents produced by communities to cover their local areas. Once agreed they are used to make decisions on planning applications.

The Newbiggin-by-the-Sea Neighbourhood Plan will cover the whole Parish area (shown as shaded on the map to the right)

For further information, and to access an online version of the questionnaire, go to our website: <http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>



What are the Big Issues?

The Town Council has considered what issues are most important to life in Newbiggin when thinking about new development and changes to the environment. These issues are set out below.



Now we want to hear your views

The Council would like to hear the views of local people and organisations working for the improvement of the town about these issues, and any others people may think important. As a start, you are invited to complete and return this questionnaire.

The name of each individual who completes the questionnaire will be entered into a draw to win a £25 Newbiggin retail voucher

What will we do with your comments?

We will consider how your comments, concerns and suggestions can be used to inform what is included in a draft Plan. This will help us plan for the development that people in the area most want to see happen. To see our Privacy Policy, please go to: <http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/privacy-policy/>

Questionnaire—please complete and return to us.

Name.....

Address.....Newbiggin by the Sea, NE.....

Email.....

Do you support (please circle):

	<i>Strong no</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Strong yes</i>
1. The separation of settlements?	1	2	3	4
2. The creation of a wildlife corridor along the western boundary of the Parish?	1	2	3	4
3. The protection and enhancement of biodiversity habitats?	1	2	3	4
4. Linking wildlife areas throughout the Parish?	1	2	3	4
5. Incorporating sustainable drainage areas into the wildlife corridor?	1	2	3	4
6. Regeneration of the town?	1	2	3	4
7. Improved employment opportunities?	1	2	3	4
8. The provision of start-up units in the town?	1	2	3	4
9. Attracting further visitors and tourists?	1	2	3	4
10. Providing further visitor attractions?	1	2	3	4
11. Events to help commercial sustainability?	1	2	3	4
12. Strengthening pedestrian and cycle routes?	1	2	3	4
13. A new road link from Woodhorn Roundabout?	1	2	3	4
14. Inter-connection with proposed rail link at Woodhorn?	1	2	3	4
15. Measures to help retain working age families?	1	2	3	4
16. Improved choice in modern homes?	1	2	3	4
17. An increase in housing allocations to sustain community?	1	2	3	4
18. Regeneration or replacement of older housing areas?	1	2	3	4

Any other comments (continue on reverse):

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Development Plan



Any additional comments...

A Neighbourhood Plan can...

- Decide where and what type of development should happen within the neighbourhood.
- Promote more development than is set out in the Local Plan.
- Include policies, e.g. design standards, that take precedence over existing policies in the Local Plan for the neighbourhood – provided the Neighbourhood Plan policies do not conflict with the strategic policies in the Local Plan.

A Neighbourhood Plan cannot...

- Conflict with the strategic policies in the Local Plan prepared by the local planning authority.
- Be used to prevent development
- Be prepared by a body other than a parish or town council or a neighbourhood forum

Information available at the drop in sessions



Neighbourhood Planning

The Newbiggin-by-the Sea Neighbourhood Plan will set out the vision, objectives and policies for the sustainable development of the Parish to 2036.



What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

Since 2011 the Government has allowed communities to produce 'Neighbourhood Plans' for their local area. This enables people living and working in an area to guide where and how future development happens. Neighbourhood Plans can help deliver types of development the local people would like to see in their community.

This Plan will be used to make decisions on planning applications, giving it genuine influence on Newbiggin's future.

What will it do?

A Neighbourhood Plan sets out a local spatial vision for an area, that is: what should go where. It defines objectives to show how the vision will be achieved. It provides local land-use policies to guide development and can allocate land for development.

What issues can it cover?

Neighbourhood planning can cover any matter important to the local community such as:

- Employment opportunities
- Housing (e.g. where, what type, what it looks like)
- Town Centre (e.g. expansion, parking)
- Transport (e.g. cycle routes)
- Natural environment (e.g. open spaces)
- Design (e.g. local guidance)

What can't it do?

- Neighbourhood Plans are specifically about local planning policies – only policies in the Plan can be used to make planning decisions.
- It can't prevent development already agreed through higher level plans (Local Plan). It must be generally in conformity with these plans.
- It must promote sustainable development.
- It can't cover strategic planning matters i.e. major infrastructure, minerals



The Big Issues

The Town Council considers the issues set out below to be the most important affecting life in Newbiggin-by-the-Sea:



A clear separation of settlements to enhance the character and distinctiveness of Newbiggin-by-the-Sea



New 'wildlife corridors' to protect natural habitats, incorporating sustainable drainage for the Ashington developments and former Alcan ash lagoons



Regeneration of the town through endorsing employment and providing appropriate infrastructure and start-up units



Improved visitor attractions are needed to sustain visitor growth to contribute to commercial sustainability



Improved pedestrian and cycle routes to public transport and a new road link to the strategic network from Woodhorn Roundabout



Housing growth and improved choice to retain and attract families

Now we want to hear your views

The Council would like to hear the views of local people and organisations working for the improvement of the town about these issues. Please complete and return our questionnaire.

Alternatively, email your comments to: neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk.

Or send by post to: Neighbourhood Plan, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea Town Council, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, NE64 6QD.



Newbiggin-by-the-Sea: Future Projects?

Map showing possible Wildlife Corridor and Woodhorn Roundabout road link

1. Wildlife Corridor

Protecting and enhancing biodiversity habitats and networks remains an important issue.

An opportunity exists to strengthen the separation of settlements by allocating a wildlife corridor along the east side of A189 through from the river Wansbeck estuary north past Queen Elizabeth II Park.

Other links could be made throughout the Parish and advantage taken to incorporate the sustainable drainage for the Ashington developments and the former Alcan ash lagoons visited by hundreds of species of migrating birds.

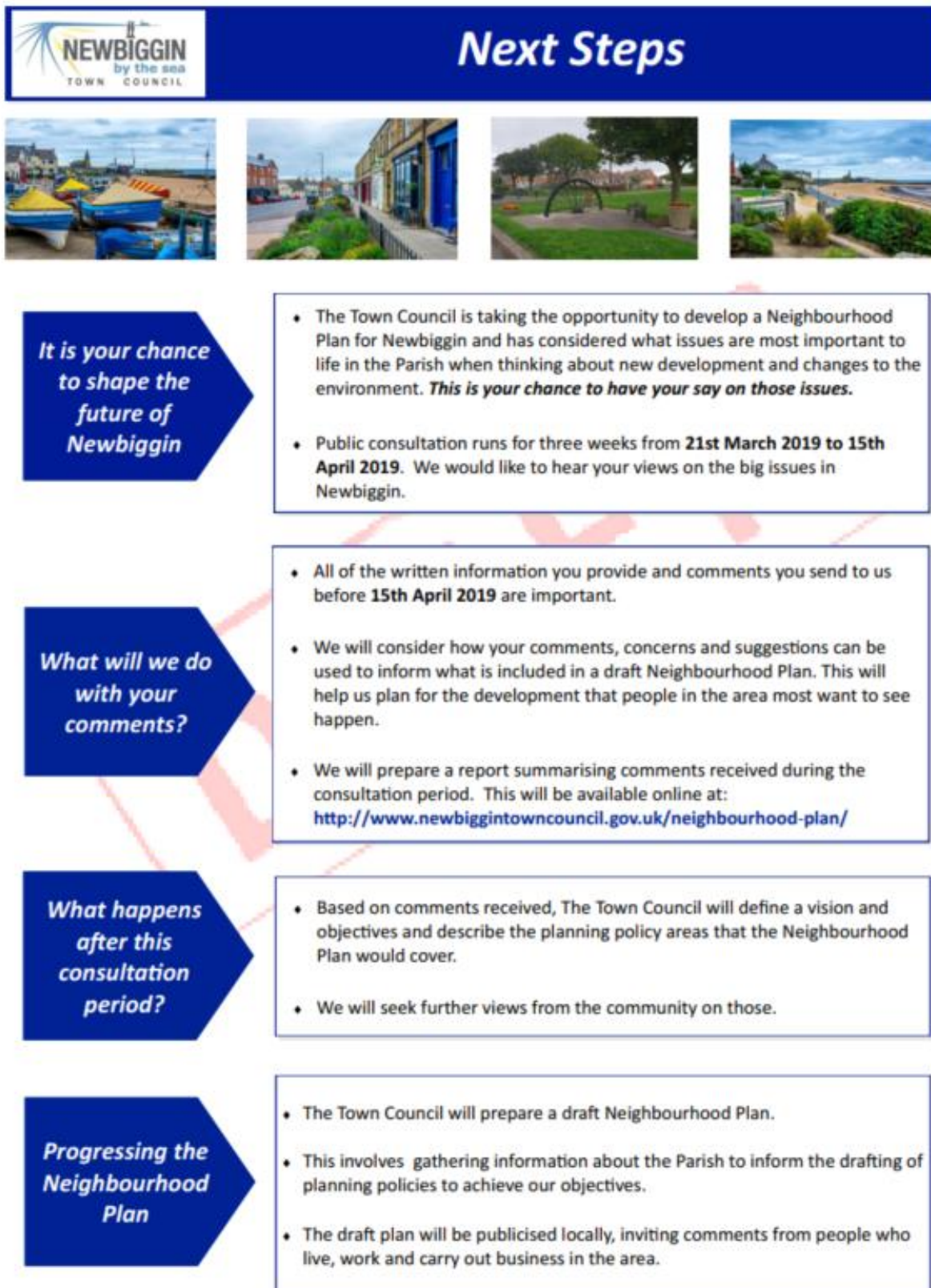


2. Transport Links

The Woodhorn Bridge roundabout provides a strategic link to Tyneside (A189), the A1 via the by-passes and coastal routes to the north of the county. It is a long term proposal of Northumberland County Council, to construct a new direct road link from the Woodhorn Roundabout to the B1334 at Front Street.

It involves construction of a new single carriageway road along the line of the former Ashington to Newbiggin by the Sea railway. The new road would remove a proportion of traffic from the existing A197 and B1334 approaches to the town and improve the environment for frontage properties as well as creating a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists.





Appendix 2: Feedback from big issues consultation

<https://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Consultation-report-190729.pdf>



Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan
Engagement Report 1

29th July 2019

Introduction

As part of the process for bringing forward the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan, a public engagement exercise on the key issues for the area was undertaken between 21 March and 15 April 2019.

The engagement was promoted through:

- Town Council website
- Coverage in local media
- Questionnaire distributed to all households in the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan area
- Drop-in sessions within Newbiggin by the Sea
- Hardcopy and online questionnaires available

Consultation drop-in sessions were held on the following dates:

Wednesday 27th March 2pm-7pm at St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

Saturday 30th March 11am -3pm at St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

Around 61 residents attended the drop-in sessions. The drop-in sessions consisted of information engagement boards, including;

- Information on Neighbourhood Development Plans,
- a plan of the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Area,
- the 'Big Issues' as identified and agreed by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group,
- Potential future projects as identified by the Steering Group, and
- Information on the 'next steps' subsequent to this engagement process.

The events were staffed by the Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and in part by a Northumberland County Council Planning Officer.

Verbal representations made at the drop-in session included concerns that there was not enough information and that residents did not understand what they were being asked.

At the close of the engagement period a total of 112 responses had been received via the online survey and hardcopy questionnaires. 3 responses were not included as they did not contain significant information to identify them as being from residents of the parish. The analysis of responses was based on 109 received.

The overwhelmingly positive nature of the responses, particularly the areas encompassing regeneration and environmental matter, provides a strong springboard to develop the details of the plan.

Respondents were asked whether they would support key issues relevant to the 'Big Issues'

1. A clear separation of settlements to enhance the character and distinctiveness of Newbiggin,
2. New 'wildlife Corridors' to protect natural habitats, incorporating sustainable drainage for the Ashington developments and former Alcan ash lagoons.
3. Regeneration of the town through endorsing employment and providing appropriate infrastructure and start-up units.

4. Improved visitor attractions are needed to sustain visitor growth to contribute to commercial sustainability.
5. Improved pedestrian and cycle routes to public transport and a new road link to the strategic network from Woodhorn Roundabout.
6. Housing Growth and improved choice to retain and attract families.

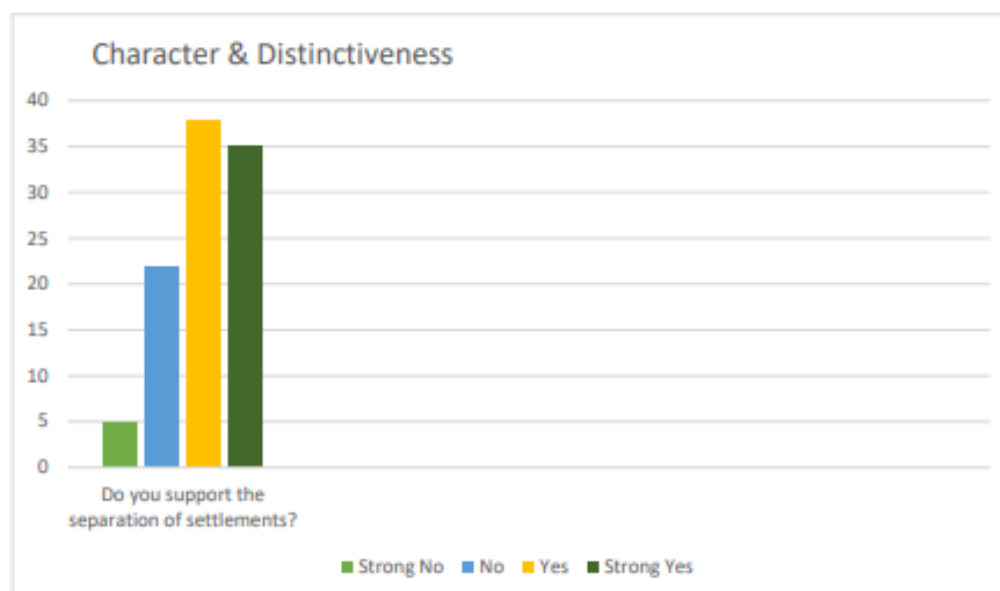
The questions focused on whether elements of the 'Big Issues' were supported and could be considered in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

The responses from the questionnaires have been analysed with the findings set out below under each of the relevant themes.

The Big Issues

Character & Distinctiveness

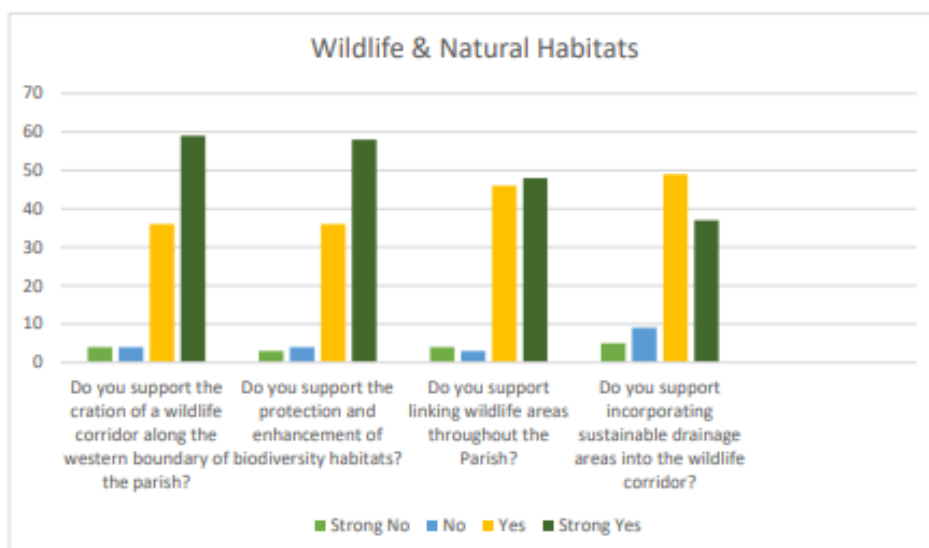
Responses can be found summarised in the chart and table below.



Number of responses

- Of 100 respondents who answered this question, **73% supported/strongly the separation of settlements**. A further 27% did not support/strongly.

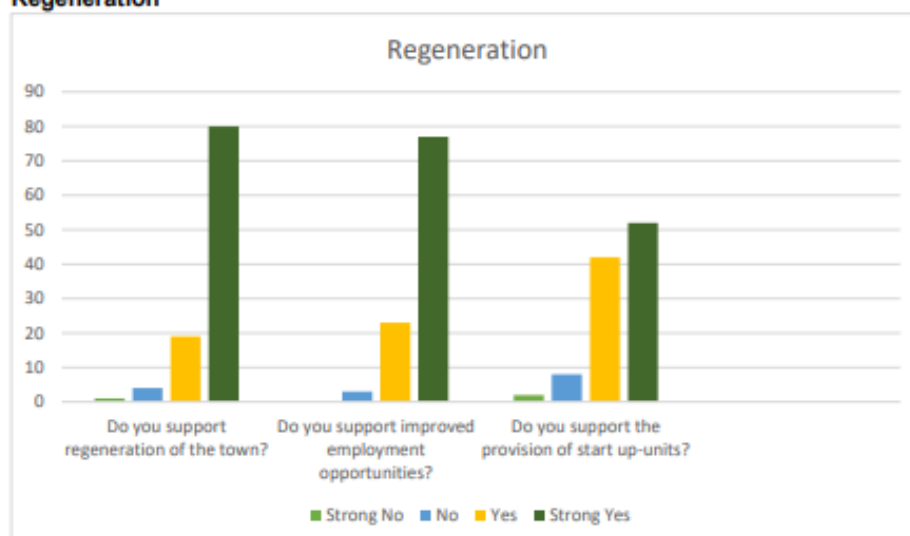
Wildlife & Natural Habitats



Number of responses

- Of 103 respondents, **92% supported/strongly the creation of a wildlife corridor along the Western boundary of the Parish.** A further 8% did not support/strongly.
- Of 101 respondents, **93% supported/strongly the protection and enhancement of biodiversity habitats.** A further 7% did not support/strongly.
- Of 101 respondents, **93% supported the linking of wildlife areas throughout the Parish.** A further 7% did not support/strongly.
- Of 101 respondents, **86% supported incorporating sustainable drainage areas into the wildlife corridor.** A further 14% did not support/strongly.

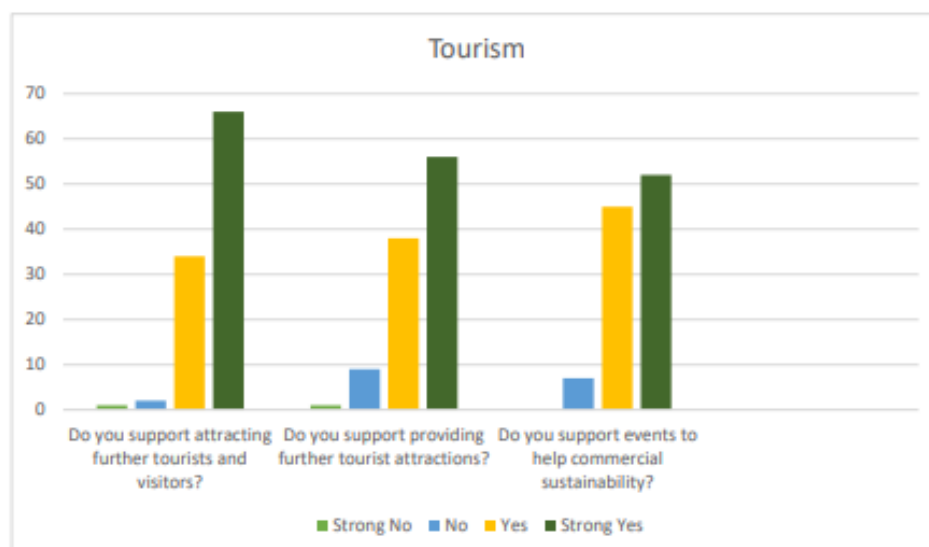
Regeneration



Number of responses

- Of 104 respondents, **95% supported/strongly regeneration of the town.** A further 5% did not support/strongly.
- Of 103 respondents, **97% supported/strongly improved employment opportunities.** A further 3% did not support/strongly.
- Of 104 respondents, **90% supported provision of start-up units.** A further 10% did not support/strongly.

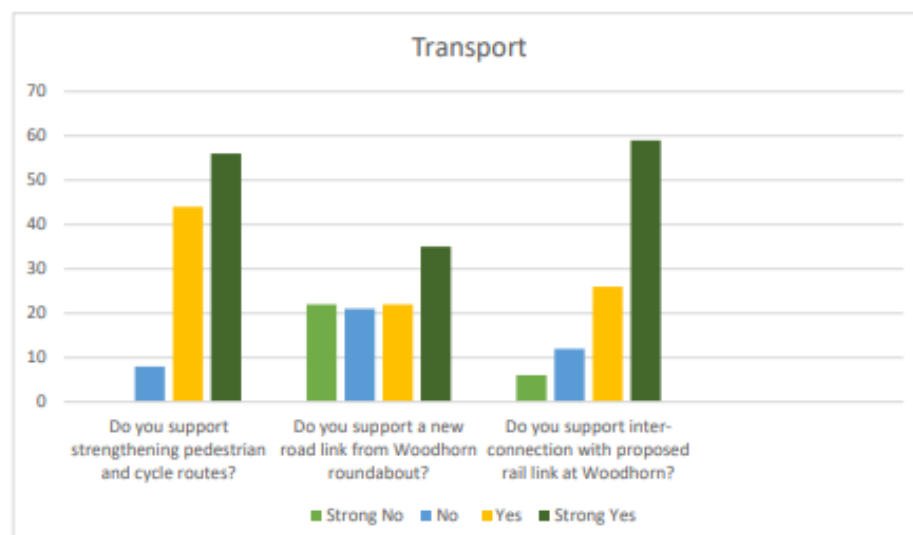
Tourism



Number of responses

- Of 103 respondents, **97% supported/strongly attracting further tourist and visitors**. A further 3% did not support/strongly.
- Of 104 respondents, **90% supported/strongly providing further tourist attractions**. A further 10% did not support/strongly.
- Of 104 respondents, **93% supported events to help commercial sustainability**. A further 7% did not support/strongly.

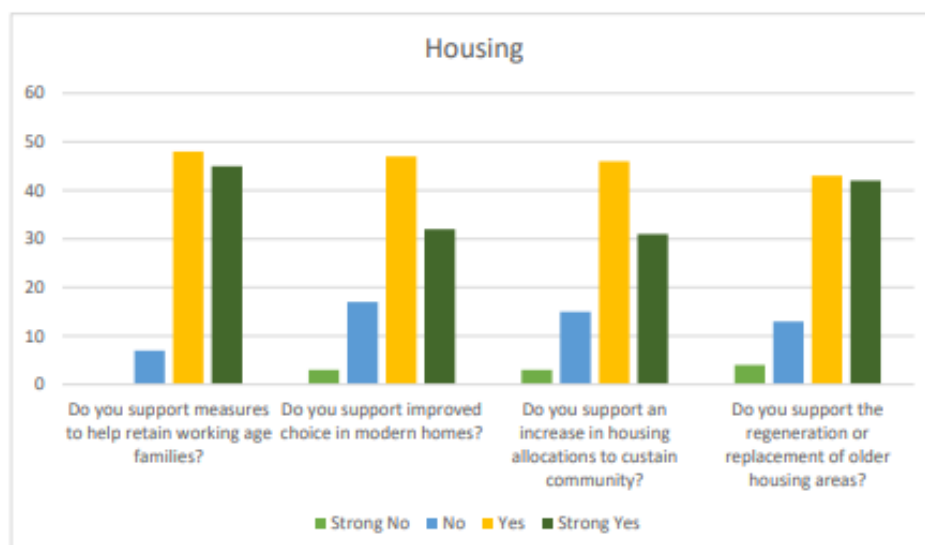
Transport



Number of responses

- Of 108 respondents, **93% supported/strongly strengthening pedestrian and cycle routes**. A further 7% did not support/strongly.
- Of 100 respondents, **57% supported/strongly a new link road from Woodhorn roundabout**. A further 43% did not support/strongly.
- Of 103 respondents, **83% supported inter-connection with the proposed rail link at Woodhorn**. A further 17% did not support/strongly.

Housing



Number of responses

Of 100 respondents, **93% supported/strongly** measures to help retain working age families. A further 7% did not support/strongly.

Of 99 respondents, **80% supported/strongly** improved choice in modern homes. A further 20% did not support/strongly.

Of 95 respondents, **81% supported** an increase of housing allocations to sustain community. A further 19% did not support/strongly.

Of 102 respondents, **83% supported** the regeneration or replacement of older housing areas. A further 17% did not support/strongly

Appendix 1. – Responses by number

Although 109 responses were received, some omitted to answer certain questions.

The below table shows the number of answers to each question and this is translated into percentages.

	Strong No		No		Yes		Strong Yes	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Separation of Settlements	5	5	22	22	38	38	35	35
Wildlife corridor – west boundary	4	3.88	4	3.88	36	34.95	59	57.28
Protect & enhance biodiversity habitats	3	2.97	4	3.96	36	35.64	58	57.43
Linking wildlife areas	4	3.96	3	2.97	46	45.54	48	47.52
Incorporate Sustainable drainage into corridor	5	5	9	9	49	49	37	37
Support regeneration	1	0.96	4	3.85	19	18.27	80	76.92
Improved employment opportunities	0	0	3	2.91	23	22.33	77	74.76
Start-up units in town	2	1.92	8	7.69	42	40.38	52	50
Attract tourists & visitors	1	0.97	2	1.94	34	33.01	66	64.08
Further tourist attractions	1	0.96	9	8.65	38	36.54	56	53.85
Events for future sustainability	0	0	7	6.73	45	43.27	52	50
Strengthen pedestrians	0	0	8	7.41	44	40.74	56	51.85

& cycle routes								
New Link Road – Woodhorn Bridge	22	22	21	21	22	22	35	35
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Inter-connection with Rail Link	6	5.83	12	11.65	26	25.24	59	57.28
Measures to retain working age families	0	0	7	7	48	48	45	45
Improved choice in modern homes	3	3.03	17	17.17	47	47.47	32	32.32
Increase in housing allocation to sustain community	3	3.16	15	15.79	46	48.42	31	32.63
Regeneration or replacement of older housing	4	3.92	13	12.75	43	42.16	42	41.18

Appendix 2. Comments received

In addition to the survey questions in the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire, the Steering Group sought 'any additional comments' of local residents in Neighbourhood Plan Area.

The table below includes the comments of local residents as taken from original submissions and the text is not altered. Some comments are duplicated as more than one resident of a household responded on the same form.

A large number of the 'any additional comments' were not relevant to neighbourhood planning and cannot be taken into account in this process. Any further consultations will be modified to a format to ensure relevancy of comments in relation to Neighbourhood Planning.

<p>I am a native of Newbiggin by the Sea and love the place. I have very fond memories of my childhood here, particularly the many hours I spent on the Beach. I was very lucky because my Grandad worked in the Middle Shelter, hiring out tents and deckchairs to the scores of visitors who came every week. Consequently, I spent many happy hours with him on the beach. Our new beach, unfortunately, is not as nice as the old one, although the forces of nature are slowly improving it. The Old Beach was flat so that the tide came up to the Promenade, kept the sand clean and stopped it blowing around so much. I am grateful to the Councillors, together with DEFRA, who enabled the construction of the Breakwater and replenishment of the Beach which has been successful in preventing erosion, but I think it is time to improve what is now our main asset for the families of the Town and our many visitors. My suggestions for improvements are: 1. Re-profile the beach. 2. Attract more sailing activity and possibly have some kind of Marina. 3. If we attract more visitors we will certainly need more adequate Town Centre Parking. The current system is a disgrace and I cannot understand how it got passed by Health and Safety. 4 when I was a student, I worked for Newbiggin Council as a road sweeper when Roy, Stan and Ozzie were on holiday. We cleaned every nook and cranny in Newbiggin, which unfortunately, is not the case today. We need three people with brushes and a wheelbarrow keeping the place tidy. 5 Most seaside towns have banners and flags to give them a seaside atmosphere. This would be nice along the Promenade and on the Quay Wall. 6. We could have some nice picnic areas around the existing tables on the Church Point. 7 We need the Church Point toilets refurbished as planned, which was voted down by some short-sighted Councillors. 8. We could try harder to be wheelchair friendly. I didn't realise how difficult it is to navigate the Town by wheelchair until I accompanied a good friend of mine in his wheelchair. The Lifeboat ramp is a good example of this.</p> <p>I have filled in the questionnaire but would like to add the following: Regarding the town centre, last year one of my favourite things was the lavender planted on the Main Street in front of the shops (Wool shop, Ink Spot, etc). My kids were happy watching the bees collect pollen and we spotted butterflies too. In addition, the scent was lovely. In order to promote biodiversity, it would be great to see more bee/butterfly friendly planting in the town. If this could include a sensory aspect, it would enhance and promote well being in the population. Herbs such as thyme and rosemary look nice and smell great - and provide greenery in winter. Echinacea provides height and colour, as well as alliums. Furthermore, Blyth has wildflower planting on council owned grass areas. The strip of grass on central parkway between the footpath and road is ripe for this kind of planting and would help wildlife. It would also provide a boundary for kids walking to school. While the planting beds on Gibson street look good, surely the cost of changing out plants is more than planting perennials and maintaining them? With a bit of thought, we could have permanent beds that provide year long colour. I would also like to see the planting of more</p>

trees in public spaces. Trees promote biodiversity and also help reduce flooding. I would like to see the Cleveland Avenue school site developed properly into car parking. The car park is convenient for the GP surgery, shop and residents but it looks like an eyesore. It needs surfaced properly. Raised beds could be used to add colour and a pleasant aesthetic while serving the function of separating areas of the car park. As only half the Cleveland School site is currently used for car parking at most, maybe some of the land near the Boxing Club could be used for a small green area with seating and planting? A dedicated sensory garden would be great and this space could be used for that. Further to my previous email, I have another request for consideration. Additional allotments. The current allotments have waiting lists however, when plots become available, they are often offered to current plot holders before being offered to those on waiting lists meaning that a minority of people hold more than one plot and waiting lists remain stagnant. Bear with me while I explain why we need more allotments. As someone who has diagnosed anxiety and depression, I often read literature surrounding the subject. A book by Johann Hari called "Lost Connections" has examined the research into mental health and has linked being involved in nature with greater mental health outcomes (there are other factors, but as a town council, this would be a good first step to be proactive in protecting residents' mental health). Bearing in mind that we are seeing a surge in mental health problems in young and old, we need the environments we live in to help promote wellbeing, which in turn promotes pride in our local area. Greater greenery in town would go a little way to helping, however, more allotments and, as part of this, a community garden in this, would be a wonderful project for all ages to promote getting back to nature. In terms of young people, it could run projects showing them various aspects of caring for the environment and wildlife, as well as encouraging them to grow their own fruit and veg. As children benefit from interaction with a wide range of ages, we could use this to get the older members of the community involved too. Anything grown in the garden could be used/sold for the benefit of the town/community. (Another point Hari makes in his book is that we have lost our sense of community so projects like this - as trialled in London by a psychiatrist looking to reduce severe depression - will help foster a sense of community and enhance well-being).

We need to think about the architecture involved in housing/commercial developments. The very modern architecture on the Windsor school site is NOT in keeping with the rest of the town and actually is jarring in it's juxtaposition with more traditional housing. The Maritime Centre has the same affect. I have no issue with new development but would prefer a more sympathetic approach rather than ultra modern buildings. With new techniques in artificial stone cladding, we could retain the village charm rather than trying to be something we're not. The vintage style signage on the shops is great but the new council offices/flats are too modern to provide an overall aesthetic of small town charm. You need to decide not only on what to provide but how it will look. A mish mash of styles not only looks disjointed but makes Newbiggin look like every other cookie cutter town. Keeping a traditional look to the town doesn't mean we aren't moving forward but does mean we offer something different for visitors as we won't look like every other town out there.

I received the neighbourhood plan leaflet through the post this morning. I've had a good read through it and thought that I would make a few suggestion on the ideas outlined. The separation of settlements scheme is a bad idea. It creates a 'them and us' mentality. We live in a globally integrated society and segregation only causes more division in society. Newbiggin has got a unique seaside atmosphere, but segregation of settlements is a negative step. Newbiggin by the Sea desperately needs the proposed marina scheme to go ahead. It would bring many visitors to Newbiggin to moor their yachts and pleasure cruisers, as well as people with sport fishing boats. These people would be spending money in local shops, pubs and restaurants, thus giving the local economy a major boost. This would also create employment opportunities for local people. Pods could be erected on the old tennis courts, next to the bowling green, similar to the ones at Amble. These could support small start up businesses, also encouraging more people to visit our town.

<p>This would also create more employment opportunities. We could also do with a nice landscaped park with trees, flower gardens, a duck pond and a café. This would give visitors somewhere to go when it's too windy on the sea front. This would also provide a great venue for local outdoor events. Newbiggin was a mining community and of course the mining heritage needs to be commemorated. However, the colliery closed in the 1960s and it isn't coming back. We need to look to the future with regard to employment opportunities. There should be a patch of waste land allocated to build a business park. This could then be pitched to companies to set up businesses such as manufacturing, providing some much needed stable employment for local people. The proposed reopening of the trainline from Ashington to Newcastle has the potential to bring people to our town. There needs to be a quick and easy transport link to get these people to Newbiggin. I hope that these suggestions give a useful insight in to what Newbiggin by the Sea needs for it to thrive in the 21st century.</p>
<p>To enable all the previous items to be implemented capital investment is required - we need to sell ourselves to the corporate world. I would like to see a small residential hotel in place i.e. on the piece of waste ground just off Woodhorn Lane. Also the Bay lends itself to a small marina as many small yachts sail by the Bay and the only marina along this coast is at Amble as far as I know. I could think of one person who would be able to achieve funding, she has a great deal of experience and is a Newbiggin resident. Also some of the black spots need to be dealt with i.e. the front of the Bank House.</p>
<p>Heard a rumour that there is to be a marina. Think this is a marvellous idea and will be very good for Newbiggin (look what it did for Amble). Hope railway will be extended into Newbiggin. Impressed with progress so far but realise lots more to be done. Unsure what a 'start up' unit is.</p>
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<p>Important New generation of housing including bungalows Small units for small and start up businesses CCTV on parks, prom and bertis square. Tackle dog poo and sand problem on prom. West end old tennis courts etc. to be made park/seats/bandstand/BQ areas</p>
<p>To build houses on old Colliery land (school) which is an eyesore to see.</p>
<p>The proposal for a new link road seems likely to create more problems than it solves. Traffic using central parkway already treats it like a race track. An extension to link it to Woodhorn roundabout would create a fast 'through road' directly between the busy school and the green space play park. It would increase hazards when attempting to cross that road where it joins Gibson Street.</p>
<p>Many of these statements are far too vague for me to agree or disagree with - yes attract more tourists, no if this involves amusement arcades. Yes to more employment opportunities, no if this involves heavy industry. The idea of a link road past Grace Darling school is a terrible one. We already have a problem with people driving across the football fields, will this increase immensely if there is actually a road there! People will also be running over the wildlife from your new wildlife corridor.</p>
<p>Dog fouling - better waste bins Beach - tidy off steps Toilets for public opened longer hours in the summer</p>
<p>Who is going to pay for all this? Please don't say council tax payers, we are already paying more than any other areas. I'm all for moving forward and to promote Newbiggin, lots of good things and events make our village a place you must visit. I will always give my best for Newbiggin.</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the proposed new road, as a regular user of the existing pavement route I have seen a large diversity of wildlife including deer, lizards, bird of prey and insects; I believe these will disappear if the new road goes ahead. Also the increased</p>

danger around the park area and school will far outweigh the apparent 'benefits' of a new totally unnecessary road.
I have given a strong yes to all these aims. I believe this will help the parish. Which will be short, medium and long terms aims? i.e. which can be done quickly at minimum cost promoting activities and clubs within the parish i.e. pushing the council (Northumberland) to put money into cleaning up the Sports and Community Centre.
We think it would be fantastic if there were some access to the sand and beaches for disabled people with their wheelchairs and mobility scooters instead of just going along the prom all the time. Also it would be great if there were more wardens around to stop cars from parking on the pavement as it stops us disabled people from getting past as they nearly always block the pavement particularly at Spittal. Also there should be more done about litter, dog fouling and also fly tipping as at the top end near the moor the rubbish dumped is disgusting.
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As a town councillor I am very concerned that this consultation was not brought to the town council as the lead body for approval prior to publications and distribution. Delegated powers were given to officers to 'progress' the consultation but as far as I am aware not to 'execute' it. The first sight I had of this document was when it was delivered to my door along with those of my neighbours. Observations I would have made had I had sight of the document prior to publication are now necessarily being made as a resident rather than as a member of the lead corporate body. The questions posed are too imprecise to elicit meaningful responses. Few would be against regeneration, the real questions is what form should it take, develop as a tourist destination, a business centre, industrial centre or heritage attraction and how can this be facilitated via the NP? What kind of housing to residents need, where should it be built, what size of development is appropriate and should it fit in with the existing character of the town? Apart from the questions surrounding the wildlife corridor no information is being gathered about our other open spaces - playing fields community spaces, amenity green spaces, outdoor sports facilities, how important these are to residents or how they could be protected. Other than footpaths and cycle routes there are no questions about recreation and leisure spaces. Conservation and heritage issues have not been considered. Should the significant buildings and frontages mentioned in the current conservation statement be protected? Do we need a Local List? The Colliery War Memorial is a listed monument but is not included in the listings map. There is no 'neutral' box in the feedback so residents have to choose to for or against every question. I have answered very few questions simply because there is insufficient information on which to base a decision. Some questions for example Q18 ask the respondent to agree or disagree with opposing courses of action - to regeneration or replace older housing areas. There is a very heavy emphasis on some areas of relevance to a NP for example wildlife conservation and little or non to other relevant areas such as conservation of the built environment, heritage, other green spaces and recreation.

General observations... 1. Focus should be upon improvement rather than on development. Should try to repair and maintain what we already have rather than development for developments' sake. Sadly development isn't always the same as improvement. 2. I find the format of the questionnaire very frustrating. Firstly, because there is no option for a neutral stance upon proposed developments. I am expected to have a defined opinion on each proposal, when for some a don't have a strong view either way. Secondly, there are many statements which, in themselves, one could hardly disagree with improved employment opportunities. However, without knowing exactly what the employment might be it would be wrong to give carte blanche to any development. A labour intensive incinerator on the moor? I think not. 3. Any proposal should address the short term immediate and specific, realistic needs of those visitors to Newbiggin who come for recreational/tourist reasons. They are often different to the needs of the residents of the town. Residents want to see a clean, safe, pleasant environment throughout the year and not one that appears neglected for long periods of time only to be addressed at the start of the summer months. 4. Environmental quality is important for everyone resident or visitor. This is where the focus upon repair and maintaining what we already have is so important. The tourist focus of the beach and the promenade, as it is for recreational use of residents. Litter collection, removal of dog dirt and clearance of weeds must be done regularly and efficiently. We have to face facts that there will always be a minority who drop litter and allow their dogs to foul the footpaths and verges. (We were told at the public consultation event that the costs for a dog warden for one day per week would be £8,000 per year! I suspect there would be uproar in the wider community if that figure was widely disclosed, not least a queue of people applying for a such a relatively lucrative position. Such a position will not address the issue, not the least on the 6 days, 16 hours per week when said person was not at work. Ensure that litter and waste clearance is explicitly written into the job descriptions of all relevant operatives, plus more regular schedule for emptying and cleaning bins, particularly along the promenade. Having stinking bins positioned next to seating for visitors and residents to use was not the cleverest idea! 5. As a regular dog walker myself I note with frustration the fact that there appears to be a totally random distribution of rubbish bags throughout the town. Some areas have no bins, whilst others seem to have an embarrassment of riches. There are 10 bins within the 30 metres of The Coble! 6. The document refers to Big Issues, one being the distinctiveness of Newbiggin, The seafront and possibly Front Street can be regarded as distinctive. If you live up The Moor or in the Spittal Estate then, in fairness, you could be on any other estate in many other settlements within Wansbeck. It would be naive to claim that there was a distinctive character to the entire settlement. 7. There seems to be conflicting underlying themes which run through the document and the questionnaire. Does Newbiggin want to be promoted as a small village - like community, a centre for tourism with unique character or promoted as a vibrant town with a focus upon commercial employment growth? Traditional retail is in decline throughout the country and this is not solely a Newbiggin problem. Newbiggin needs to cut its cloth accordingly and not try to be what it cannot be without a level of financial investment which is totally unrealistic. Q 1-5: An aerial view of Newbiggin and the surrounding environment would show a significant amount of existing open space, encompassing a variety of biodiversity habitats. Further planting of appropriate vegetation is to be encouraged. However, it will need to be maintained and not left as many existing parts are, to be gathering grounds for litter and fly tipping. Note the planted area adjacent to Spittal Burn by the sewage works and the open space adjacent to East Lea which have been traps for rubbish and only cleared on a regular basis by volunteer litter pickers. The other green approach via the 'narrow path' has real potential for further planting, but has virtually never been maintained by the Council. (This spring the area did get a verge cutting and council litter pick...the first in a great many years.) As stated in the outset, focus on repair and maintenance. Q 6-8 In principle these seem laudable aspirations, but they need to be appropriate for the needs of both residents and tourists. Poorly thought out schemes are invariably end as white elephants, causing further frustrations. An example of this is the long term vacant retail

units adjoining the Town Council Offices. Realistically, Newbiggin is a dormitory settlement, with good existing communication links to existing employment centres within the wider region. Q 9-10 As stated previously, the principal attractions relate to the promenade, beach and areas immediately adjoining. These must be maintained to the best standards throughout the year. Litter Bins need to be emptied and cleaned on a regular basis, particularly after busy weekend/Bank holiday periods. The promenade wave splash needs regular weeding throughout the growing season, likewise mowing the grassy banks and the south end of the promenade and adjacent two ramps. Litter and weeds need to be the ongoing focus of council workers, rather than sweeping and shovelling sand, which only returns the next time we have wind off the sea. What a pointless exercise, particularly when there are litter issues ongoing throughout the town. British coastal tourism is heavily weather dependant, a factor out of all of our hands, so visitor numbers can fluctuate widely day by day throughout the busy season. A clean, welcoming environment, with clean and accessible toilets will go a long way. It is outside the scope of this plan, but a post office would have a massive positive impact on both tourist and residents alike. Q13 - Absolutely no need and at prohibitive cost, both financial and environmental. Short term queuing at peak time at the North Seaton exit to the village cannot justify the cost of a new road link. If there is an issue with congestion at this point then reconfigure the lanes on the roundabout for a lip lane running out of Newbiggin. The proposed road link would adversely affect the existing wildlife corridor along the narrow path, bring additional speeding traffic passed the school and park areas where lots of young children play unaccompanied. It will also encourage ribbon development, thus contradicting the aspiration to retain a clear separation of settlements. Q16-18 Unclear what the focus here is meant to be. Building for what purpose? Is there a waiting list for property of any type: is there a shortage of a certain type. Greenfield or brownfield development. Major development will increase risk of the settlement merging with Ashington. The old Moorside School site has remained vacant for a considerable period and is not a sightly approach in its present state.

Q1 - Keep green area around Newbiggin and don't build another road through it. Q4 - At the expense of what - is wildlife bothered? Q5 - Doesn't some wildlife like wet areas? Q7 - Improved employment opportunities - Newbiggin is really only a large village and it will never be a great hub of employment. Most people commute to work and we have many larger towns within a short distance. Newbiggin needs to be a pleasant place to live and commute to work in SE Northumberland/Newcastle. Q8 - Use the empty shops in the town council building. Q 10 - Providing future visitor attractions: - Again Newbiggin is quite small and already has the natural attraction of the sea. We cannot afford to build or maintain a large scale attraction that would not fit in anyway. We need to make the most of the assets we have by keeping them clean and tidy - particularly the promenade. Newbiggin needs to be a beautiful place to visit and a great place to live because this is what provides prosperity for the retail outlets which are our main source of employment and which in turn keep Newbiggin looking prosperous and attractive to residents and visitors alike. Q 12 - by not building a road near the narrow path Q13 - A new link road from Woodhorn roundabout: ABSOLUTELY NOT. a) cutting through our green space & spoiling the narrow path which is our best and safest walking/cycling route, b) passing the school and the doctors surgery, c) making the junction by memorial park much busier and more dangerous, d) making future development in the green area much more likely in the future. We need a feeder lane to Newcastle on the North Seaton roundabout, or lights for rush hour in the morning - at most times of the day it is not particularly congested. Q14 - Not at the expense of green space. Q15 - Such as?? Q16 - Build on Moorside School NOW! Q17 - Don't understand the question. We don't need lots of new development - apart from building homes on the Moorside site which is an eyesore - we need to concentrate our resources on properly maintaining what we already have. Someone said we are spending £8,000 a year of a one-day a week dog warden - a total waste. We need to employ someone to keep the place clean and weed free. The County Council van that goes along the prom does very little, they waste lots of time sweeping sand.

I would like to see the area where the old tennis courts are used as a leisure tourist areas. Cae - doggy friendly with little pods for local artists and crafts people to use as workshops and shops. I believe this will encourage people and tourists to walk & use the whole length of the prom, where as at the moment they only walk half way along the prom, as there is nothing further along. I believe the views back across the bay from this point are the best Newbiggin has to offer & should be celebrated to encourage more people to visit and work in the town.
I don't think the road from Woodhorn roundabout is needed, at the moment the road needs traffic calming. Not sure what other attractions you mean but I think people will come if the beach and prom are kept clean and tidy. Please not more mention of the Cresswell Arms toilets. Maybe look at making East Sea Sands more accessible to people.
Q6 Encouraging local shops to be used by locals, 'use it or lose it' flyers through all doors reminded. Toilets at car park to me open, may encourage bus trips etc. Q9 I believe 'cobles' used to do trips out of the bay for public years ago, probably not possible now but would be a great attraction. Cross collaboration with other councils: given the advancement of Amble and all of the improvements there surely it wouldn't hurt to liaise with Amble council to see if any of their initiatives can be transferred to Newbiggin.
1. Repair and renovate dilapidated housing and garages 2. road and path repairs 3. Make parking areas outside peoples homes and get parked cars off main roads. 4. Parking outside co-op needs addressing
Q. 10 - No amusement arcades please. Q. 17 - What is meant by allocations.
Q. 10 - No amusement arcades please. Q. 17 - What is meant by allocations.
1. Provide better parking in village centre 2. Clean up beach/sea front areas more frequently 3. Improve local library facility, it has deteriorated greatly since library closed 4. When can we expect a post office
I would like a rail link to come to the top end of Newbiggin around the Woodhorn Roundabout area. Also a water/splash park (like Ridley Park, Blyth), also a summer music festival/day on the prom, also more housing for families to stay local which would be best served by rail links.
Regeneration - helping new businesses and existing businesses grow. We don't need to look at the past but to the future, car parking and signage is a major thing. How can visitors know where parking etc. is if there isn't enough clear signage. I often point people to the beach once they've been to may shop, a lot don't know that there are several entrances to the beach from the main road. Get the basics right and the rest will fall into place. I do think Newbiggin should be made better for its residents firstly rather than doing everything for the visitors; we live here all the time. Traffic issues need to be addressed, cars using the roads into the town are fast and irresponsible at times. I live on Woodhorn Crescent, the road is wide and unsafe to cross at times. There are a few older people who live in the area and its dangerous when they cross and cars using it as a racing track. The parking next to the doctors on the bend as you enter the new road towards the school is an accident waiting to happen. I know it's not the town councils responsibility but it needs to be sorted alongside the parking at the school, I know it's encouraged doe parents to walk, I do but lots can't as they are on their way to work. Children and adults find it difficult to cross the crossing point as there are often cars parked on the side of the road up to there and cars don't stop. This will only get worse if the road is opened up to the roundabout. A proper crossing or a lollipop lady is needed asap before someone is hurt. The promenade is desperate for better designed bins so you don't have to touch them to dispose of rubbish. Planters next to seats instead of smelly bins would be nice. Businesses could 'sponsor' a planter so a small plaque with their business details are on it. A yearly fee would cover the planting for them. A beach warden would be an asset so it could relieve the council cleaners to do the rest of Newbiggin, the beach warden could concentrate on the beach, prom, main street to help keep it clean, fix problems and general handyman services. In the winter they could collect small items for disposal and do the small tubs the council don't have the budget for anymore.

<p>Q6 - Our concern is that previous regeneration seems to have meant pulling down the old to replace with empty shops and flats in an uninspiring building. Q9 - We already have a considerable list of attractions and events. Past proposals have not always been successful e.g. the over spill car park cost £8,000 has never housed a single car. Q10 - no more toilets needed Q14 - Difficult to know what this means precisely, the A197 effectively connects the village centre to Woodhorn and the bus route already exists. If a station was built presumably it would have car park facilities and bus access.</p>
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<p>In my view car parking is the biggest problem in Newbiggin by the Sea. A recent example was an event at the Sports Centre that attracted hundreds of people who arrived in cars. Every area around the Sports Centre was used for car parking. Cars were parked on either side of the road creating a hazardous situation; almost every grass area was used for parking. Friends and visitors constantly tell us that parking in Newbiggin is inadequate.</p>
<p>We are members of the Newbiggin Dolphin Watch and feel that this organisation deserves more financial support from the following reasons: Raise marine wildlife awareness, Attract visitors from outside Newbiggin, Visitors should bring in revenue, This organisation is a wonderful way to help promote Newbiggin's unique wildlife diversity, It could help bring the community together, Dolphin watch brings people of all ages together. We are not opposed to having a pier or marina in Newbiggin</p>
<p>Regarding Q 2,3,4&5 - Future development should be guided by past failures. The woodland area between Woodlea and East Lea which is a main bus route carrying visitors to the town, and, which the council has failed to protect this area from the dumping of household waste on a frequent basis. We seem to be operating a system of damage limitation, ineffective and total clean ups and fines for those responsible. Rough sleepers are present in this area which can be seen by the waste materials produced i.e. hundreds of beer cans, presumably from the colliery off licence, judging by the brands. Litter, garbage, bags of household rubbish and garden masonry and rubbish which have a devastating effect of local wildlife. Horses harnessed and tethered to fences have wrecked protective fencing. This development cost thousands of pounds of council tax payers money and grants presumably. Nothing has been done to protect it. Lessons should be learned from this and if past project protection can't be achieved then there lies a fundamental problem. Tidy current pedestrian and cycle routes as well as wildlife area should be a high priority. I am happy to provide a guided tour of the effected/surrounding area to officials so the scale of the problem can be fully appreciated. I am a 40 year resident of Newbiggin and my wife was born here. We love Newbiggin and are happy to share ideas and opinions in order to maintain and improve the area.</p>
<p>Newbiggin by the Sea has almost no industry or commercial offices. We need 'disposable income' to generate an economy and that means upmarket housing and high quality facilities for visitors. A thriving economy means jobs and higher standard of living for all residents. Too many of our young people move away because they cannot get the career prospects they look for</p>
<p>Q6. - Tidy up landscaping Q8. In Northern area Q9&10. More floral displays on prom and temporary kiosks for fayres At present Newbiggin Council cannot keep the town in an attractive manner. Poorly kept flower beds, boring promenade - no floral tubs etc. The landscaping around 'the couple' sculpture is pathetic. Comparing Newbiggin to Morpeth shows a marked difference. A lot of people come to Newbiggin to walk the promenade and free plentiful parking is a good draw. More industry around the old Alcan site would be good. A Christmas Fayre along the village street using timber kiosks linked to the existing</p>

shops like is done on the continent. These kiosks could be kept stored for other uses over the year.. The town looks pretty around Gibson Street but shabby elsewhere. Spend some money on smartening the place up and use easy maintained landscaping.
There must be a focus on attracting investment into the town and upon increasing commercial activity. If people do not visit Newbiggin the town will wither and die. New and existing visitor attractions must be properly maintained and developed. In particular the beach and promenade must be kept clean and could be enhanced by the addition of a shelter at the west end and various flower planters and hanging baskets along the length.
New or refurbished toilets at Maritime Centre carpark end of town needed/ Possibly with showers for day trippers. Overnight parking to encourage campervans to visit short term.
New or refurbished toilets at Maritime Centre carpark end of town needed/ Possibly with showers for day trippers. Overnight parking to encourage campervans to visit short term.
Lack of litter bins in East Lea and the wooded grassed areas. It will be a beautiful area if maintained and of great aesthetic benefit to Newbiggin. Why can't the council provide skips to help get rid of unwanted rubbish.
Q.18 Regeneration but not replacement, far too many historic buildings have been replaced to the detriment of the town. A Newbiggin by the Sea Family Heritage Centre would be a unique new selling point for the town - attracting new visitors and an important under developed marking in 'homecoming' - local people away coming back to their roots. It would be a wonderful resource for local people building upon visceral interest in the own family. Supporting the development of new research skills, communication in writing, speaking and IT, helping people gain marketable skills and building a confidence in the community based on Newbiggin's wonderful past achievements. Located on the former tennis courts in Milburn Park this would be a wonderful new amenity complimenting the Maritime Centre and encouraging the development of the whole of Newbiggin Bay.
The Newbiggin library should be on the main street.
I used to hear Newbiggin described as a 'dead end town'. Anything that can build on tourism as employment and enhance the place for residents. Encourage the place on Coastal Route, clean it up more. Enforce litter and dog fouling. Mark our parking spaces more efficiently. Bring some colour into the town centre e.g. flowers, bunting. Use the 'by the sea' theme. Encourage people off the prom and onto the street to spend money in local shops. Make Newbiggin a day out, not just a walk along the prom. Provide facilities for beach, deck chairs etc.
Newbiggin needs a permanent attraction such as a proper harbour with boat trips etc. a marina would be a great improvement bringing lots of visitors. A good example would be Amble. We need better shops with more choice, such as a supermarket or freezer shop! Also a hardware shop would be great. We are once again desperate for a post office.
Newbiggin has a lovely beach, bay and promenade that could host i.e. Sunday market or beach hut types small business opportunities (similar to Amble). This addition to Amble on the harbour brings a lot of tourists, day trippers and walkers which enhance the town. I'm sure Newbiggin could match/mirror this on the nice promenade which in turn could help local business. Boarded up shops; surely reduced rents/ rates to encourage new business should be looked at as boarded up shops make nothing, employ no-one and make the town look run down and poor. i.e. Blyth Town Centre is the perfect comparison. Flower tubs and hanging baskets throughout the main town centre would have a nice impact. As a resident of Newbiggin I'd love to get involved with the running/management of its town centre. Telephone number provided.
We desperately need a post office, local bank and solicitors and 24/7 public toilets. We need to make Newbiggin more welcoming e.g. mobile homes and caravan tourers. We need to get rid of stray dogs . We need CCTV monitoring, Ensure limits are in place on holiday lets. Focus on bay activities positives, have a dedicated travel/tourism shop of information centre, promote marine wildlife viewing. Invest in high end seafood restaurant, Newbiggin Maritime Centre should be open every day in the summer. No mention of a

marina - even a small scale one would be useful. More plants and shrubs around the town to make it colourful . Some of these can be achieved at little cost.
Apart from the traders and RNLI few events are organised. Full assistance should be given to these organisations as without them few events would be held.
Improvements needed to the promenade
Q. 18 - Support regeneration of older housing areas but not the replacement of older housing areas.
Q 18 - Support regeneration but NOT replacement
1 - Improve street signage - i.e. spital road sign obscured by metal posts/box. 2 - Clear sand form the promenade - it's built up in certain parts of the promenade. 3 - Install (at least one) webcam - to show beach, couple sculpture/and or Maritime Centre/Church. The people can view online.
At Christmas the lights need to be all together, not spread out at Dixons Corner or The Colliery areas. They should be all together in the commercial "shopping" area of the town. The tree has been poor for the past couple of years, compared to when it was first erected. Our Prom is the longest in Northumberland. and not enough is made of that fact, i.e. it should be lit up all year round with coloured lights at Christmas time. This would be an excellent tourist attraction and fundraising could be done for it.
now most of the subjects that on this leaflet are old questions some must be 40yrs old, still nothing ever comes of them. Link roads, train stations, pit flood plains, drains, homes to be built. Do you think any notice is in your favour.
Some questions are difficult for me to answer definitively because I do not understand the situation well enough. Particularly with view to what are termed "start up units" I do not know what these are really. If they are small businesses perhaps they should be in an area on the outskirts or if they are directly of benefit to the communities day to day living such as new retail shops then in town would be OK. With regards to providing tourist attractions that would very much depend upon what the attractions were that were being proposed. Noisy gaudy attractions would not be my preference but those that help the enjoyment of the coast and wildlife such as a sanctuary might be wonderful. I have done my best to answer the questions I could and would have wanted an option for "don't know" for questions number 8, 9, 10, for number 11 I answered yes. Because this survey cannot be sent without an answer I have opted to answer no to most of the ones I am unsure of (when in doubt, do nowt! so they say). Those that I cannot really answer. As a new resident, I am very interested in how Newbiggin proposes to develop and hope there will be further opportunities to have input. Thank you for the opportunity to think about these things.
No
There is a need for affordable food shopping outlets post office petrol station. Any future retailers need to provide new shops not replicate what already exists i.e. no more cafes or pizza shops.
We need more in Newbiggin for children between the ages of 11 and 18 they are roaming the streets causing trouble and vandalising things as "there's nowt better to do"
Money would be better spent on putting parking bays alongside the school road to improve parking & safety and if need be a road to connect from the colliery to school road to reduce traffic at White House corner rather than putting in a road from Woodhorn roundabout.
I feel creating family homes with 2+ double bedrooms, large gardens, good size rooms and off street parking will bring hardworking families to the area who will spend their money locally and attend events within the town with their friends and family therefore boosting the local economy. Well maintained green spaces utilising and employing local families will boost community pride and lead to less fly-tipping and vandalism. Community events and projects providing training and experience opportunities will strengthen already strong bonds and increase local pride giving families hope for improved living standards and career opportunities. Newbiggin has many committed activists and volunteers who

litter-pick, fund-raise, organise events, take care of wildlife, make eco-friendly improvements and run local charitable businesses. If Newbiggin-by-the-Sea can become known for being a leader in environmental protection and disability (including autism etc) inclusive (beach wheelchairs - autism friendly day - vegan food choices at cafes - no single use plastics - recycling - beach cleans) we can attract many businesses, wealthy families and tourists to the town.
What is needed in Newbiggin are 2 and 3 bedroom bungalows.
I support regeneration but not at the expense of older homes some of which are better built than the new ones. Refurbish the old ones. I was told by a County Councillor long before the school was built that the road was taken off the plan because it would be dangerous for the school and school children, so I certainly do not support the road. It will cut Newbiggin in half. A 'rat run' that will encourage people to speed with twice as many cars crossing the grass between Collingwood Road and Central Parkway as they do now, which is too many. They are causing deep ruts and it looks a mess. It gets worse every year, and very bad when children are going to and from school. An accident waiting to happen. A so called Northumberland County Council's "Protected open space" according to the Local Plan.
I was unable to attend either of the drop-in meetings that have been held but I would like to ask that a history centre is included in the plans as I feel that it is very important that our heritage isn't forgotten & that it is available to be on display to locals & visitors alike. I am part of the Newbiggin Genealogy Project & we have held two very successful exhibitions, we received some amazing comments & I feel that there should be somewhere available so that they can be on permanent display. I hope that my suggestion can be considered by the Town Council and be included in the Development plan
I support Newbiggin retaining it's own identity in terms of separation of settlements but some links must remain to welcome to the town of Newbiggin ensuring it is accessible and welcoming by both foot, cycle or car. The creation of a wildlife corridor that links to other wildlife areas within the Parish should be welcomed but must include a robust management plan so that it does not become another areas for fly tipping. Regeneration should be welcomed; organisations within the town should work together to create a strategic plan for regeneration and employment, asking Northumberland County Council to back the plan both in principle and with some financial investment as at present Newbiggin appears to be off the radar as far as County Council are concerned. The beach and promenade are Newbiggin's main asset and responsibility should be taken in reviewing the management of the beach with investment to create and enforce a management plan. More should be done to encourage cyclists travelling on route 155 or route 1 to stop or take a rest break in Newbiggin. Some signage along the route promoting what Newbiggin has to offer and steps to become a cycle friendly town to reduce parking issues, carbon omissions and encourage healthier living. A road link from Woodhorn would encourage more to visit Newbiggin but due to the proximity of the academy steps must be taken to ensure this is done with the safety of the children has a top priority. Housing development should be welcomed to promote sustainability of the town - with more done to encourage people to shop local.
My family live in Newbiggin and always give it praise and my two sisters who are 16 and 18 are hoping to find work in Newbiggin and as there are not a lot of job opportunities in the area have to look elsewhere, if there was new stores and the town was updated it would greatly improve the town
Rail link would only work if it came into the town and terminated at the old terminus of the surgery, making the proposed road link obsolete and only viable to take traffic to all day parking at the welfare fields. A better traffic control system at North Seaton(Sandy Bay) roundabout would improve the flow to remove the need of a costly third road system that would only benefit our racing community.

Improved parking close to town centre whilst there is a large car park near the visitor centre it is a long walk for people with reduced mobility and may be put off coming to Newbiggin because of that reason
We need to boost the profile of our village and make it attractive to live in and attractive to visitors
There is a huge problem with nuisance neighbours and anti-social behaviour in parts of Newbiggin. There should be tighter controls as this spoils our reputation and stagnates property values. It is extremely frustrating to have to live next door to dysfunctional drug dealers/users. It is not good to be kept awake all night by noise from neighbours and then have to get up for work without much sleep. Tighter controls are needed for landlords who rent to people who have been evicted from other areas. Who would want to relocate to this town with individuals like this living here?. The police come out regularly but the problem is never solved. The community environmental team also seem to be ineffective. Solving the problem of anti-social individuals would be the single most benefit to the development and future of Newbiggin.
<p>Please see my comments below regarding a Woodhorn Road Link reference NCC Local Plan Policy TRA 3 section 3(d) - Policy TRA 3 3(b) Newbiggin/Ashington Link Positively Prepared: The local plan for the 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' shows no evidence that the needs of the area has been objectively assessed. Justified: I can find no justification to state that this local plan ('Newbiggin/Ashington Link') is- 1. an appropriate strategy, 2. that no appropriate alternatives have been taken into account, and 3. the need for the local plan is based on proportionate evidence. Consistent with national policy: The local plan for the 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' fails to comply in 3 topics covered by the National Planning Policy- Section 3. Plan Making – 'd) ...contain policies that are clearly written and unambiguous,...' – My interpretation of the local plan for the 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' is that a road will be built as a continuation of Central Parkway, Newbiggin by the Sea alongside the Grace Darling Campus school entrance, along the 'narrow path' and joining the Woodhorn roundabout. Council officials I have spoken to infer that there are no plans to build a road – but the policy outlines safeguarding the land to protect it from other developments. In my opinion, the local plan is not clearly written and it not unambiguous. Section 8. Promoting healthy and safe communities – In general and in particular- '91. Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places...' With the proposed local plan for a 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' I personally think a main road from Newbiggin to the Woodhorn roundabout will inhibit pedestrian connections between neighbourhoods (in contradiction with 91(a)). Section 9. Promoting sustainable transport – 102. In general With the proposed local plan for a 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' I personally think a road from Newbiggin to the Woodhorn roundabout will not promote opportunities for walking, cycling or public transport. I cannot find any evidence where the environmental impact of traffic and transport infrastructure has been identified, assessed and taken into account for a 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' – including appropriate opportunities for avoiding and mitigating any adverse effects. I cannot find any evidence for the 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' where patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations has been taken and incorporated into the design of the 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' Local Road Improvement Scheme. General Comments: Policy TRA 3 section 3(b) outlines plans to support improvement of Northumberland's Local Road Network. This is understood. However, I find no evidence, findings or justification given within the local plan or the 3rd Local Transport plan 2011-2026 that there is a business case or economic sense to build an additional road that links Newbiggin Central Parkway road to Woodhorn roundabout. In the 3rd Local Transport Plan 2011-2026, there is no mention of Newbiggin other than in section 4 - Economic Growth and regeneration – 'The visitor economy has seen significant development in recent years with the redevelopment of Woodhorn Museum, near Ashington, and a maritime museum is being developed in Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.' This alone does not in my opinion justify or creates a business case to build a</p>

Newbiggin/Ashington Link road. In the 3rd Local Transport Plan 2011-2026, the Central Government guidance sets five national transport goals. The LTP states that it sets out Northumberland's Transport strategy in context of these national goals. Building a Newbiggin/Ashington Link road contradicts three of these goals – 'Reduce Carbon Emissions', 'Contribute to Better Safety, Security & Health' and 'Improve Quality of Life and a Healthy Natural Environment'. The original Newbiggin/Ashington Link road was proposed in the Wansbeck District Local Plan (July 2007) Policy T9(g) - the A197 Woodhorn to Newbiggin Link Road section 7.29. Since then the former Newbiggin Middle School was demolished and the Church of England Grace Darling Campus built. The main difference now is access to the School – The new school entrance is along Central Parkway (the former Ashington/Newbiggin railway and where the Newbiggin/Ashington Link is proposed). In addition to this, there is planning application registered for the 'Proposal for the erection of a new single storey sports clubhouse for the use of AFC Newbiggin with associated car park' – which is on the field opposite to the Grace Darling campus school. This is where I feel that the safety of pupils, parents, sports persons and local residents would be put at a significantly increased risk of serious injury or fatality due to the envisaged traffic from/to Newbiggin by the introduction of a Newbiggin/Ashington Link road. Changes sought: Withdraw section 3(b) Newbiggin/Ashington Link from Policy TRA 3. The reasons behind this are- 1. Safety: Pedestrians (including a majority of children) may be put at a significant risk of serious injury or fatality 2. Justification: There is no evidence, facts or business case that Newbiggin/Ashington Link is required 3. Soundness: There are no facts or justification that support the notion that Newbiggin/Ashington Link scheme should be classed as a Local Road Network improvement

I would like to see a no tolerance crack down on litter & Dog fouling. as it takes away the beauty of Newbiggin by the sea. Also it would be nice to encourage the likes of a Brewers Faye/Generous George or such like for local families and tourists to go in the evenings.

I find it difficult to present an informed opinion without knowing the available budget and costings for the ideas presented as 'Big Issues'. It is not clear what problem has been identified that the 'Big Issues' have been formulated to address. It presents as a disparate list of unrelated ideas. Taking the first 'Big Issue' for instance, why is it necessary to separate settlements? In the current social and political climate I would argue that this concept is fundamentally open to misinterpretation. If however the big idea is to re-invent Newbiggin by-the-Sea as an ideal place to visit on a day trip or to stay for a weeks holiday that would negate the need to ask the question as Newbiggin by-the-Sea would assert its own identity. This is something that would have my wholehearted support. Many of the Big Issues listed are not issues at all but a list of things it might be 'nice' to do. What is the issue that requires the creation of a wildlife corridor? Anybody who has ridden on the cycle paths around Newbiggin by-the-Sea would know that the beginnings of a wildlife corridor already exists. This does however urgently need extending. Cyclists coming from the north on the North Sea cycle route come to a stop around Newbiggin by-the-Sea. The next part, which would take them safely south, is currently a hideous journey, wrought with danger. Please try and navigate it yourselves before embarking on any proposals for change. Whoever suggested a link road from the Woodhorn roundabout has not taken into account the safety of the pupils entering or leaving Grace Darling Campus. Cars speed along Central Parkway in advance of the speed limit. Currently they have to slow down and stop at the school. Imagine what it would be like if they didn't have to slow down there but could carry on all the way to Woodhorn! Cars, vans, motorbikes and 4X4's already criss cross across the colliery field endangering unwary pedestrians, maybe a fence around that would be a clear response to an already identified issue. What is the issue that has raised the suggestion that new families are to be encouraged into the village? Grace Darling Campus has reached its standard number every year. There have even been occasions where, due to oversubscription, children have been placed in William Leech Campus at Lynemouth. Where is the data to suggest that families with young children are moving out of the village? I would have thought policies regarding any

changes to the housing in Newbiggin by-the-Sea would be beyond the remit of the Parish Council but encouraging landlords and residents to take responsibility for maintenance of gardens, instilling a sense of civic pride would be well within its capabilities. As far as I can see your Big Issue should be the re-generation of Newbiggin by-the-Sea as an inviting seaside holiday destination. Your action plan could then concentrate on ensuring there are measures in place to achieve that aim. Happy to discuss.
Regeneration of the town centre would bring more people to shop, the maritime carpark and town centre car parks are full on weekends so the customer base is there.
A new road into Newbiggin must be treated as high priority for commuters like me
Strongly disagree to the new road as the increased volume of traffic will be dangerous as the situation in the roads around central parkway is already dangerous. Certain councillors are looking after their own interests to keep traffic away from their own houses and direct it to others. Disgusting behaviour. Children are not safe in the central parkway area and it will only get worse.
We need more youth and young person's policies to encourage younger people to stay and sustain the town if you keep hearing everything to the over 55 demographic the town/village will die
I strongly believe the link road to Woodhorn is a bad idea. That road is already being used at speed despite it leading to a school. I am surprised there hasn't already been an accident. There is no need for a further access road in my opinion.
Love Newbiggin, been here for 5 years now. So friendly and welcoming.
Can County Council help support these improvements to a greater degree?

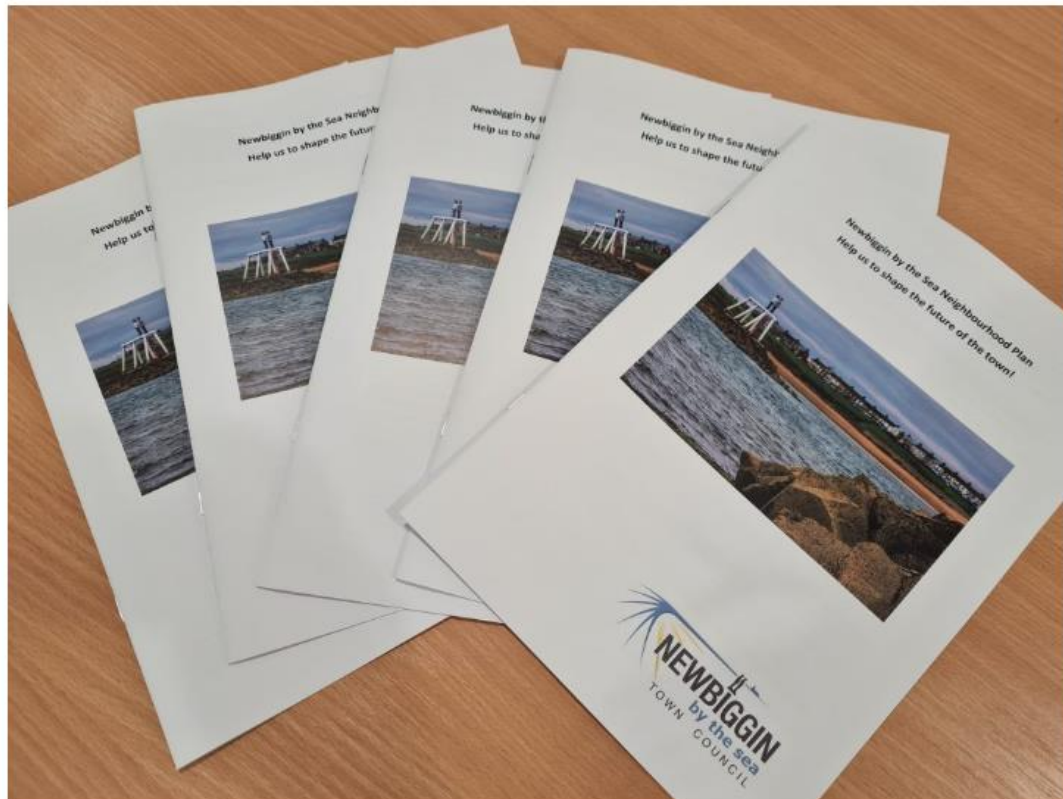
Appendix 3: Vision, objectives and plan scope consultation (September 2020)

Information on town council website

<https://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/2020/09/21/help-us-to-shape-the-future-of-the-town/>

Help Us To Shape The Future Of The Town!

21st September 2020 by: Newbiggin.TC Categories: Community, Local News



Last year we asked you for your help to identify the 'big issues' for our neighbourhood plan. We have reviewed all the valuable feedback and prepared a draft vision for our town, as well as identifying planning policy themes and other actions that could address the big issues. Now we need your views on our proposals to deliver the vision for Newbiggin by the Sea to inform the preparation of our draft neighbourhood plan.

Before consulting on a draft neighbourhood plan, we feel it is important to ask for further input from our community on the scope of our plan. A consultation document is being delivered throughout the parish and an online version is available below. The document sets out the vision and objectives for the plan. It also proposes a possible planning policy approach that our plan could take. In addition, we have identified some projects that could help address the big issues.

The closing date for comments is 23rd October.

[Neighbourhood Planning Consultation Survey](#)

We consider that there is a need to review current housing allocations and to inform this, an independent local housing needs assessment is currently being undertaken. This will be an important role for our plan and **subject to a separate consultation later this year.**

For further information on Neighbourhood Planning and to keep up to date with the progress of the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan visit: <https://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>

Vision, objectives and plan scope document

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan
Help us to shape the future of the town!



Last year we asked you for your help to identify the 'big issues' for our neighbourhood plan. We have reviewed all the valuable feedback and prepared a draft vision for our town, as well as identifying planning policy themes and other actions that could address the big issues. Now we need your views on our proposals to deliver the vision for Newbiggin by the Sea to inform the preparation of our draft neighbourhood plan.

This document provides background to our proposals and identifies specific questions where we would like to know your views.

1. Background

What is neighbourhood planning?

1.1 Since 2011 the Government has allowed communities to produce neighbourhood plans for their local area. The process of preparing a plan enables people living and working in an area to guide where and how future development happens. Plans are prepared by the local community, through their town or parish council, rather than being prepared by Northumberland County Council (NCC). Neighbourhood plans can help deliver the types of development that local people would like to see in their community. Crucially, they are used to make decisions on planning applications.

What progress is being made with the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan?

1.2 The parish was designated as a neighbourhood area by NCC in February 2018. In March 2018, we established a steering group to oversee the preparation of the plan. The first meeting of the steering group took place in September 2018. During March and April 2019, we sought feedback on the big issues for our plan. We have used this feedback to prepare a vision for the town and identify possible planning policy themes and other actions to address the big issues.

What is the current stage?

1.3 Before consulting on a draft neighbourhood plan, we feel it is important to ask for further input on the scope of our plan. This document sets out the vision and objectives for the plan. It also proposes a possible planning policy approach that our plan could take. In addition, we have identified some projects that could help address the big issues.

How do I get involved?

1.4 You can provide your thoughts on the questions set out within this document using the online form that is available on our website at www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/. Alternatively, you can send us your comments in writing by:

- Email to neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk; or
- Letter to Town Council Office, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland, NE64 6QD

1.5 Comments should be received by Friday 23 October 2020.

What will happen next?

1.6 We will consider all the comments submitted and will use the feedback to prepare a draft neighbourhood plan. As we are currently undertaking more work investigating housing needs, we will have a further consultation on housing matters later this year. After which, we will prepare a draft plan and ask you for your views early in 2021. The draft plan will then be amended following consultation and will be submitted to NCC who will undertake further consultation and organise the

examination of the plan. The examination will be undertaken by an independent examiner. Once the plan passes examination, NCC will organise a referendum where the local community will be asked if they support the plan. If the majority of those who vote support the plan, it will come into legal force and it will become part of the development plan for the area. Planning applications will be decided in accordance with the policies contained within the plan.

2. The big issues for Newbiggin by the Sea

2.1 The feedback from the local community identified the following six 'big issues' for our plan to address:

Issue 1: A clear separation of settlements to enhance the character and distinctiveness of Newbiggin;

Issue 2: New 'wildlife corridors' to protect natural habitats, incorporating sustainable drainage for the Ashington developments and former Alcan ash lagoons;

Issue 3: Regeneration of the town through endorsing employment and providing appropriate infrastructure and start up units;

Issue 4: Improved visitor attractions are needed to sustain visitor growth and contribute to commercial sustainability;

Issue 5: Improved pedestrian and cycle routes to public transport and a new link road to the strategic network from Woodhorn Roundabout; and

Issue 6: Housing growth and improved choice to retain and attract families.

3. Our vision for Newbiggin by the Sea

3.1 A neighbourhood plan should have a vision for the future of the area. The vision should describe what the area will look and feel like if the policies and actions within it have been successful. The vision for the plan should then inform the plan objectives, planning policies and community actions.

3.2 Our vision has been shaped by the big issues:

"By 2036 Newbiggin by the Sea will be successful, thriving and sustainable. A place where people want to live and work because of the rich and distinctive environment, range of services and facilities, leisure opportunities, as well as access to high quality housing, employment and protected open spaces with linked wildlife corridors.

New employment opportunities have reduced the number of residents commuting out of the town for employment and they have access to sustainable modes of transport.

The town centre is vibrant, with a range of shops, social and leisure facilities. These services, facilities and leisure opportunities are now fully accessible, contributing to health and well-being and have resulted in a growth in visitor numbers who support the success of the local economy.

New development ensures the protection and enhancement of the area and safeguards the amenity of the local community."

Question 1: Do you have any comments on the proposed vision for the plan?

3.3 To deliver the vision, three objectives have been identified:

Objective 1 - Distinctive place:

Achieving a balance between development and maintaining the clear separation of settlements, conserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment, as well as protecting important open spaces.

Objective 2 – Sustainable, thriving and healthy community:

Supporting new development which meets the needs of existing and future residents. This includes providing the right types of housing, supporting investment in employment space and the visitor economy, strengthening the role of the town centre and improving infrastructure to support health needs.

Objective 3 - Well connected:

Promoting access to sustainable modes of transport which connect people to a wide range of services, facilities and employment opportunities. As well as enhancing opportunities for safe and active travel and ensuring access for all

Question 2: Do you have any comments on the proposed objectives for the plan?

4. How can our plan help to protect and enhance our distinctive place?

4.1 The first objective, distinctive place, is relevant to big issues 1 (separation of settlements) and 2 (wildlife corridors). Newbiggin by the Sea has a significant level of natural and historic environment designations. Figure 1 illustrates the internationally and nationally important sites along our coast. There are also a number of local designations including local nature reserves and part of the South East Northumberland Wildlife Network (figure 2).



Figure 1: International and national designations



Figure 2: Local environmental designations

4.2 The importance of wildlife corridors within the parish was one of the big issues identified by the local community. These corridors are a valuable part of the character of the area and play a key role

sustaining our natural environment. We therefore consider that our neighbourhood plan should define the location of wildlife corridors. NCC has undertaken some mapping work as part of the preparation of the local plan (figure 2). We feel our plan should use this as a starting point and identify further corridors.

Question 3: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the identification of wildlife corridors?

4.3 Figures 1 and 2 illustrate the important environmental designations within the parish. We therefore consider it is important for our plan to include a planning policy to ensure new development protects and enhances the natural environment.

Question 4: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the natural environment?

4.4 The built and historic environment of Newbiggin by the Sea is part of what makes it distinctive. The plan area contains a conservation area (figure 3) and 17 listed buildings (figure 4). We believe the plan should include planning policies to ensure new development is of a design which respects and enhances the built environment. In addition, the plan could include a policy to protect and enhance historic assets, including the identification of heritage assets of local importance.



Figure 3: Conservation area



Figure 4: Listed buildings

Question 5: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the built and historic environment?

Question 6: Are there any buildings or structures that you feel are important to the history and character of Newbiggin by the Sea that we should highlight in our plan?

4.5 Open spaces are also an important part of the character of the area and are valuable to the local community for recreation. NCC has identified areas of open space that are proposed to be protected through the emerging local plan (figure 5). We feel our plan should review this information and identify all open spaces which are important to the local community.

Question 7: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the identification of important open spaces?

Question 8: Are there any areas of open space in the parish that you would like to see protected through the plan?



Figure 5: Protected open space

4.6 In addition to planning policies, we could also explore opportunities to deliver projects to enhance the distinctive environment of the town. These could include:

- Environmental enhancement projects, such as wildlife corridors, public footpath and bridleway links and improvements;
- Maintenance of open spaces, such as Central Parkway, East Lea Woods and Welfare/ Spital;
- Work with NCC to update conservation area guidance;
- Support projects to celebrate the diverse heritage of the area..

Question 9: Do you have any comments on the proposed community actions to enhance the distinctiveness of the environment?

5. How can our plan help to create a sustainable, thriving and healthy community?

5.1 The second objective, sustainable, thriving and healthy community, is relevant to big issues 3 (regeneration), 4 (visitors) and 6 (housing). Our town has greatly suffered from the decline in industry, particularly mining, fishing and tourism. It is now amongst the 5% most deprived areas in England. Youth unemployment, mental health and antisocial behaviour are significant issues. However, in recent years the town has begun a renaissance led by local people, with the focus on our heritage past and creative future. There are a number of opportunities within Newbiggin by the Sea to help create a sustainable and thriving community. Including:



- The desire of the local community to support new development to sustain our town;
- Available land for new housing development and to create business start-up units;
- Attractive environment for businesses to locate and people to live;
- Opportunities from the new Northumberland Line;
- Employment opportunities at the former Alcan site;

- Maritime museum;
- Tourism opportunities from the bay; and
- Town centre.

5.2 In a town with over 6,000 residents there has been very limited housing development in recent years, despite it taking place in nearby areas such as Ashington and Bedlington. This means that as residents try to find their first home or move to a larger home, there are no suitable properties available. The availability of new housing development in adjacent areas has resulted in our younger people and families moving out of the area. We believe this is having major implications on the sustainability and cohesiveness of our community.

5.3 There are sites available for new housing development in Newbiggin by the Sea, however they have been allocated for many years and development has not come forward. We consider that there is a need to review current allocations and to inform this, an independent local housing needs assessment is currently being undertaken. This will be an important role for our plan and subject to a separate consultation later this year.



Figure 6: Sites with planning permission and allocated for housing development

5.4 Newbiggin by the Sea should be a place where people can live, work and play. Our neighbourhood plan should therefore support the creation of new employment opportunities, as well as tourism and leisure development. We believe an appropriate approach is to ensure that the settlement boundary is sufficiently flexible to allow for such opportunities to come forward such as, the creation of start-up units and tourist facilities, including accommodation. In addition, that the plan would support new economic and tourism development outside the settlement boundary, where there was no available or suitable land within it.

Question 10: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to supporting economic and tourism development?

5.5 The provision of appropriate services and facilities, including those which support the health needs of local residents, within the town centre are essential to the long-term sustainability of Newbiggin by the Sea. We want our community to be able to access what they need to meet their day to day needs. The provision of a good range of services and facilities is also important to encourage people to visit the area and spend money while they are here. Therefore, alongside a policy to protect and enhance the town centre, we believe the plan should also support proposals which will enhance the retail offer to our local communities and visitors. This could include the development of a small retail village, similar to the pods in Amble.

Question 11: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to supporting our town centre, as well as the protection and enhancement of services and facilities?

Question 12: Are there any facilities you feel are vital to the local community that should be protected from loss?

Question 13: Are there any facilities you feel we need in Newbiggin by the Sea?

6. How can our plan help to ensure that our area and local communities are well connected?

6.1 The third objective, that our area is well connected, is relevant to big issue 5 (routes/ linkages). The preparation of a neighbourhood plan provides opportunities to identify important routes across Newbiggin by the Sea. They can be those used by pedestrians, cyclists and horse-riders. These routes provide recreation and leisure opportunities and also promote healthy living. We therefore propose to identify important routes within the plan and support proposals to improve or extend this network.



Question 14: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to identifying, protecting and enhancing important routes within the parish?

Question 15: Are there any routes that you consider we should identify in the plan?

6.2 In addition to planning policies, we could also explore opportunities to deliver projects to help ensure our area is well connected. These could include:

- Maintenance of public rights of way; and
- Working with the county council on highways improvement projects.

Question 16: Do you have any comments on the proposed community actions to help ensure our area is well connected?

7. Summary and next steps

7.1 Thank you for taking the time to read this document. We hope you will send us your thoughts on the proposed approach for our neighbourhood plan.

7.2 Please remember that we need your comments by **Friday 23 October 2020** to inform our work on a draft neighbourhood plan. There will be further consultation on housing issues later this year and then on the draft plan early in 2021. The draft plan will then be amended following consultation and will be submitted to NCC who will undertake further consultation and organise the examination of the plan. The examination will be undertaken by an independent examiner. Once the plan passes examination, NCC will organise a referendum where the local community will be asked if they support the plan. If the majority of those who vote support the plan, it will come into legal force and it will become part of the development plan for the area.

**Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan Consultation
Response form**

Question 1: Do you have any comments on the proposed vision for the plan?

Question 2: Do you have any comments on the proposed objectives for the plan?

Question 3: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the identification of wildlife corridors?

Question 4: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the natural environment?

Question 5: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the built and historic environment?

Question 6: Are there any buildings or structures that you feel are important to the history and character of Newbiggin by the Sea that we should highlight in our plan?

Question 7: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the identification of important open spaces?

Question 8: Are there any areas of open space in the parish that you would like to see protected through the plan?

Question 9: Do you have any comments on the proposed community actions to enhance the distinctiveness of the environment?

Question 10: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to supporting economic and tourism development?

Question 11: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to supporting our town centre, as well as the protection and enhancement of services and facilities?

Question 12: Are there any facilities you feel are vital to the local community that should be protected from loss?

Question 13: Are there any facilities you feel we need in Newbiggin by the Sea?

Question 14: Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to identifying, protecting and enhancing important routes within the parish?

Question 15: Are there any particular routes that you consider we should identify in the plan?

Question 16: Do you have any comments on the proposed community actions to help ensure our area is well connected?

Please use additional pages if you would like to provide a fuller response.

Name:
Address:
Email:

Any personal data supplied will only be used in relation to the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan. In line with General Data Protection Regulations you can view a copy of our Privacy Statement <http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/privacy-policy/>

Please ensure return completed response forms to: Town Council Office, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland, NE64 6QD. Comments can also be submitted online at or by email to neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk

Deadline for comments is Friday 23 October 2020

Appendix 4: Vision, objectives and plan scope consultation report



Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Help us shape the future of the town!

Engagement Report 2

Introduction

Following reviewing all of the valuable feedback received in Engagement Report 1, which identified the 'Big Issues', the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group prepared a draft vision for Newbiggin by the Sea, as well as identifying planning policy themes and other actions that could address the big issues.

As part of the process for bringing forward the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan, a consultation exercise on the draft vision, planning policy themes and other actions was undertaken between 21st September and 23rd October 2020.

The consultation was promoted through:

- Town Council website,
- Coverage in local media, and
- Social media (Facebook and Twitter)

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 require neighbourhood planning groups and local planning authorities to undertake publicity in a manner that is likely to bring it to the attention of people who live, work or carry on business in the neighbourhood. Due to Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic engagement via face-to-face methods of consultation were not possible. As groups within the community were not meeting due to Coronavirus restrictions, it was not possible to engage via more targeted methods.

A consultation document was distributed to all households/businesses in the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan area and an online version was available via Survey Monkey. Additional hard copy versions were available upon request. The consultation document provided background information on neighbourhood planning, details on the proposed approach with figures illustrating local designations of:

- International and National Designations,
- Local Environmental Designations,
- Conservation Area,
- Listed Buildings,
- Protected Open Spaces, and
- Sites with planning permission and allocated for housing development.

The consultation informed that a separate housing consultation would take place later in the year and informed that all comments received would inform the work on the draft neighbourhood plan.

At the close of the engagement period a total of 70 responses had been received via the online survey and returned hardcopy questionnaires. Only 53 of the responses identified respondents as being residents of the parish. The analysis of responses has however been based on the total number of responses due to the low numbers. A full copy of the responses received are included within this report. Personal details have been omitted in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulations.

Respondents were asked whether they had any comments on:

1. The proposed vision for the plan,
2. The proposed objectives of the plan,
3. The proposed approach to the identification of wildlife corridors,
4. The proposed approach to the natural environment,

5. The proposed approach to the built and historic environment,
6. Whether they could identify any buildings or structures of importance to the history and character of Newbiggin by the Sea that should be highlighted in the plan,
7. The proposed approach to the identification of important open spaces,
8. Whether there were any areas of open space in the parish they would like to see protected through the plan,
9. The proposed community actions to enhance the distinctiveness of the environment,
10. The proposed approach to supporting economic and tourism development,
11. The proposed approach to supporting the town centre, as well as the protection and enhancement of services and facilities,
12. Whether there were any facilities that were felt vital to the local community that should be protected from loss,
13. Whether there were any facilities they felt were needed in Newbiggin by the Sea,
14. The proposed approach to identifying, protecting, and enhancing important routes within the parish,
15. Whether there are any routes that they consider should be identified in the plan, and
16. On the proposed community actions to help ensure the area is well connected.

Question 1. Do you have any comments on the proposed vision for the plan?

51 respondents answered this question, and the responses are set out in full below:

#	RESPONSES
1	Your report highlights the need to maintain the character and distinctiveness of Newbiggin and I feel this is the key.
2	Clearly the world has fundamentally altered with the arrival of Covid 19 and any forward planning for this community, as with any other, must be within the context of the likely ongoing consequences, both socially and economically. Likewise before anything within this proposal can be enacted, this country will have left the European Union and Brexit for better or worse, will again have had an impact on our lives. The third key consideration which must underlie any realistic plan for this community must be the impact on ongoing climate change. For a coastal tourism dependent community to ignore what is happening to the environment for both locally and globally would be the height of folly. The effects of moving sand, stronger and more windy conditions plus more inclement weather for visitors are already obvious to local residents.
3	There are few places with so many natural assets, The vision should be to take Newbiggin by the Sea out of the 'deprived' classification. This requires a strategic plan.
4	I like the proposed vision and would be interested to know when the community centre development is going to take place.
5	Basically agree with the proposed vision. Not sure about 'start up' units rather more permanent units would be more advantageous. Wild life corridors an excellent idea as would several wildlife meadows - there are plenty of green spaces to chose from. The proposed building sites need to be utilised asap e.g. the school site on Woodhorn Road.
6	Agree, but built more into vision about Newbiggin by the Sea being a top coastal tourist destination. Tourism is very important to sustainability. Also include the town being celebrated for its heritage, arts and culture.
7	I agree with the proposed vision. Newbiggin has a lot to offer and some new developments will help the area.
8	The timescale is very long. Why 16 years? 10 years has more resonance and seems more manageable, as well as being a good chunk of time in which to pursue a vision. We disagree with Objective 5. We do not want a new link road to the Woodhorn Roundabout which would cut Newbiggin in half and wreck the character and distinctiveness of the town. We absolutely do want a new rail link to Newbiggin from Ashington via Woodhorn. This would build on the development of passenger services to Ashington on the Ashington, Blyth and Tyne line. Reconstruction of the railway along the former track bed is a realistic and timely ambition for the period before 2030. A re-opened passenger rail link would provide a huge boost to the local economy. With respect, much of the 'proposed vision' could be expressed for many towns. However : Newbiggin by the Sea is unique, even some of its language is distinct and subject to academic study. Newbiggin has an extraordinary history which continues to resonate. Thousands of people living here can trace their inter-related family history back 15 generations to the early 1600's and the beginning of public records. People have come and gone over the years but there are many hundreds still living in the town and many others now living thousands of miles away 'The Newbiggin diaspora' who have very deep roots here and like to return. People love Newbiggin by the Sea, for some people it is quite simply the finest place in the world. It is vital that a vision for the future of Newbiggin by the Sea reflects the unique and remarkable quality of the town and its resonance with so many people. Newbiggin by the Sea is the only community in the UK whose women have been twice honoured by the RNLI for their courage. Newbiggin by the Sea was sacked by Danish Vikings, invaded by the Scots and has survived repeated fishing disasters and hardship. At the time of Edward 1st it was the 4th most important port in England. Newbiggin by the Sea was the home of John Braine when he wrote 'Room at the Top', it was visited regularly by L.S. Lowry who painted and drew its scenes, Jack Carr composed classic works for brass band in the town, Jimmy Shepherd , 'the greatest cornet player in the world' was born here. In the 1890's Newbiggin by the Sea was 'Northumberland's favourite seaside town.' We want that accolade to be restored. The opening statement needs to reflect this, by 2030 Newbiggin's high quality and extraordinary character should be recognised and understood. Its whole development needs to be founded upon creating better conditions in jobs, opportunities, housing which help people who want to remain to do so. By protecting, restoring and sustainably and sympathetically developing its natural, historic and cultural assets we can bring more people here to contribute to the whole life of the community, to live, to visit and to appreciate this wonderful place.

9	Big Issues: Finding a balance is difficult as creating wildlife corridors, separation of settlements, providing more housing and start up units, to name a few suggestions, seem to contradict one another. Issue 2: I suggest the provision of hides for bird and dolphin watchers at the Church point. Seek help and advice from Mike Pratt at Northumberland Wildlife Trust. Issue 4: Make more of what we already have by: Removing sand from promenade. Enforce the dog free beach from May to October. The rules have been flouted all summer. Any prosecutions? Fines for dog fouling throughout Newbiggin. Any prosecutions? Improve times when public toilets are open.
10	The 'vision for the plan' has my support, but recent events (i.e. the proposed Persimmon development) has raised a certain amount of cynicism as to whether these are merely a chimera.
11	The vision has my full support however having learnt about the possible loss of 70 acres of 'wildlife corridor' to Persimmons Homes and effectively turning Newbiggin into an annex of North Seaton I question this - 1, really support by the County Council? 2, achievable?
12	I agree with the proposed vision. More could be made of heritage and historic features.
13	No but Newbiggin needs tidying up. Sort out the shrubs and flowers around Maritime Museum. Lets have some flower boxes in the high street. This will attract tourists.
14	With limited space for development achieving new housing and employment opportunities could prove difficult.
15	The employment opportunities in the 'vision' are limited to retail, care, pubs, cafes, tourism etc. and very little else. Office space, business parks, trading and industrial units are non existent. The inclusion of more varied types of employment will mean people who live in Newbiggin can also actually work in Newbiggin rather than have to travel out of the town.
16	No comments.
17	No comments.
18	Agree with the vision
19	Agree with the vision
20	When did Newbiggin become a town, it was always a village. I thought it had to have a town hall to be a town. I used to help out at local history for a number of years getting speakers, arranging christmas dinners and trips out. Sadly we had to finish because members dropped
20	When did Newbiggin become a town, it was always a village. I thought it had to have a town hall to be a town. I used to help out at local history for a number of years getting speakers, arranging christmas dinners and trips out. Sadly we had to finish because members dropped through illness and death then there was just 3 left. I finished it but the number of people whom asked after it was still unbelievable.
21	Very good but tourism needs to be at the fore front of development. Plans for marina is a good start but more should be made of natural infrastructure - kayaking/paddle boarding (see Tynemouth Longsands); fishing etc.
22	Proper place for watersports i.e. proper ramp over the soft imported sand slipway will bring people here.
23	I would like to see the high street shops become more accessible for wheelchair use
24	Fingers crossed it works
25	This looks great not sure about issue 2 Ashington developments is this where water will be drained from beside the hospital into Spital farm pond so more housing can be built in Ashington
26	Don't agree with your wildlife corridors proposal . Don't wish to see Newbiggin turned into an industrial uses zone with factory units .. We need a good visitor attraction but not in the bay .
27	it would be nice to include the arts in the vision
28	No
29	As a vision statement it seems fine.
30	No
31	No

32	Generic plan
33	What is the true definition behind a wildlife corridor?
34	Good vision
35	Lets hope it doesn't gentrify to locals
36	Where us the employment coming from.
37	We need to look to the future, how we can progress and retain residents, if we get the housing right the economy will grow within the Town. We need to be a Town as this gives us a greater opportunity in the future. At the moment we have an unbalanced community, we need a more balanced community, housing and families.
38	I think the first paragraph is suffice for a vision. You mention the 'Vision for Newbiggin by the Sea has been shaped by the 'Big Issues'. I feel the 'Big Issues' were not identified by the residents of Newbiggin by the Sea but a select few who have drawn their own views of what are the 'Big Issues' in Newbiggin by the Sea.
39	I have deep concerns over proposed new housing and caravan sites on our nature spaces and wetlands. A small village with unique character is in danger of destroying everything that makes it a nice place to visit.
40	We already have a community that people want live in and are proud of, it is a worry that you think that waiting 15/16 years to achieve something we already have. Interested in his you plan to improve employment opportunities within the environment without spoiling the uniqueness of our town.
41	I think the vision is great, however, I moved here because of the beautiful area. 12 months in there are plans to build houses opposite my road with an access road also opposite. I cant believe how reckless this is, it is a dangerous road as it is. I dont really have an issue with housing I think the area needs it but seems like it's going to be flooded with cheap council type properties which is a real shame.
42	We have to continue investing in our community and ensure a high level of maintenance in the environment
43	Question 1. One can see where the housing and open spaces are coming from but where is the employment coming from, "new" and future. What are the sustainable modes of transport. What is the new development ensuring protection and enhancement of the area.
44	of mixed opinions
45	No, but Newbiggin needs tidying up. Sort out the shrubs and flowers around Maritime museum. Lets have more flower boxes in the high street. This will attract tourists.
46	Fantastic
47	I feel what is required in Newbiggin by the Sea is bringing in a large chain pub/restaurant which can be of benefit to both locals and entice in visitors. However only one such establishment should be allowed so as not to detract from established business. The maritime centre is a great example of modernising the town and with its wide range of activities on offer especially the art and music venues which bring a cultural benefit to all. There is a need to have a blend of new houses developed to bring in new residents but without spoiling the charm of the Town and surrounding environment. For visitors to increase the town needs to offer more as Amble has done with its Sunday market and new beach hut style shops. The Town needs to show the visitors what a lovely place this is to live. The annual events currently held show that visitors will come if there is more for them to do than just walk along the promenade.
48	Electric car charging points in the town.
49	This document is very complicated and I think that it's probably designed to deter people from filling it in unless they have a qualification in Town Planning. For a large number of the ageing population, the year 2036 is probably not something they are planning for. Newbiggin is now a great place to live and we need to to have a short term plan to make it really great. The Town is a mess and needs a regular deep clean. I know all about this because, as a young student, I worked for the Council sweeping up etc. Therefore my starting point would be to employ two people, give them a wheelbarrow and a brush and get Newbiggin and the Promenade cleaned up. Our main asset, The Beach, of which there is no mention in the plan, is a disgrace. If you

don't believe me go and visit Beadnell or Tynemouth. The Black Hole left by the demolition of the Colliery School is another disgrace and I have lost count of how many tears it has been left to fester, one of the first sites you see when entering Newbiggin. The other black hole left by the demolition of my old school is that on Cleveland. This site could be a wonderful Town Park with seats and trees and lots of Parking Spaces. This is also a disgrace. I suspect it might be earmarked for some fancy scheme by NCC, but we will be lucky if anything happens before 2036! The playpark at the Tennis Courts could be put next to the bowling green, with picnic tables and seats to make a lovely area for kids and their parents. We need toilets at the Church Point car park as the cynical people in charge of the Maritime Centre will not let people use their toilets. Come to friendly Newbiggin, but we will not let you use our toilets. As a matter of interest, I have no idea how you can stop people using those toilets unless you physically remove them! The observation point on the Needles Eye is a good idea. Car parking is another issue that needs to be addressed. My Grandfather used to run the Middle Shelter, which is, sadly, no longer there and it did what it said. If it rained, the kids and their parents sheltered until the rain stopped. It would be nice to have some kind of communal shelter near the beach. Finally, I think a Marina would be the icing on the cake. Is it not time Newbiggin thought big? Obviously this would take an enormous amount of funding, but my other suggestions could surely be realised at a reasonable cost before 2036.

50	It's a brilliant vision statement, let's hope it can be fulfilled.
51	No comments
52	I think it is a good general vision but would expect further info on specific projects as the vision develops.
53	The vision is good, look forward to seeing it developed.
54	No Sounds good.
55	I support this vision

Q2 Do you have any comments on the proposed objectives of the plan?

Answered by 48

#	RESPONSES
1	We need projects to deliver these objectives.
2	Affordable housing important. Maintenance of clear separation of settlements very important, don't want to become an amorphous mass of other settlements.
3	I think the objectives should be achievable by 2036 if all the parties involved are of one mind. Newbiggin has a unique historical and heritage background and this should be enhanced.
4	Objective 1 - Building on distinctive place by also including arts and culture. Newbiggin has the unique Sean Henry sculpture, an arts trail and a thriving arts community. Newbiggin could become a destination visitor attraction for arts in Northumberland e.g. Alnmouth arts festival and Newbiggin has the infrastructure to support this at a larger scale via community halls, shops and cafes/the Maritime Centre. Objective 2 - Development of youth facilities and centres for building practical and educational skills and supporting the more deprived in our community should be encouraged. Objective 3 - Agree
5	Newbiggin must keep its individual charm and separation from Ashington. Conservation of its natural, built and historic environment needs to be at the forefront. Sensitive developments should be allowed to house local people and encourage visitors. Health facilities definitely need to be improved but we have exceptional doctors here.
6	They aren't very exciting Objective 1 might be 'A distinctive and sustainable place' Objective 2 'A healthy and thriving community' Should reflect the importance of supporting healthy lifestyles, proposing that the community's genealogical heritage might provide opportunities for research into the genetic factors underlying health, commit to supporting developments which promote healthy living for all. Good opportunities for local employment and learning are fundamental to a healthy and thriving community Employment is about more than 'space' why not investment in opportunities, in entrepreneurialism, in making Newbiggin a hub of new technologies drawing upon world class developments in Newcastle, in science, focussing on the marine and rural environments. Objective 3 is acceptable, if it's accepted that the development of a passenger railway is fundamental to this plan. A railway station would be a sustainable transport hub, providing a range of facilities for sustainable travel options We would propose an Objective 4. - Community engagement - Newbiggin by the Sea needs to be an empowering and engaging place to live, involving the members of the community in profound and ever developing ways to shape the place where they live.

7	The new link road (I question whether this is really needed) will pass the school (!) and destroy a natural open space, affect an existing cycleway, and seriously affect the chance of the railway returning to Newbiggin.
8	I question the plan to put a further link road via the CentralParkway as a way to help us stay 'well connected'. It prevents any future plan to bring rail into Newbiggin, created a second very busy junction. It is already almost impossible to exit at school drop off and pick up times. Perhaps lights at the Woodhorn junction and making the old library sit and official car park would be a better use of funds.
9	I agree with the three identified objectives.
10	Think this is a major area Newbiggin is missing out on! We need new housing but not only to keep families. Buying in Newbiggin to bring new people in.
11	As mentioned above protecting open spaces whilst encouraging development seems counter productive.
12	Objective 1 - Agree. Objective 2 - Agree however more emphasis needs on investment in employment space. Objective 3 - Agree providing sustainable transport connecting people to employment opportunities are actually within Newbiggin.
13	No comments.
14	No comments.
15	I hope suitable housing does not mean more affordable housing. We have plenty. Shortage of bungalows for sale. Very important to have distinct separation from Ashington
16	I hope suitable housing does not mean more affordable housing. We have plenty. Shortage of bungalows for sale. Very important to have distinct separation from Ashington.
17	When the Heritage Centre was build we were told it would not be too high so not to detached from the church. Despite a local councillor at the time showing us the plans it still got bigger and it does spoil the view of the and build on either side don't match.
18	Access could be better - Newbiggin by the Sea is not a 'drive through' town such as Amble. Better transport infrastructure would bring more people.
19	No we need to cater for visitors, toilets and slipway
20	I believe we need good quality housing, more shops I would agree to the marina, and would love to see a pier which would be a good viewing platform for the dolphins, and may be a fish and chip restaurant on the pier there needs to be better access to the east sea beach and improve sea defences there, may be turn that beach a clothing optional beach same as durridge bay definitely need to improve visitor attractions to attract tourism
21	I would like to see more options for disabled people who would like to continue to live in Newbiggin more bungalows or ground floor flats
22	All looks good
23	You say you want to keep open spaces and the distinctive nature of Newbiggin then advocate policies which go against that principle. That being extension of sandy bay caravan park and the marina project In favour of improved travel links to the wider world
24	No
25	The statements are quite general therefore difficult to object to
26	No
27	Yes. They are Rubbish. Please actually ask why people come here.
28	So by protecting open areas, does this include no planning to be passed where wildlife corridors have been identified? This would include all wetland areas, is that right?
29	Really important to keep a separation of settlements. We need more house building to the North and West to encourage people to stay here and a selection of housing executive, bungalows and social housing.

30	All important
31	What new developments?
32	We need all three objectives Newbiggin by the Sea cannot become part of Ashington we need to retain our own boundaries. New development is required we need a mixture of new developments from family homes to bungalows.
33	Objective 3 – Well connected – I agree with this objective as long as it doesn't imply that a new link road from Newbiggin to Woodhorn roundabout via Central parkway will fulfil all or part of this objective. There are many ways this objective can be delivered without the need for a third road in and out of Newbiggin.
34	Separation of settlement vital. Proposed building of houses on wetlands, west side of village would be catastrophic for Current wildlife.
35	Not sure what you're objectives are - need specifics, how are you going to protect open spaces if you plan to increase housing and employment opportunities, we have good transport links, what do you mean safe and active travel?
36	Regarding Objective 2: Supporting new development which meets the needs of existing and future residents. This includes providing the right types of housing (that align with with locally agreed locations), supporting investment in employment space and the visitor economy, strengthening the role of the town centre and improving infrastructure to support health. I would rather it said "wellbeing" needs as this is a more encompassing 'term'. I would also add more detail as follows: Development of new arts, culture, sports, learning/ alternative education models, apprenticeships, enterprise and skills opportunities.
37	All of the proposals seem good all but housing.
38	No comments on this one
39	Question 2. In the very near future the only separation there will be between Newbiggin and Ashington will be a dual carriageway and possibly mining subsidence with its body of water and accompanying wild life. The separation between Woodhorn and Newbiggin is provided by the mineral railway to Lyne mouth, the maintenance of which depends on the remaining life span of the power station. In the past the authorities have been very quick to remove railways and bridges in this area, three that I can count. Conservation of the built and historic environment in Woodhorn Village has been lacking in the recent past. When one considers that St Mary's Anglo Saxon church could possibly be the oldest in tact structure in Northumberland and is one of the 25% of structures in Woodhorn Village that are listed, the development at Church farm should have been built in natural stone to fit in with the historic environment. There will be other planning requests in the future and the historic built environment must be driven hard at the NCC planning department by the Newbiggin by the sea town council as the residents of Woodhorn Village have been totally sidelined by NCC planning. There are two open spaces in Woodhorn Village one of which is brown field and has been sold to a developer by NCC. The other is a green field area owned by Howarth estates and runs into Woodhorn Village directly opposite St Mary's. Church. Any development of this area must be resisted and be designated part of the wild life corridor. All other open spaces in and around Woodhorn village are owned by Crown Estates who historically do not not sell agricultural land for development.
40	sounds good
41	Think this is a major area Newbiggin is missing out on! We need new housing but not only to keep families buying in Newbiggin, to bring new people in.
42	The Town Centre will not be strengthened without a proactive marketing plan. Non-food shops are old fashioned, antique shop always closed. Shops need customers - what is bringing customers to Newbiggin? Who is responsible for marketing and promotion?
43	Although the bus services are good there is a need for a more direct bus service into Newcastle as currently this can take over an hour.
44	Newbiggin is in short Supply of Bungalows why has this never been discussed. You can't get a house for people buying them for holiday homes . I come from newbiggin .but live in Ashington would love to come back but need a Bungalow for health reasons. This topic should be Addressed. Thank you Hazel Boon

45	We must remember to ensure that the present businesses are supported and maintained to a high standard.
46	As long as it goes well with the plan as I live in Newbiggin by the Sea 6 years now but no objections
47	I think it is extremely important to keep the boundary of settlements intact as without this Newbiggin would just become an extension of north seaton and would lose its unique identity. I think that variety in businesses is vital to the growth of tourism and attractiveness of our village to visitors. Housing should fit the local environment... sadly I feel this did not happen when the new houses at Dixon's corner were built or the new offices/shops and flats were built within the conservation area and yet do not sit well within the street and would hope that future development would take account of the area around them so they fit more appropriately. I believe good transport links and well managed roads are vital to the economy of Newbiggin
48	Would support all

Q3. Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the identification of wildlife corridors?

Answered by 46

#	RESPONSES
1	Clear separation of settlements is fundamental to our identity. This separation should be a physical separation by creating a wildlife corridor that is at least 100 metre width between Sandy Bay and Woodhorn Roundabout.
2	No comments but I think its is part of Newbiggin's brand - accessibility to open space - the Dolphin Watch has increased awareness of wildlife.
3	My personal feeling is this is too big and issue to 'go it alone' and needs support from such bodies as The National Trust, English Heritage, The R.H.S, Natural England and animal charities e.g. RSPB
4	It would be good if the wildlife corridors could be completely linked up by including the route parallel to the spine road. Maintenance plans should be put in place for all wildlife areas, the moor and east lea woods is a haven for wildlife yet lacks in maintenance and are hot spots for fly tipping and litter. They should be beautiful assets to the community.
5	There is no key given for figures 1 and 2 regarding the types of wildlife corridors so yes this needs to be defined. Resurfacing the car park at Needles Eye must be a priority before claims arrive from damage to cars. The existing trees and shrubs there support a myriad of important wildlife and should be looked after as part of a wildlife corridor. The nearby allotments also support wildlife as well as being a crucial crutch to local people during lockdown. The allotments are suffering financial problems and need help. Incidentally, the local sewage treatment works is guilty of terrible fumes being released into the air regularly and something must be done to ease this. It is unpleasant to allotment holders and visitors alike. Perhaps the water company should be encouraged to give financial help to the allotments as compensation! However it wouldn't help the discomfort experienced by our valued visitors.
6	We agree that it is important to identify wildlife corridors. These are important for environmental protection, local amenity and as defining boundaries and separation of urban identities. We are exceptionally concerned that the planning authority do not appear to recognise the seminal importance of this aspect of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. We are making a formal complaint to Northumberland County Council about the way that compensatory mitigation which would have protected an important site has been diverted to the funding of County Council services. This has left part of the proposed wildlife access corridor in the ownership of Persimmon homes and vulnerable to planning applications for housing development. It should be noted that at the time of writing 185 people have signed a petition calling for no housing development on this site and supporting the idea of a green corridor to preserve distinct settlements and protect wildlife.

7	Any new link road will affect wildlife corridors so what does Newbiggin want? New roads with linked housing development or wildlife corridors? If care is not taken Newbiggin will become linked to North Seaton/Ashington by the development.
8	4.1. Figure 2 concerningly does not allocate the roundabout to farm section as part of a wildlife corridor (the Persimmons Homes plan?) This means there is no 'corridor' and we join up with North Seaton losing our 'unique' and distinctive character.
9	The wildlife corridor creating clear separation from Ashington is what everyone I speak to would like.
10	Identify wildlife corridors but also identify areas of Newbiggin which can be made better by planting, shrubs, trees, flowers and maintaining them to a good standard.
11	One of the existing corridors between the school and woodhorn roundabout is proposed as a possible road at some point in the future - how does that work? (Issue 5)
12	Agree.
13	No comments.
14	No comments.
15	Wildlife corridors are essential.
16	Wildlife corridors are essential
17	Dolphins have been to Newbiggin and Amble.
18	No, although the wildlife corridor wetland area could be developed for walking (e.g. Druridge Bay Country Park, Big Waters in Wideopen). Also coarse fishing could be implemented there.
19	Wildlife brings visitors to us.
20	No
21	Get schools and pupils involved we could do with something like Plessey woods to attract visitors the burn that runs along the bottom of the school has rare water voles this area should be developed and also where the pit was red squirrels and brown buzzards have been sighted.
22	You propose wildlife corridors along the spine road to Woodhorn wetland . I can't think of a worse place to have one . In adopting the sandy bay extension you are advocating a policy which will threaten one of most important wildlife corridors and habitats we have in the area , that being along the river wansbeck to the links .
23	It's very hard to tell what the maps are actually showing without giving a key! As far as I can tell the areas identified seem to be sensible
24	No
25	No
26	There is no key given for figure 1 & 2 regarding the types of wildlife corridors so yes this needs to be defined. Resurfacing of the car park at the Needles Eye should be a priority before claims for damaged vehicles start arriving. However maintaining the existing trees and shrubs which support a myriad of wildlife there is also important. The nearby allotments also support wildlife as well as being a crucial crutch to local people during lockdown. They are suffering financial problems and need help. The local sewage treatment works is guilty of terrible fumes being regularly released into the air and something must be done to ease this. It is unpleasant for allotment holders and visitors alike. Perhaps the water company should be encouraged to give finance to the allotments as compensation although this will not be a solution to attract our valued visitors/tourists.
27	The identification of wildlife corridors is a good thing, why has the Sandy Bay extension been granted when it's clearly through a wildlife corridor ?
28	Important
29	No

30	None.
31	Wildlife corridors should have some form of access ability to draw people in and for local residents footpaths to take in the natural assist to educate young and old.
32	Wetlands and pools highlighted to the west of village sustain high numbers of birds and wildlife. Must be maintained. Area not highlighted around quarry and cliffs to the south provide nesting habitat for birds, and cover for deer foxes hedgehogs and other wildlife moving along the coast. Proposed addition of more caravans/housing on the site will ruin this. Also be to the detriment of the character of the village. Surely two caravan sites are enough?
33	No.
34	I agree with the approach but feel it is every important that we must not allow planning officers to be in a position where they can unilaterally agree things between themselves and developer without consulting the key stakeholders of Newbiggin i.e. the people, the Development Trust, the Town Council (Mayor etc), Councillors and interest groups. I refer to the Persimmon Homes acquisition of the land west of Newbiggin and the resulting issues.
35	I think this is great
36	These areas need to be developed and particularly keen to see the reclamation of the former lagoon areas
37	<p>Question 3. There is already a functioning wildlife corridor which traverses across the north end of Woodhorn Village across the C123 road to Lyne mouth and goes East to the ash lagoons. Deer, squirrels (both red and grey) fox and hare are using this route. It is believed the attraction of tree cover encourages this route. In view of this activity the green space on the North edge of Woodhorn Village through to the ash lagoons should be locked in as part of the corridor and</p> <p>not developed. In fact tree planting in this area would be of huge benefit to the wild life and would extend the very old tree plantings in Woodhorn Village.</p>
38	sometimes both can be married together , new housing existing with untouched areas that are can be tweaked to encourage wildlife and enhance the natural enviroment , After all that is why people choose to live outside of cities
39	Identify wildlife corridors but also identify areas of Newbiggin which can be made better by planting, shrubs, trees, flowers and maintaining them to a good standard.
40	Great Idea
41	Every effort should be made to maintain existing wildlife corridors
42	Maybe make designated nature walks, routes, with signage and pathways. Notices pointing out local flora and fauna. Possibly different distanced routes?
43	None that I can think of at all.
44	I think we have a really great opportunity for development around the lagoon areas, along the narrow path areas and also on the borders of existing parkland and natural growing fields.... however, I feel development of the beach area should be kept to a minimum. There has been a lot of talk of the marina again in the last year following this being shelved many years ago. I do not feel that a marina would enhance the bay at all and feel something like this would actually be detrimental to the development and natural beauty of Newbiggin. I do feel that land up past the bowling green is ripe for development as at present it is an eyesore. Better access to that side of the bay and more developed roads there would mean development could take place in the form of pods and even possibly housing.
45	Wildlife corridors are important not only for wildlife but help keep Newbiggin a separate entity.
46	More litter bins & tidying in these areas NOW! Also the Prom railings including beside the Church Point, desperately need painting. Sand needs putting back on the beach more regularly too.

Q4. Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the natural environment?

Answered by 46

#	RESPONSES
1	On land we should use all open spaces to support plants that support bees and we should also plant indigenous tree species on the coast we have serious land loss from erosion - Spital Point. We have prolific kelp beds that can be assisted to increase propagation of Marine Life.
2	I agree with 4:3
3	As in question 3 I feel that it would be beneficial to involve other agencies e.g National Trust on a consultative basis as they already manage a large part of the Northumberland Coastal regions already.
4	A significant amount of land has been designated to environmental designations, this should be protected but enhanced to encourage walking, cycling and visitor experiences like at Druridge Bay Country Park, it could be a wonderful nature reserve with management and appropriate facilities in plan. Dogs should also be kept on leads in all wildlife areas.
5	The wildlife corridors must be maintained and housing should be restricted to areas already designated and not developed - the site opposite the sports centre is a real eyesore. Greenfield sites are acceptable that do not have wetland or lake areas or indeed woodland. East Lea Woods is becoming very impressive but it is without a single waste bin. The fly tipping there should be monitored and controlled as this area could become a real asset to Newbiggin in the near future. The beaches are beautiful and the main attraction to Newbiggin but the access to the needles eye beach is quite dangerous for older people and young families and should be improved. The north beaches access is very off putting and dangerous too. It has lovely sand. This area is wide open to sensitive development and could be opened up for future tourism.
6	We do not believe that concern for the natural environment should be limited to green corridors Newbiggin's coastline is of vital importance in sustaining a wonderful diverse range of flora and fauna and providing a major amenity for locals and visitors alike. Within the urban area there is huge scope for protecting and greening spaces for plants and wildlife. There may be some scope for recovering some of Newbiggin's streams providing new habitats and diverse environmental assets
7	It appears that until the two spaces for the link road are in place the natural environment and other green spaces will be sacrificed.
8	To ensure building only takes place on brown belt like the demolished school site that has been sat empty for years not farmland or green space. Also, providing better access for those on foot or bike. To get across the spine road from Blyth direction or Lynemouth is a nightmare. The only safe option being the subway - but you have to cross another busy high speed roads to get there - also the new link road would remove a pleasant walk through green space.
9	The wildlife corridor is a cul de sac and it should be connected to Sandy Bay. Also Spital Point is eroding and it needs some protection.
10	No, as long as it is well looked after and properly maintained.
11	Think West End - beside bowling green is big opportunity to have activities and also cafe and also small shop units/pods
12	Working with NCC and outside agencies to create protected wild spaces (wetlands and/or nature reserves) should be investigated.
13	Agree
14	No comments.
15	No comments.
16	Totally agree with the objectives.
17	Totally agree with the objectives
18	When we were growing up you did not have to encourage visitors to come here. They came for the lovely beach, pure sand not the grit we have now it went about 1/2 mile. There was landing stages to get to rowing boats shuggy boats and donkeys for children. 3 shelters on sold deck chairs, middle bay, the horse shoe steps and the far end. Lovell band stand where bands played and sunday night dancing where the new houses are it was rockery lovely.

19	As stated, more is needed to develop tourism. County Park Style designs would bring visitors, and also show them that there is more to Newbiggin by the Sea than the prom.
20	Muster on fishing village, that's what it was and can be again
21	No other than I would hate to see lots of building on the fields behind the grave darling campus and any obstructions to the costal paths both north and south of the village
22	would the conservation area take away the rights of shore angling which is a recreational sport and good for mental health i would be very concerned if this was taken away.
23	Not enough detail of the areas you might be refering to .
24	No
25	No
26	The wildlife corridors must be maintained and housing should be restricted to areas already designated but not developed-the site opposite the sports centre is an eyesore. Green field sites that do not have wetland, pond areas or indeed woodland. The woodland at Eastfield Lea is becoming quite impressive but still without a single waste bin. Fly tipping there should be monitored and controlled as this could become a real asset to Newbiggin in the near future.
27	No
28	Has to be a priority wit(so many species becoming endangered
29	Not sure.
30	As stated above we need to access the natural resources.
31	No comment
32	Caravan proposal to south of village will basically cut of the natural corridor for wildlife from the south. Lagoons to the north could be a fantastic protected wildlife space on a par with durage.
33	No
34	Newbiggin must be 'at the table' on all matters pertaining to the natural environment and should have a representative body e.g. Natural Newbiggin or the formation of Climate Action Group to ensure these spaces are fully protected. There also needs to be a clear memorandum of understanding and a line of accountability should anyone contravene what has been outlined and agreed in the Neighbourhood Plan.
35	I am really sad to see the area opposite my street will be crowded with houses, it would be a great area for an attraction, somewhere to sit a community garden like in Whitley Bay. Such a shame.
36	No comments on the natural environment and you have identified the value of this aspect
37	Question4. The natural world thrives in and around trees and under growth. What trees are left in this parish should be protected at any cost.
38	will be good to see some enhancement
39	Think West End - beside Bowling Green in big opportunity to have activities and also cafe and also small shop units pods
40	No, as long as it is well looked after and properly maintained.
41	Sort out the beach next to the factory in Lynemouth so its a nicer walk
42	More litter bins and dog poo bins.
43	Totally agree that the natural environment must be protected and enhanced by any new development, this is so important to make the village attractive to residents and visitors as well as developers.
44	No
45	Answered in previous section
46	See above

Q5. Do you have any comments on the approach to the built and historic environment?

Answered by 41

#	RESPONSES
1	A strategic plan would have the vision to cater for prosperity in future decades. All the land behind the council office on front street should be developed with this in mind.
2	Please please please new builds in keeping with the town. A town historic buildings trail to be implemented.
3	Everything should be done to preserve as much as possible of the historic background of Newbiggin including an increase in the 'blue plaque' scheme. I cannot think of three of these at the moment but I am sure there are more deserving sites to be found.
4	Agree - perhaps the Conservation Area policy could be reviewed. Too many businesses are choosing to paint their frontages garish colours which are not sympathetic to a conservation area. I would like to see the conservations area extended to cover Beach Terrace and Milburn Park and a separate conservation area to protect the heritage of Woodhorn Village.
5	The built up conservation area, for far, in my experience has not been cared for very much. The Railway Inn and distinctive Dolphin Tavern were both demolished against public opinion and there is not much in their place apart from council offices and public toilets (much needed). our lovely old library was also removed leaving a rubble car park!
6	We agree with it. A great deal of Newbiggin's historic and built environment has been lost We believe that a wholesale programme of labelling historic buildings, of placing information boards at key locations , of identifying where key historic figures lived and of naming places to reflect their historic character should be undertaken. For a start the ridiculous 'Piazza' should be formally restored to its centuries old designation of the Quay Wall – a place to haul and dock boats, of commerce, where historic film records the performance of the 'Newbiggin by the Sea' sword dance, of music, speeches, religious meetings and some mighty brawls.
7	So are we going to preserve historic buildings or continue to demolish them? So far the track record is not good. During my limited (approx. 6 yrs) time in Newbiggin I have seen the demolition of a number of Victorian buildings.
8	I agree whole heartedly that the nature of the conservation area should be preserved. The new town council building clearly wasn't build with this in mind! Please stop the loss of shops (conversion to residential) and encourage empty shops to be let (like the sweet shop stood empty for 10+ years and others)
9	The garage area behind the Town Council Office should be developed for car parking, shops and some housing and offices.
10	Agree. The restoration of Rocket House is an excellent example of how to protect and enhance historic assets. All historic assets should be subject to continuous protection, enhancement and improvement.
11	Its a pity the car park in Gibson Street by McColls was never finished as per the plans that were sent out. It looks like there should be paving and trees, it does look rather like a bit of a waste land. (but still very useful)
12	Protection of the White House Corner, built 1704. Old Ship Hotel, Coble Inn. Sea View House, Vernon Place and what's left of (Old) Sandridge
13	Agree
14	Agree
15	Then there were tennis courts and bowling green all well kept with flower beds, lovely colours. A huge chequered board where old man played. A bridge at the needles eye you could walk over, it was left to rot.
16	No.
17	Keep all historic stuff. Big mistake losing shelters.
18	No other than it would be nice to see something developed with wood horn church
19	Can't tell which buildings you are talking about . You may know but you do not make it clear what they are .

20	Again no key! The idea of a protected area seems a double edged sword for those owning property within it, which I do not, depending on exactly what is permitted within it. There is no discussion of who has decided which buildings are considered listed and worth protecting.
21	No
22	Unclear map listed buildings not identified adequately. Should be clearly annotated
23	The built up conservation area so far, in my opinion, has not been cared for very much. The Railway Inn and distinct Dolphin Tavern were both demolished against public opinion and there was not much of value built in there place apart from council offices and public toilets. Our lovely old library was also removed leaving a rubble car park.
24	Are the new developments going to blend in with current building styles/ structures? Unlike the Maritime centre!
25	We have to be reasonable about our assists while looking after our heritage keeping a perspective by keeping new buildings in line with what we have. A list of our historic assets should be done.
26	No comment
27	Area surrounding woodhorn church, including pool and wetland essential for wildlife. Also a place of outstanding natural beauty. And history.
28	No
29	I agree with the approach. There should also be the allocation of grants for property owners on the Front Street to ensure it can look truly distinctive and world class. There should be more heritage boards that tell people about the significant facts about Newbiggin's history. More could be done to identify and mark the boundaries of Newbiggin.
30	Sounds great and the buildings and scenery are why I moved here. Sadly cheap housing flooding the area is going to spoil the whole charm. Feels pointless making any suggestions.
31	It is important to protect our listed buildings but also important that the planning system ensures correct procedures are followed for developments and in particular the importance of the conservation areas.
32	Question 5, 6. The historic and architectural importance of the buildings in Woodhorn Village is substantial and as previously stated it carries eight buildings with listed status, that is 25% of the existing structures within the village, yet this uniqueness is not mentioned in the plan. Therefore it is suggested the whole village should be classed as listed, which would protect the historic and built environment. What happened at the Church Farm development must never be allowed to happen again.
33	it needs kept maintained as it is part of the history and appeal of Newbiggin by the sea
34	More jobs we can create and more tourists can attract the better... (the rest of this comment was illegible)
35	Woodhorn Church is packed full of history as is the graveyard. It needs to be rescued and reopened; even as a restaurant or play group venue; anything to prevent further ruin.
36	New buildings should be architecturally sympathetic to there surroundings blending well into the environment.
37	No comments I can't say on my behalf of this approach to the built and historic environment.
38	I believe it is very important that new buildings should be in keeping with the location it is built in. As mentioned before especially within the conservation area. I have no idea how the new council office building and flats were ever considered in keeping with the local conservation plans or the new housing at Dixon's corner. Please do not let this mistake happen again or I fear the quaint feel and distinctive character of Newbiggin will be lost!
39	Conservation of these listed buildings is important but there are other buildings/landmarks that need to be preserved to maintain the Cha rapid the 'village'. However it is also good to see innovative design of new buildings, we shouldn't allow Newbiggin to exist in a time warp.
40	Youve got a cheek after demolishing the Historic Dolphin Pub
41	More blue circle signage for historical buildings ect

Q6. Are there any buildings or structures that you feel are important to the history and character of Newbiggin by the Sea that you feel we should highlight in our plan?

Answered by 46

#	RESPONSES
1	Across the road in Sandridge there is an arch. Through that arch stands the last one up one down house. It may be the only left along the North East Coast?
2	Woodhorn Church Bertorelli's - example of art deco building Mechanical institute on Bridge Street.
3	As a 'foreigner' I am not 'au fait' with all the historic buildings past and present but other would have much wider knowledge.
4	Woodhorn Church, St. Barts Church, Rocket House and Cafe Bertorelli.
5	The building that houses Newbiggin Furniture Company has a blue plaque on the outside and is looking very shabby back and front. I think it needs a facelift as it would be interesting to a lot of people.
6	All churches All pubs Bank House Monck House Trevelyan House Maling House Freemasons Hall Old Police station (and policeman's steps) Capped off shafts of Newbiggin Colliery Former powder house Newbiggin Colliery Spital Farm Needles Eye bridge - to be restored Pavilion Milburn park Woodhorn - church, mill, houses Cable House 10 Matten Terrace - where John Braine wrote 'Room at the Top' Jack Carr's House - North Seaton Road Locations of Lowry art work Lyne Bay disaster memorial Route taken from the Pant to East Sea Sands by women hauling the lifeboat to the rescue of the 'Eminent' February 1940 Outer Carrs memorial to the heroism of Henry Brown and the bravery of Philip Jefferson March 18th 1851 'The Hill' where women watched for the cobbles coming home Former school sites
7	Safeguard: the beach and promenade golf course bowling green health centre sports' centre library rights of way Memorial Park Central Park Football pitches
8	Perhaps a less cavalier approach to the destruction of Victorian buildings (the primary school, library and Dolphin Pub) might help. Once old building are gone in favour of 'new build' they can never be replaced.
9	The has been a somewhat blaze approach in the past with the loss of the Dolphin pub, school, library all Victorian buildings. The remaining buildings like Bertorellis, the garreted sailing club betting shop and the old cinema are all important and should be dwarfed by 3 storey modern maisonettes. It is impossible on the map to see which are listed buildings!!!
10	St. Bartholomew's is obvious. Less obvious is the one up one down Fisherman's house accessed by an Arch in Sandridge. It is the only one of its kind left along the coast.
11	St. Barts Church Point. Woodhorn Church/The promenade and beach, lifeboat house.
12	Church - Church Point Prom - we need to look after this better e.g. weeds, sand and dog poo. The prom is Newbiggin's biggest asset.
13	St. Bartholomews Church.
14	Its a pity that the boxing club is a bit of an eyesore, especially as it used to be a large shop. An important building that should be made more of.
15	Lifeboat house.
16	No.
17	No.
18	As most historical buildings have been pulled there are not a lot left. All of the schools gone which were here when I went to school. I am waiting for the churches to go next. Colliery school, church school, modern school, where the new houses are now and the little school which seems to be a waste land for cars. All great buildings which were our history. Why?
19	Woodhorn Church - should be promoted more! Cafe Bertorelli (art deco building)
20	Lifeboat House, Churches.
21	Woodhorn church , church point
22	churches lifeboat station sea defences great for Newbiggin sea front

23	Lifeboat station and rocket house . All churches . To late to save any of the character full buildings which have been lost to the bulldozer recently.
24	Lifeboat/rocket House, churches, bandstand, miners institute, some of front street but in their own way colliery houses are also part of towns heritage. Woodhorn farm & mill
25	No
26	If I could tell which had been identified maybe I could offer some suggestions
27	The building that houses Newbiggin Furniture Company has a blue plaque on the outside and is looking very shabby back and front. I think it needs a facelift as it would be interesting to a lot of people.
28	Lifeboat house,
29	We have lost some of our history within the Town a list should be done to look at what the whole community believes should be looked after. St Bartholomews church Woodhorn Prom
30	No comment
31	Woodhorn church and area.
32	No
33	I don't know.
34	I love the bandstand, it's a meeting place a talking point and encapsulates the areas current charm.
35	The telegraph house and also the structures at Needles Eye
36	Question 5, 6, The historic and architectural importance of the buildings in Woodhorn Village is substantial and as previously stated it carries eight buildings with listed status, that is 25% of the existing structures within the village, yet this uniqueness is not mentioned in the plan. Therefore it is suggested the whole village should be classed as listed, which would protect the historic and built environment. What happened at the Church Farm development must never be allowed to happen again.
37	maritime centre , family heritage centre , woodhorn church.
38	Church - Church Point Prom we need to look after this better e.g. weeds, sand and dog poo. The prom is newbiggins biggest asset
39	St. Barts church point. Woodhorn Church./ the promenade & beach. Lifeboat house.
40	Woodhorn Church
41	Newbiggin Bowling Green Club house built in 1933. Buildings associated with the Brewers Yard. Bank House Social Club and the Masonic Lodge. Bertorelli's
42	Yes! New shops for shopping to shop instead travelling to Ashington for cheap foods and saving money on bus fares. And less cafes!
43	Bertorellis, the sailing centre building, the churches in Newbiggin including woodhorn. The lifeboat station ,
44	Bertorelli's, Mechanic's Institute, Catholic Church, buildings that front the promenade.
45	The Dolphin was highlighted before you chose to demolish it
46	Lifeboat Station. Church at the Point.

Q7. Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to the identification of important open spaces?

Answered by 43

#	RESPONSES
1	Central Park offers opportunities for a range of land based sports including soccer, rugby, cricket, hockey. The school has acres of unused land.
2	Like the part that local council can play to advise NCC, local input very important.
3	Has the identification been an ariel survey or ground survey or both as this could be interpreted in different ways??
4	I support this.
5	The open space which is currently under threat from Persimmon Homes includes an important wetland/lake and hedgerow, something that should be protected at any cost for Newbiggin Community. It could be made into a nature reserve with bird watching hides, an excellent educational resource, beneficial to children and adults alike. Newbiggin does not have this at the moment.
6	With regard to the open spaces, it would be a great idea if the park was turned in to a proper ornamental park, with flowers, trees, seating, a pond and possibly a small snackbar/cafe. This would be a great amenity for both tourists and locals. When the weather is rough on the sea front, a formal park would give visitors to Newbiggin somewhere more sheltered to go.
7	Link road alongside the open space on central parkway? Obviously open space is less important than a new road. Marina proposal for southern end of the bay, will increase traffic and air/water pollution
8	Link road driven through green space on central parkway will destroy that place. The proposed marina will bring increased traffic as well as water pollution and will impact the use of the promenade and green space at south/west of town. Provision of better paths in those spaces.
9	All of the land on the Newbiggin side of the spine road should be open.
10	Yes. Make them smart and provide seating, flower boxes etc. Keep them well maintained like Morpeth
11	Again West End needs used! All areas beside bowling green wasted and a mess.
12	No.
13	No comments.
14	No comments.
15	No comment
16	No Comment
17	There is not many open spaces left to what there used to be; the bull field, Woodlea, Spital, Moor Estate, The Pines.
18	No objections but would like to a a percentage used for tourism development.
19	yes, put a boat launching facility in so boats and water craft can come safely in and out.
20	No
21	I think just past the bowling green should be developed I can remember when there used to be a putting green and i used it lots of times
22	Our open space over the links and cliffs are going to be lost due to your direct intervention .
23	Seems clear even without key
24	No
25	The open space to the west of Newbiggin that is currently under threat from Persimmon Homes includes an important wetland/lake, something that should be protected at any cost for Newbiggin Community. It could be made into a nature reserve with bird watching hides. This would be an excellent educational resource, beneficial to adults and children alike. Newbiggin does not have this at the moment.

26	What do you mean by "proposed approach" to the identification of important open spaces?
27	We need to look at who has ownership of the open spaces and the potential of these open spaces for the future we need to work in partnership with land owners for the benefit of the Town.
28	No comment
29	Yes, why is the wetland and pools not highlighted to the west of the village?
30	No, where possible we should maintain the integrity of a small town, open spaces are vital in order for us to maintain ourselves as Newbiggin-by-the-Sea not a suburb of Ashington.
31	"our plan should review this information and identify all open spaces which are important to the local community." The plan should set out the methodology for working with the community to find out what is important to them in terms of open spaces. It needs to clearly state how the TC will involve the 6000 local people.
32	I think it is very important, I am baffled to hear houses will be crammed opposite my road yet the old schools ground have been empty for years and now the farm land opposite Sandy Bay.
33	It is important to have these areas but there needs to be a robust approach to maintenance and control.
34	Question 7. I agree with the approach to identify important open spaces for the future.
35	anywhere that is used regularly should be included , especially the pron
36	Again west end needs used! All areas beside bowling green wasted! A mess.
37	Yes. Make them smart ad provide seating, flower boxes etc. Keep them well maintained like Morpeth.
38	Agreed the grasslands around Storey Crescent, especially the forest planted in the last 10 years. There are deer, pheasants, owls all spotted in the wood in recent weeks. It is such a shame the woods are full of litter.
39	All current open spaces should be nurtured and protected, these spaces are so important for the well-being of the village.
40	Bigger shops, more spaces for people to shop around as we're still in the coronavirus pandemic as keeping distance 2m apart
41	No
42	The area around the bowling green is in need of attention. At present it just seems to be a dog-walking area. It's a really important space at the west end that just seems a bit sad now.
43	no

Q8. Are there any areas of open space in the parish that you would like to see protected through the plan?

Answered by 39

#	RESPONSES
1	The land <small>Document was last saved: Just now</small> side of the spine road should be a public open space for public recreation and wildlife. The existing ponds attract many migratory species.
2	Alongside the path between Needle Point and Sandy Bay
3	Yes - all the land both sides of Spital Road from where the farm finishes to the roundabout on the A189. Also the areas north of Church Point caravan park and the Golf Course.
4	The woodland beyond Oakwood Avenue.

5	Bridleways are very important for health and well being as are allotments. Protection of East Lea woods and our natural wetlands and lakes formed by mistake or not, is essential to keep our wildlife as it is today.
6	Central Parkway area and fields beside cycle path to Woodhorn. Sea cliffs and rough grazing at northern end of town.
7	The wedge between the A189 and B1334 from the North Seaton roundabout. Access past Sandy Bay to the Wansbeck river walk.
8	All of the land on the Newbiggin side of the spine road. The Golf Course and the area north of the golf course
9	Use West End area is a must there in car park space it's an area we need to improve for tourism
10	No.
11	No comments.
12	No comments.
13	No comment
14	No Comment
15	What open spaces are left are taken over by dog owners which is sad. Some have 3-4 and don't pick up after them. It is disgusting. My grandchildren where on the beach when let her dog poo beside them. When we said something she said her dog had a right to be she did not pick it up it was wrong moth for them to be on the beach. They think the sea will wash it away! Dogs Paradise.
16	No.
17	Beach has too much sand, needs levelling and then protecting.
18	Along the cliffs . The moor and golf course which is in urgent need of protection by sea defences .
19	Beach front, Church Point Central Park, costal defence structures, Moor and meadow
20	Yes- east of Spital Road
21	The area previously mentioned plus bridleways and allotments for health and wellbeing. Also East Lea Woods is important to me.
22	Interested to know which bits belong to Freeholders and what regulations apply to them , could they sell for building land ?
23	Collingwood field and the Welfare Field should be protected, this is a safety factor due to the large number of children who attend the Grace Darling campus.
24	No comment
25	Yes. Wetland and ponds to the west of village. And essentially area for resident and migrating breeding birds. Especially since the destruction of similar land being currently built on at ashington hospital. Area has huge potential for wildlife protection. And is a popular walking space for residents. One of the few they have.
26	As much of the open space surrounding Newbiggin should be protected

27	the area the separates the settlements is very important, the wetlands and the areas shown on the plan are all extremely important.
28	Yes opposite my street. It shouldn't always be about money.
29	No
30	Question 8. The open space adjacent to the West and to the North of the Church Farm development should be protected against development for reasons already stated. Additionally the area East and South of St Mary's Church up to the railway line should be conserved.
31	the moor area and prom area
32	Use west end area is a must: the car park space its and area we need to improve for tourism.
33	Where the horses are as its lovely to go and see them and feed them
34	Grassland around Storey Crescent and woods.
35	Less transport, less people around so be can control this. So we can stick to the plan.
36	The fields and lakes just beyond spittal and the academy school are amazing areas for wildlife and should be protected in the plan
37	See previous answer
38	Lift the beach Dog Ban
39	No,

Q9. Do you have any comments on the proposed community actions to enhance the distinctiveness of the environment?

Answered by 45

#	RESPONSES
1	As Newbiggin looks to a brighter future maybe a sense of pride will encourage a reduction in littering, dog fouling and unkempt gardens. The seafront has ample provision of bins but there are streets away from the promenade where dog poo and litter are a problem. The precious sand, brought to Newbiggin at vast expense, should be swept from the prom and side streets and returned to the beach regularly. Wouldn't Newbiggin benefit from a sizeable tree-planting plan? Particularly at the east end of town, there are hardly any trees and the grace and beauty of some well-chosen specimens could enhance the somewhat industrial feel. The "greening" of certain areas with trees and shrubs would improve the look as well as providing habitat for birds and mammals.
2	Maintenance of existing facilities within the town is somewhat patchy. Grasses areas and flower beds are generally well tended and do credit to those involved. Issue of litter particularly on approaches to Newbiggin (narrow path to Woodhorn, bypass from North Seaton up to Woodhorn and along passed sewage works) is an ongoing concern. Bins are not regularly emptied, particularly after holiday weekends, and hand picking is seldom evident. The promenade in Newbiggin should be the focus for maintenance as it is the focus for visitors and residents alike. Removal of weeds and a rolling programme for painting and general maintenance is essential before any unrealistic developmental ideas. I am delighted to see no reference to the ludicrous idea of a marina at the south of the bay. Traffic calming down North Seaton Road and Front Street is essential. There will be a fatal accident soon. As an evening dog walker I have experienced boy racer syndrome after dark and it is not pleasant. The wide sweeping corner from Front Street up along Central Parkway towards the school can be like a race track. That would only be made worse by a totally unnecessary link road up to Woodhorn roundabout. It would become an unmonitored speedway. The main street badly needs either speed humps or a chicane pattern similar to that operating successfully in Lynmouth. This needs to be on place from near the entrance to Spital Estate then run right down to the town centre. Any rush hour delays at North Seaton Roundabout which incidentally occur at all the approach roads and not simply to those exiting Newbiggin could be addressed by the installation of part time traffic lights.

3	I agree with the observations. We need to use the bay as a catalyst for economic activity, through tourism, marine life propagation and the promotion of sailing and other sea related activities for prosperity, jobs, healthy living.
4	Like them.
5	Involvement of the community is vital starting with the very young. All the children's clubs and groups e.g. brownies, guides, scouts etc. Also a sense of pride in the environment needs to be instilled in the community as this is sorely lacking in certain areas.
6	I support these community actions but would also like to see support for projects to put Newbiggin by the Sea on the map as the centre of arts and culture in Northumberland. Projects centres to build educational and practical skills should also be supported - Covid-19 has identified as lack of community support facilities in Newbiggin e.g. Real Deal in Ashington, Engage in Blyth, nothing in Newbiggin. Projects to re-introduce youth provision, providing a safe and secure environment for youths and opportunities for them should also be supported. Projects to regenerate Milburn Park as a historic park and extension of the promenade.
7	<p>There is no key given for figures 1 and 2 regarding the types of wildlife corridors so yes this needs to be defined. Resurfacing the car park at Needles Eye must be a priority before claims arrive from damage to cars. The existing trees and shrubs there support a myriad of important wildlife and should be looked after as part of a wildlife corridor. The nearby allotments also support wildlife as well as being a crucial crutch to local people during lockdown. The allotments are suffering financial problems and need help. Incidentally, the local sewage treatment works is guilty of terrible fumes being released into the air regularly and something must be done to ease this. It is unpleasant to allotment holders and visitors alike. Perhaps the water company should be encouraged to give financial help to the allotments as compensation! However it wouldn't help the discomfort experienced by our valued visitors. The wildlife corridors must be maintained and housing should be restricted to areas already designated and not developed - the site opposite the sports centre is a real eyesore. Greenfield sites are acceptable that do not have wetland or lake areas or indeed woodland. East Lea Woods is becoming very impressive but it is without a single waste bin. The fly tipping there should be monitored and controlled as this area could become a real asset to Newbiggin in the near future. The beaches are beautiful and the main attraction to Newbiggin but the access to the</p> <p>needles eye beach is quite dangerous for older people and young families and should be improved. The north beaches access is very off putting and dangerous too. It has lovely sand. This area is wide open to sensitive development and could be opened up for future tourism.</p>
8	Support these fully. tree planting would be a useful addition to enhance the environment.
9	I fully support this plan. Again the new link road and Persimmon developments seem out of keeping with this!! We definitely need better bridleway/cycle/footpath links, coming south from Blyth in particular - there is no safe pleasant and reasonably direct way to make that journey north to Newbiggin. Maintenance of existing routes is also needed, the cycle route from Lynemouth is badly overgrown.
10	Agree with proposals.
11	Regular litter picking using volunteers and council refuse collectors. More new housing needed mainly social housing.
12	No.
13	No comments.
14	No comments.
15	Open spaces are important but must be managed to suit the needs of the community.
16	Open spaces are important but must be managed to meet the needs of the community
17	The number of people whom drop there rubbish after they have finished eating even though there are bins litter. I see them from my house not just young ones in the mornings when get up and go in gardens there are bags, cartons from chips rubbish. When we go out we bring it back with us not drop it in the streets.

18	No.
19	In town toilets more seats.
20	No other than it would be good for these to be maintained. What about having further heritage trails
21	Firmly against a marina in the bay . Could benefit from a visitor attraction of some sort at the east sea sands to beacons area ,linked to sea defences .
22	There should be some thought given to ensuring people who own horses don't just use the wildlife areas for tying up their animals. I've been a Newbiggin resident for fifteen years and could never have guessed the left of horse infestation a village could have!
23	No
24	See previous.
25	You need people to actually manage the areas keeping them safe and clean , this is lacking at the moment.
26	Will the community get a say before the actions?
27	We definitely need footpaths to wildlife corridors this could bring footfall into the Town, the woods at eastlea is amazing but needs to be cleaned up yet again partnership working.
28	Central parkway needs some enhancement to the hills and surrounding areas.
29	The distinctiveness and natural beauty of Newbiggin is best maintained by not getting rid of existing wetlands and adding more caravans when we already have one either side of the village.
30	No
31	The above do not constitute 'community actions' they are, by definition Town Council actions . Therefore the community engagement, alternative education options etc are elements that could be explored. I think the last bullet point is or should be linked to a wider strategic communications plan for the area. There is reputation about Newbiggin that harks from the past and this should be changed through clever comms. This in itself would help the distinctiveness of the area through the celebrations.
32	We really need more car parking. I have random cars parked outside my house at times and it's frustrating. It will only get worse when the houses go on over the road.
33	None
34	Question 9. Environmental enhancement is covered in Questions 3 & 4. Maintenance of anything will be difficult if it is the responsibility of NCC that includes public footpaths. If changes are to be made to conservation area guidance, working with the NCC is the only route. Community projects are usually driven by people who see a need and should be supported.
35	very much needed so feel positive of the approach
36	Regular litter picking using volunteers and council refuse collectors. More new housing needed mainly social housing.
37	I feel the trees next to the golf course known as the Moor could be tidied up and made into a lovely wildlife woods
38	I feel the first place requiring development is the disused site where Assent Homes was to develop. This is an eyesore at the moment and is not a good advertisement on an approach to the Town.
39	Newbiggin is desperate for another main road connection; through Central Parkway would appear most sensible. Access to town is so restricted by only two main routes in or out.

40	I'm in complete agreement
41	None.
42	No
43	Would support all the above
44	There was a plan for Ashington before corruption raised its head again
45	Is there any of the Mary Porters money left? As I think we should light the Promenade up at night, & make it an attraction for people to visit. As we have the longest in Northumberland. & by doing this it will highlight the fact. The Prom needs to be kept much cleaner too.

Q10. Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to supporting economic and tourism development?

Answered by 52

#	RESPONSES
1	The bay should be an economic catalyst. Private and public investment will follow the increased footfall and spend.
2	5.3 - disappointing to see land allocated for building and nothing happening e.g. opposite the sports centre. I think permission should be withdrawn after a certain period if no progress is shown.
3	We need to push ourselves out there and advertise what is on offer in Newbiggin. Also the potential to develop a marina at the top end of the bay. Since the building development at the far end of Gibson Street all seems to have gone quiet. This needs to be addressed and building companies need to be stimulated to get involved.
4	Agree that allocations should be reviewed. Agree that the plan should support new economic and tourism development but this needs to be sympathetically linked to the existing retail areas so it does not detract from their sustainability.
5	I am not adverse to a small retail village or purpose built restaurants similar to 'Lilys Landing' behind the Harbour Fish and Chip shop in Amble. The quality of some restaurant food in Newbiggin needs to be better. It is in itself a great draw, especially with a sea view! The basketball area next to the Bowling Green is never used and has development potential.
6	We need a new good quality, preferably sea front hotel. We need 'destination' restaurants We need to emphasise the proximity of Newbiggin by the Sea to the extraordinary scientific research and technology start ups in Newcastle upon Tyne. We need to attract entrepreneurs to live/ work in this hugely attractive location by the sea. The creation of a dolphin viewing platform linked to Newcastle University could be a first step. We needed to develop attractions around the whole of Newbiggin Bay and we need to restore the promenade shelters Milburn Park should undoubtedly be the location for a superb children's playground. It also requires a new environmental centre complementing the maritime centre and providing exhibition and meeting space, changing rooms, toilets and a cafe and an interpretation centre for the marine resources, allotments and birdlife on its doorstep. The extension of Sandy Bay Park is a good step forward, now Newbiggin needs to step up to ensure that its visitors are drawn in to our attractions here. The environmental centre could link with 'Newbiggin's best beach' to introduce visitors to the natural beauty, marine resources and history of East Sea Sands Nature tourism can be key We need to emphasise the importance of 'homecoming' in reaching out to the Newbiggin diaspora. There is huge scope to develop an enhanced resource behind Newbiggin's Family History Centre to accommodate permanent exhibitions drawing upon what is the biggest community family history record in the world. We need to ask Newbiggin born artists if their work can go on permanent display here.

7	To assist with Newbiggin's tourist trade, we really need the marina building. This will bring people in to Newbiggin, who will then spend their money in local pubs, cafes and shops. This in turn will create jobs, which is good for the local economy. There should also be some trading pods built on the old sports courts, next to the bowling green. Having the pods at Amble has really helped to attract visitors. This could do the same for improving Newbiggin's prosperity. Some covered shelters on the seafront would give people somewhere to get out of the rain, meaning that they hang around longer, rather than just going home when there's a quick shower. Newbiggin also needs a proper boat launching slipway. There are already a number of people who launch their boats here. A proper slipway would attract even more people. We all know that Newbiggin by the Sea is a former mining town and whilst recognising that we need to remember the coal mining heritage, that industry has now gone. The main industry in the town is now tourism. We need to capitalise on that.
8	<p>having worked as a business development manager for cottages.com/Northumbrian cottages/Hoseasons for 14 years I know the tourism industry well in relation to self catering properties and what attracts visitors to stay and for day trips. I also own my own holiday home in Newbiggin at East End and live in Beach Terrace. Some years ago Amble was seen as quite an undesirable place to live and go on holiday indeed years ago even receiving complaints about the disappointments from holidaymakers once they arrived and saw the small town and area. Now this doesn't happen, the clear investment particularly around the harbour area is evident and people flock there. The high street has improved with pretty cafe fronts and better quality eating and drinking places. The Sunday morning market attracts 100s and people stay on for food and drinks and shopping in the pods. Could we consider a similar style market somewhere or use the bandstand area more than we currently do? Parking. We need to ensure sufficient parking with perhaps a car park at the West End to stop people parking outside</p> <p>houses. The parking outside my house on Beach Terrace can be challenging to say the least! We need more modernised style places to eat and drink like The Boat house in Amble. The Olde Ship unfortunately is such a waste, from the outside facing road looks derelict and unkempt even painting it would make it look better it looks so scruffy. With a prime location in the centre of the bay it is such a waste of what could be a stunning venue. I understand Newbiggin is traditional style village but sometimes things have to move with the times, pretty coastal coloured shops and cafes make everyone happy and feel good and want to return. Perhaps the council could give grants to those who would like to upgrade cafes and bars and shops as this interests people. All outside should be kept to certain standards and not be allowed to become scruffy. More events/markets to be organised so something is on more regularly. Housing I support new housing as there are not enough homes at varied prices for locals to buy meaning they move away. I am local and my parents lived here when they were alive. I would like to see Newbiggin become a place people wish to return too again and again.</p>
9	There are plenty of low cost 'first homes' available in Newbiggin. More starter homes would not seem to be necessary to keep young people, what might be needed is more larger homes on currently allocated sites (such as opposite the leisure centre). Housing prices compare favourably with the rest of the UK and with the local area.
10	I am concerned about the plans for 'affordable housing' - this is one of the cheapest places to buy in the north east and this plan would just move purchases from existing cheap properties to the new builds leaving older properties in the hands of landlords instead. Perhaps building more upmarket properties to allow existing residents to step up the ladder releasing existing cheap housing would help retain wealth as well as young people.
11	We should accept the identified proposals and particularly a development for boats and yachts
12	Just smarten up Newbiggin up and tourists will come. Putting in some retail pods like Amble would work especially in the festive season.
13	Better car park signage to car parks and public toilets open longer.
14	Pods church point area and west end. Small business units to bring start off units.
15	New housing provision for renters/social housing is vital. Suitable accommodation for single people would free up family sized properties.
16	The creation of new employment opportunities is of paramount importance.
17	The bay would be a super place for things like canoe trips if a company would be encouraged to set up.
18	No comments.
19	The settlement boundary should be Newbiggin's curtilage. High tech jobs is possible.
20	The settlement boundary should be Newbiggin's curtilage. High tech jobs is possible.

21	W used to have a train service which helped people, tourists and workers get here. The station was where the health centre is now it was axed in 1964 by Beech and I don't think it can come back. Ashington - yes but Newbiggin - No. But it was a big difference to traffic. There was always many tog et back out of the village.
22	Tourism absolutely has to be promoted. There is so much that can be done - away from the prom. Marina a must! A good seafood restaurant would plug a gap between Bylth and Amble.
23	Slipway desperately needed to make in safe for boats
24	Attract people into Newbiggin by providing adequate pleasure fishing boat, safe launching and retrieval of their boats and towing vehicles by a concrete ramp from the Pant Road over the soft sand to the hard sand at the waters edge of the low tide. (Enjoyment for anglers also money being spent at the shops in the town.
25	I would agree with the marina project and would like to see a pier incorporating a fish and chip reastaurant and viewing platform
26	No other than I agree it would be amazing to have some further development for affordable accessible housing and more shops for families and younger people and opportunity for start up units
27	permanent stalls or seasonal could be made along the promenade if some of the sandstone ramped blocks were developed at the left and right hand side of the horseshoe steps like the development at William Hopkins Way bungalows houses rented and private Granton Architecture had the best plan for the old Windsor school sight shame it did not go ahead
28	Need better road and rail links to outside world . Would like to see road from central parkway to Woodhorn roundabout and a rail station to the mainline at Woodhorn .
29	I agree with the housing plans. I'd reiterate that the arts should be supported explicitly in terms of tourism.
30	No
31	I am not averse to a small retail village or purpose built restaurants similar to "Lily's Landing" behind the Harbour Fish and Chip shop in Amble. The quality of food in some restaurants in Newbiggin needs to be better. That in itself is a great draw especially with a sea view! The basketball area next to the bowling green is never used and has development potential.
32	The town has little to encourage tourists to stay after 4 . Cafes closed limited restaurants shops and toilets closed . More needs to be done to encourage people off the prom to the shops . A business park with start up units like Amble or Ashington .
33	Newbiggin by the Sea is a tourist destination but not a go through destination, we need to promote and provide a full day stay within the Town we need to look at expanding our economy to a whole year and not just the summer periods building on our history and new future developments putting ourselves on the map we have so much to offer, quaint shops, good cafe's, an under used beach and bay, a good safe prom.
34	No comment
35	Housing needs to be affordable, unclear what the plan is for tourism, is it accommodation or employment opportunities and doing what?
36	Housing development is inextricably linked and needs to work alongside regenerative infrastructure developments. So I would support the creation of sea related/ leisure and tourism opportunities eg. a harbour (Like Whitehaven, Amble, Chichester Harbour - the only area of outstanding natural beauty that is managed by a Harbour Authority - bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0001bh4). The GDP has risen as a result of the new possibilities in areas like these such as apprenticeships, hospitality, sea/sailing related industries. Sculpture trails and outdoor arts spectacles lend a specific draw to the offer - as we have natural amphitheater areas in Newbiggin. (Future proofing against Covid too!) As regards areas allocated for the development of housebuilding, I would suggest looking at the model called "Black Country Make". This model trains the local people and through community land trusts, go on to construct their own housing from sustainable materials. Linking us in more strongly with national networks such as Coastal Communities is also important. Linked to the community's involvement in driving certain other aspects of this also. We need to identify the USP... Craster has it's kippers. What has Newbiggin got?

37	I think tourists love this town as currently it has charm, it has a style of building that takes people back. Sadly it's going to change with cheap housing.
38	Developers need to look at the success of new housing in Newbiggin to get them moving. Consider some networking with potential developers to show what we have to offer and why they should develop here. There is also a need for bungalows for the ageing population needed.
39	Question10. Employment levels in the whole area are dire and Newbiggin by the sea in particular. This area does not seem to attract clean high value industry. In fact the industry which has just left the area was one of the worlds worst environmental polluters and here today we are heading down the same road. The conversion of the Alcan site is not a happy one for Woodhorn Village residents. The road through Woodhorn Village over last two years has been contaminated with effluent and is estimated to continue for another six years. In the Autumn of 2019 this material contained toxins and the blocked road trains caused this material to cascade over the verge and hedge at the low point on the road. 13 years work killed in an instant. No one is taking responsibility for this planning debacle. What I am saying is. There needs to be care and consideration by all involved with job creation. Care should be taken when peoples health wellbeing and quality of life are being effected, it should not be jobs at any price, particularly when all the bad aspects could be avoided.
40	feel positive it is what we need to encourage growth and new people to make further history here.
41	Pods church point area and west end. Small business units to bring start off businesses.
42	Better car park signage to car parks and public toilets open longer
43	Just smarten Newbiggin up and tourists will come. Putting in some retail pods like Ambie would work especially in festive season.
44	Brilliant idea it will provide local jobs and more tourists spending money here and more fun things for children to do and see.
45	Identify who/which group is responsible for marketing events, promotion of Newbiggin. Economy is tied up with tourism and Newbiggin is not even on the map when searching online for 'Holidays in Northumberland'. Blyth/Ashington are named, not Newbiggin - Who manages this site?
46	I feel one of the most important issues with the Town is for current residents to have a pride in the Town and take possession of its wellbeing. There are a number of issues walking around where some residents dump rubbish in back lanes and have very untidy frontages. The council needs to encourage and if necessary enforce residents to maintain their property to a good standard at all times. We personally have had issues with certain neighbours who continually leave rubbish in the back lane and swill dog excrement from their yard into the lane. This does not encourage visitors to have a good feel for the town.
47	Improve main road access to the town. This should include traffic lights at the junction of B1334 & A197 (by the butchers). The traffic bottle neck here is not attractive to tourists. Also, change the appearance of the "bunker" that is the Leisure Centre. It is NOT appealing. No windows. Not welcoming at all.
48	I can see tourism being developed and I would support that.
49	Stick to yourself and get along with your loved ones.
50	No although as stated earlier... if this in any way involves the building of a marina I am not in favour as feel it will spoil the natural beauty of the bay.
51	I'm not convinced that the sites at Spital Farm and by the north-Seaton roundabout are a good idea. Would they open the gate to further development joining Newbiggin to North Seaton?
52	No more houses, create a leisure Park at the old colliery school site.

Q11 Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to supporting our town centre, as well as the protection and enhancement of services and facilities?

Answered by 44

#	RESPONSES
1	Newbiggin is suffering from the blight of Covid 19 and businesses have struggled or closed, making the town less attractive both physically and because there are fewer things to do and see. Newbiggin is not alone in this and needs to learn to live with the virus, it is unlikely to go away any time soon. It is safer and healthier to be outside in the fresh air and Newbiggin has plenty of that! Newbiggin could become a centre for outdoor pursuits for all ages, budgets and interests. The "one stop shop" for families to bring their children to learn, have fun and enjoy an assortment of facilities that may not prove too expensive
2	We must attract day trips by coach to support and stimulate the flow of disposable income throughout the year to support the businesses.
3	Love the idea of something similar to Amble pods.
4	What the town needs is competition in the form of another general supermarket as the co-op has the monopoly overall in this town. This would encourage people to stay in Newbiggin and not travel elsewhere for their shopping. Also a small hotel facility could be built on the land off Woodhorn Road, instead of people going to Woodhorn Park.
5	Too many shops on the main street have been converted to housing reducing the overall retail floorspace figure that has prevented Newbiggin from being included in Northumberland County Council's hierarchy of 12 towns. Protecting retail premises from conversion to housing is important. A small retail village similar to the pods in Amble could be good but this would need to be in close proximity to the existing retail areas so it does not detract from them.
6	Learn from other places but don't just follow them. Newbiggin is distinct and different, we should always develop things in our own way. The town needs health and social care hubs, it needs visible local services, for instance police. It needs really good sports facilities and a properly functioning library, it needs performance space, utilising some of its greatest assets Woodhorn Church and the former St Mark's (Community Activity centre) in particular We absolutely need a comprehensive approach to improving health and well-being which emphasises healthy living, a clean environment, and opportunities to learn and develop skills.
7	A small retail village is a possibility but Newbiggin already has a number of small shops, some of which have been converted into dwellings. A reduction in the number of takeaways would not be disastrous, perhaps preference could be given to non food retail.
8	Pods are a nice idea if they don't cause as in Amble a decline in the high street and boarded up shop fronts. They need to bring people into the heart of the town. I also believe getting the existing empty shops filled at both ends of the town should be a priority. The sweet shop sits derelict and has done for I believe more than 10 years. We need more toilets open for much longer. No WC at 9.30 on a Saturday is ridiculous. A set of pedestrian lights at the bank top would make crossing the road for the bus stop a lot safer - the road is busy and cars are doing at least 30mph
9	Inward investment for the town leisure centre will only come if we get more people visiting the town centre. Coach trips for example.
10	Too many take aways in the High Street. Don't allow any more fast food shops
11	When opening new businesses lets have a better choice, instead of cafes and hairdressers.
12	Improved cycle tracks - lets get our families on their bikes and exercising - this is a must!
13	A retail/leisure square (or village) which included varied types of shops and cafes or restaurants will be beneficial - currently other than the Indian and Italian restaurants there are no places for families to eat early evening meals.
14	The pods in Amble are super - it would be an interesting idea to have something similar here.
15	No comments.
16	The town centre businesses will have to reflect today's shopping realities. e.g. Amazon. Well maintained street furniture and planting.
17	The town centre businesses have to reflect today's shopping realities.e.g. Amazon. Well maintained street furniture and planting.
18	Could have monthly markets at the Quay Wall in the summer, at the sports centre in the winter

	which we have done before. I line danced on the prom there was about 500 people there.
19	More shops - Co-op should not be the be all and end all! Specialist shops/pods would work. Too many non sit in take aways - need more high quality places to eat in!
20	Nothing gets looked at as far as boats concerned.
21	Pods like they have in amble would be great or a regular market or beach huts. A viewing platform would be good or something like the eye
22	With better infrastructure and parking and something to bring in visitors year round the town centre will look after itself .
23	I think this would be a great idea - the Amble pods work very well.
24	No
25	Get enough people employed who actually Have a vested interest in the town to keep it clean and tidy . Penalise litter droppers and the famous dog poo villains . Use the cash to pay them . Have cctv to deter the criminal element.
26	Where are people going to park for this new "pod" development?
27	We lack incubator or start up units, office space. Amble is leading the way with the pods, not having the massive overheads for a start up business has got to be a good endorsement for pods.
28	No comment
29	Idea is good, development of pods at the church point would be good.
30	The prom could easily be a place that allows for setting up stalls. A Prom Market could run every week (properly managed and organised entry for the sellers and egress afterwards). A Tiki Bar along the far end (and some toilets there). Wifi on the prom would help, deck chairs and wind breaks for hire. Roof over the area between Bertarelli's and the Coble so that it becomes a bit weather proofed. Re-build a performance space where the old bandstand was. Work with the culture, tourism and leisure department to identify a specific budget for the area. Offering inspiring outdoor performances to lift the moral of the area and 're-wild' the people's imaginations. On the topic of health and wellbeing, there needs to be fewer take aways and more access to healthy, affordable produce. Stronger links with local growers to produce affordable produce. Coop is too expensive for people so they should approached to re-consider their community offer. Spaces for wellbeing and access to funds to support community led initiatives that promote wellness.
31	I love the area currently I think to attract more people and support business residents should talk it's not easy on forms.
32	I think developments at the south end of the bay will help spread the offers to visitors
33	Questions 11, 12 ,13. Newbiggin has everything visitors need except a good spread of toilet facilities. When one looks back Newbiggin did thrive in the era of the railway. As a child the promenade and beach always seemed full of people in deck chairs at the weekend. The question is would the railway do it again. It's a shame about the stone Woodhorn bridge.
34	much needed as this is the main draw for the tourists but when the season declines the residents still should be able to get everything they need from a wide range of shops instead of shops closing and place being like a ghosts town .
35	Improved cycle tracks: lets get our families on their bikes and exercising, this is a must
36	When opening new businesses, lets have a better choice, instead of cafes/hair dressers.
37	Too many take aways in high street. Don't allow any more fast food shops.
38	I agree that the retail pods in Amble should be introduced to our Town
39	Another main shop that is not the Co-op. Mini Tesco or Sainsbury's
40	Medical facilities are important so Newbiggin Health Centre must be developed and improved. Any additional retail facilities will encourage visitors which can only be good in terms of the economy of the village.

41	Less drunks when they are out for a drink also dumping rubbish on ground as we got bins to use.
42	I feel that pods or something similar would be great to enhance the town. However not sure why there is a photo of the piazza after this statement... this area is well used for large gatherings for music and cultural events and worry that placing such outlets there would hinder the communities ability to come together for such events due to lack of space. The village really could do with more development at the other end near the bowling green which may then encourage people to access the whole of Newbiggin rather than just the maritime centre area down to the piazza.
43	A development similar to the Ambie pods would be a huge benefit. Ambie feels a vibrant place nowadays. However, with more visitors in mind it is vital that extra toilet facilities are provided. In times past there were public toilets at the bowling green, on the promenade near the Horseshoe steps, Dixon's Corner and the ill-fated ones by the Cresswell Arms. One set of public toilets in the centre of town is insufficient if we are trying to attract more tourists to come and spend time and money here.
44	Tidy up the shop fronts put out nautical themed flower arrangements. Could do with a pop up fish restaurant!, like the fish shack at Tynemouth

Q12 Are there any facilities you feel are vital to the local community that should be protected from loss?

Answered by 40

#	RESPONSES
1	Everything that is within the Conservation Area. The sports centre, the promenade.
2	Post Office, Library, Medical Centre, Dentist, Community Centre
3	All the facilities identified should be protected.
4	Newbiggin Sports and Community Centre, Health Centre, Dentists, Cafe Bertorelli
5	The Fishing Community needs support as it is very much part of the essence of Newbiggin. Excess produce from all allotments should be made available to the local community through foodbanks or a produce shop, especially in these difficult times.
6	Newbiggin has lost far too much. Protect, restore, sustainably develop.
7	Doctors surgery, pharmacy and dentists. School (could be more utilised perhaps for evening classes) and the leisure centre (which has become a film set).
8	The Maritime Centre, the band stand area, doctors, dentists, leisure centre, post office, school (use school for community activities out of hours.)
9	Everything in the conservation area.
10	Bus services and free car parking
11	Play parks/beach, walkways for the public
12	Doctors, library, dentist.
13	No.
14	Woodhorn Church
15	Boxing Club, Sports Centre, Memorial Park
16	Boxing club, sports centre, memorial park.
17	All the churches - St. Mary's - what's happening there?
18	Sports Centre, Golf Club

19	Lifeboat
20	The current cafes and businesses sports centre
21	Sports centre . Maritime centre . Unspoilt bay and promenade .
22	Public toilets
23	No
24	The Fishing Community should be supported wherever possible. Also excess produce from allotments should be made available to locals especially during these hard times.
25	Library
26	No comment
27	Local shops, doctors, post office
28	Public Toilets. Notice Board. Sports and Leisure Centre, Waste management (dog poo bins, recycling points.) We lost the Library. We need to stop that from happening and ensure we're always 'at the table'.
29	Yes all buildings that are in keeping with the town's history.
30	Community and Church Centre
31	Questions 11, 12 ,13. Newbiggin has everything visitors need except a good spread of toilet facilities. When one looks back Newbiggin did thrive in the era of the railway. As a child the promenade and beach always seemed full of people in deck chairs at the weekend. The question is would the railway do it again. It's a shame about the stone Woodhorn bridge.
32	The sports and community centre
33	the sports centre needs much improvment as it has steadily declined in services and no longer a decent libray,sports and one time bar/function area, once covid rate goes down this should be made the community hub it once was with big libray..computer room, functional gym ,communial cafe and function room.
34	Play parks/beach, walkways for the public
35	The couple, public toilets, newbiggin leisure centre
36	All Medical Facilities, ie Health Centres, Dentists ,Chemists, Post Office, local Supermarket{COOP}.
37	Losing shops so we can spend on food and many more I love to say but we lost enough.
38	Medical, dental, post office, maritime centre, the various community centres around the village,
39	Transport
40	We need a stand alone Post Office in the main shopping area. & somewhere to buy fresh fish

Q13 Are there any facilities you feel we need in Newbiggin by the Sea?

Answered by 50

#	RESPONSES
1	Great Outdoors, kite flying, water sports, kayak hire, jet skis, surfing school, rock pooling, dolphin watching, fishing, sandcastles, donkey rides etc .. with organised activities especially in July and August and during half terms. It would be great if there was somewhere to buy locally caught fish, crab sandwiches, lobster rolls et cetera. Maybe an indoor climbing wall, go cart track and skateboard park would provide activities on wet days?
2	Childcare facilities in the revamped sports centre. An extension of the promenade to Spital Point. A town centre car park. ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC TOILETS with showers and facilities for all levels of disability.
3	Mobile bank visiting.
4	With regards to proposed visitor attractions - more B&B's more self catering property. Involvement with the tourist board - local and national. A library facility - not just a space in the sports centre.
5	The Promenade sand, reopening of steps down to seaside walkway, drains on the promenade. Give us a look of being looked after. The drains must have cost £1000's of pounds to install - why!
6	Good quality eating establishments. Shaj Tandoori is the only high quality restaurant in Newbiggin. Due Fratelli is cheap and cheerful and just nice. A high quality fish restaurant, other high quality restaurants with diverse menus that cater for all are much needed. Some of the pubs do food but but I am yet to see vegetarian food on the menus. If they focused much more on improved menu choice and a high quality gastro experience they would be full of customers; both residents and tourists all year round. Other cafes could learn a lot from Melanie's Tea Room - high quality food, fantastic atmosphere and award winning. They should all be striving to be the best they can be. On a rainy day there is nowhere to go in Newbiggin apart from the Maritime Centre or the small cafes, more thought needs to be put into providing shelter and indoor facilities for the residents and the tourists. Shops are inconsistent with opening hours, during the holidays you visit Newbiggin on a Wednesday and half the shops are closed so what is there for visitors to do?
7	We could do with more attractive shops and restaurants and adequate parking.
8	Railway station
9	Public toilets at both ends of the sea front - open when the public are here, not only during shop hours. Litter bins on seafront emptied, including those near bowling green. Sign posted parking e.g. near McColls to reduce visitors on street parking.
10	More public toilets with access at all reasonable times. 'Smart' bus stops showing timetables. Traffic lights at Woodhorn Road junction and new building site just off Woodhorn Road. A long term vision - a railway. Both Coronation Street (and West View) are dead end roads where residents have to reverse onto the main road when people are parked at their homes. Could a turning circle be created to allow residents safer egress. This exit is going to become much more hazardous when the new building development opposite commences.
11	An extension to the promenade to Spital Point.
12	Another post office would be good on High Street
13	Desperately need a bank and main post office down in front street in the heart of the village.
14	More tourism attractions but also look after what we have better. Prom - Sand weeds need sorted all the time.
15	A large family pub for daytime and evening dining.
16	I think there is a real need for public toilets (and ideally showers too) at the Church Point end of town. This may encourage more day trippers.
17	No comments.
18	Electric vehicle charging points. Permanent car park at Cleveland Terrace.
19	Electric car charging points. Permanent car park at Cleveland

20	More different shops. Years ago you did not need to leave newbiggin there was a very good assortment of all you needed. Co-op and McCoils are not cheap. Can't buy paint or paper. Baby shop, mens wear ladies wear somewhere like Mc & Co or small supermarket like woolworths was selling most things. Co-op used to be furniture, butcher, chemist and groceries.
21	More diverse shops, more eat-in facilities, water sports
22	Slipway
23	Being one of a number of local hobby fishing boat owners experiencing great difficulty launching and retrieving our boats due to both of the boat trailers and towing vehicles (including tractors) sinking and becoming bogged down in the type of soft sand which was imported into our bay we most desperately need a concrete ramp/slipway from the Pant Road and across the soft sand to the sea. Note: the Pant Road is at the north end of the bay and the original slipway was located there.
24	More for young people , more shops later opening cafes
25	more visitors more toilets work units yes I can remember when 4 were earmarked for in between the carpet centre and sportscentre
26	Better parking , Better indication and signposting of existing facilities. A public information facility in the main car park .
27	The Spital point end of the bay needs done facilities. Everything is at the far end.
28	Attractive shops and restaurants and adequate parking. The beaches are beautiful and are the main attraction in Newbiggin. Access to the Needles Eye beach is quite dangerous to older people and young families. This should be improved. Access to the North Beach is very off putting and dangerous. The area is wide open to sensitive development and should be opened up for future tourism. The sand is lovely here but spoiled by occasional sea coal extraction which also affects the main beach.
29	WiFi hotspots
30	Decent car parking areas
31	Anything that increases the stay in Newbiggin by the Sea.
32	No comment
33	Public toilets on the prom.
34	Rail link to Newcastle, that would improve the sustainability of the town.
35	A rail line. A really good hotel. A good dog warden. Wifi on the prom. A bicycle loan scheme. A car pool (electric cars and charging points). A post office that doesn't keep changing hands and locations. More public toilets. A better set of christmas decorations and tree. A My Hermes, parcel drop off point. A library. A 'public living room' (one that is not affiliated to any Newbiggin based group. A music education hub. A dolphin viewing platform. Beach huts. Trips out to see the sculpture...
36	Parking. I would love to see a community garden, they offer a meeting point, somewhere for kids to learn about nature and herb gardens bringing people together. Works well in Whitley Bay.
37	Not at the moment
38	Questions 11, 12, 13. Newbiggin has everything visitors need except a good spread of toilet facilities. When one looks back Newbiggin did thrive in the era of the railway. As a child the promenade and beach always seemed full of people in deck chairs at the weekend. The question is would the railway do it again. It's a shame about the stone Woodhorn bridge.
39	more attractions at needles eye end of prom /beach shelters or look out areas for cover and wildlife viewing, toilets at needles eye area , beach hut hire, more retail units like amble have, more retail encouraged in the front street shopping area by low rents , market day or pop retail or food days like morpeth have
40	More tourism attractions but also to look after what we have better. Prom - sand - weeds need sorted all the time.

41	Desperately need a bank/ & main post office down in front street in the hear of the village.
42	Bus services and free car parking
43	A childs soft play centre and a train station and swimming pool in the leisure centre for children, a shopping mall, a handyman shop with screws etc. More watersport options available. Piny rides on the beach to attract tourists and also feel local children would love it. Horse riding lessons.
44	A large pub/restaurant chain to encourage visitors
45	More restaurants NOT takeaways. Better quality sit-down places to eat
46	A purpose built meeting place in Newbiggin for the elderly. Run by the elderly. Years ago they had a wooden Hut between Seaton Av. and North View, which was run by a committee of volunteers. It was a place to meet read a book a newspaper play cards dominoes, talk, options are endless. This would help the lonely and isolated.
47	A police station be great and quicker to get to them, Need cameras to stop speeders in cars or any transport is any chance in Newbiggin.
48	We do need some kind of toilet facilities up at the bowling green area of Newbiggin. I am aware that you are able to use their toilets but this is only when it is open. I know we have the new toilets in the centre of town and the maritime centre at the other end but provision is sadly lacking at the far end of the bay.
49	More toilets! Places to eat after 5.30 apart from fish&chips, pizza, kebabs. Perhaps encourage development of sit-in restaurants?
50	Hop on hop off bus.

Q14 Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to identifying, protecting and enhancing important routes within the parish?

Answered by 41

#	RESPONSES
1	i am writing to submit my view on issue number 5 of the neighborhood plan. Whilst I agree that transport links are important for our town, I strongly disagree that we need a new road. I live in William Hopkinson Way, the traffic along our road is terrible especially during school pick up/ drop off times. My children are unable to play within our street as the amount of cars that come through here at speed is already increasing. There are other even smaller children living in our street and it is only a matter of time before there is an accident. The amount of cars using our road as a through road will massively increase if a new link road was to be made. Living so close to central parkway, we can hear cars race up and down there all times if the day. Cars already use the fields by the play park to cross over to the colliery and quite frankly this problem will only get worse with a new access road. My daughter attends the Grace darling campus school and the amount of traffic outside of the school is already vast, a new road running past the school is dangerous to the children. Like many others, we use the path and fields between the school and woodhorn to walk our dog and take the child out for cycle rides. Over time, we have seen a huge amount of wildlife including deer, badgers and many many insects. Building a new road and taking away some of the wildlife habitat doesn't seem to fit in with the rest of the neighborhood plan that talks about wildlife corridors and conservation. Is it possible that you have spoken widely about wildlife in a bid to mask the ecological damage that you would like to do in other parts of the town? Extremely disappointed in the town council that they are putting their needs before the needs of the children in our town, the next generation should not have to suffer greed.
2	The road from Woodhorn Roundabout should be extended to the Grace Darling School so that land for housing can be accessed.
3	I agree
4	Possibly an extension of the coastal path beyond Newbiggin to connect up to Drudeg Bay and beyond.

5	I agree. The national cycle route just stops abruptly outside the health centre - no signage here to encourage the cyclists to visit shops or cafes. Cycle routes should be promoted and used to promote what Newbiggin has to offer. Ridiculous that cyclists should dismount on the promenade - this is one of the safest places for children on bikes. It is wide enough to include a dedicated cycle lane and accommodate pedestrians. You are more likely to get run over by a mobility scooter than a bicycle in Newbiggin!
6	Public transport. Improve the links to Newcastle with an express bus service to and from Newcastle. Ensure that when the new rail service commences there are adequate bus links and car parking for people living in Newbiggin.
7	There needs to be a proper cycle track from the centre of Newbiggin, out along North Seaton Road. Our many cycling visitors end up cycling on the road, as they pass through the main tourist centre. A proper cycle lane would provide a safe route for them.
8	If the link road goes ahead it will seriously affect cycle route to Woodhorn and adversely impact the possibility of a rail line to Newbiggin (has already been outlined by SENRUG and discussed by NCC)
9	How will you identify these routes? Please involve users of existing facilities in drawing up these plans, don't give us a finalised set to 'approve'. A solid maintenance plan is needed as existing routes are becoming overgrown.
10	All the ancient footpaths should be preserved. The road from Woodhorn roundabout is important for development.
11	Rented houses in general - poor repairs, poor gardens and lack of respect - this affects our town and area.
12	In the interests of safety cyclists should dismount on the promenade.
13	Agree
14	Many local cycle routes are becoming narrower with the encroachment of vegetation. Maybe a good project for people doing community service.
15	No comments.
16	Agree with this approach.
17	Agree with this approach.
18	The White House Corner is an accident waiting to happen. Footpath narrow, traffic very busy and hedge on right is right over the path, so much so you sometimes have to step on the road and risk getting knocked down by cars if you want a bus you can't get over the road for heavy traffic. Should be a crossing
19	No.
20	Needles Eye bridge put back
21	Maintaining the coastal path . Providing better cycle paths . Allowing overnight stops for motorhomes . Ban motorbikes from open spaces and public fields .
22	No
23	Definitely needs to be done safe cycle routes , but also ban cycles on the prom and again enforce it , to safeguard pedestrians
24	Signs are of the utmost importance directing people to facilitate.
25	I agree with being well connected and providing routes to promote healthier living and recreation such as cycling, walking, running , horse riding. But I do strongly oppose a road link being built to link Newbiggin the Woodhorn roundabout. The reasons behind this are- 1. Safety: Pedestrians (including a majority of children) may be put at a significant risk of serious injury or fatality with another 'main road' in Newbiggin 2. Justification: There is no evidence, facts or business case that Newbiggin/Ashington Link is a 'Big Issue'. Return on investment could be questionable. 3. Soundness: There are no facts or justification that support the notion that Newbiggin/Ashington Link scheme should be classed as a 'Big Issue'.
26	No

27	Again, I would highlight that the approach is not clear so I'm not sure what I feel about it. The document just says that you will work to identify routes. How will this be carried out? What method will be used? How will the community be part of this conversation? Who will make up the final decision making party? This is a vital part of the plan and the community must be at the centre of the decision making. Newbiggin people feel exceptionally 'done unto' - this is an opportunity to change this. I'm not criticizing this work, I'm really pleased to have to opportunity to feed into it. I just feel there needs to be deeper dialogue with the people of Newbiggin to fully understand, unite and take forward the wishes of the people... Why is Newbiggin not in the 1st phase of rail line delivery? The station and line are there to be resuscitated and it could easily be done. Please speak to SENRUG who's members can confirm this. It really is one of the 39 left behind Neighbourhoods. But is an incredibly important tourism spot.
28	I worry deeply about wood horn road. It is like a race track at night. I am worried as to what will happen when houses go up it will be impossible and more dangerous to get out of my street. I am surprised the high st and out roads aren't 20mph.
29	We need to ensure easy access to our networks and that is why works proposed to make the existing slipway safe are vital so that we have accessibility for all
30	Question 14, 15. Nearly all the paths across fields linking communities have been built over. The old ones around Woodhorn Village were drovers roads linking Ellington Cresswell Linton and North Seaton. All remembered routes should be on a plan as part of the area heritage and be part of the scrutiny process relating to planning applications. As far as identifying routes. These would have to be remembered and walked to see if they still exist and marked on a map for maintenance purposes.
31	The narrow path needs to be protected and maintained
32	coastal routes need maintained as terrible for walking as erosion has caused paths to collapse
33	Rented houses in general poor repair, poor gardens and lack of respect. This affects our town and area
34	Another post office would be good on the high street
35	A cycle route along the coast to blyth and to cresswell and druridge bay
36	Traffic lights at the junction of B1334 & A197 (by the butcher's). Another main access route into the town.
37	We have a good network at present which should be protected and developed.
38	No comments at this point but people need to stop giving me a hard time as I live in my landlords house as I'm a tenant.
39	This is vital to the growth of our town
40	Continue to maintain footpath/cycle path signage. Make sure footpaths are accessible to all.
41	No. The plan sounds good.

Q15 Are there any routes that you consider we should identify in the plan?

Answered by 34

#	RESPONSES
1	The is currently no easy access from Sandy Bay to the Town Centre along the coast line which is also the coastal route.
2	Ensure adequate signposting of pathways to strategic points, e.g. Woodhorn Village, Sandy Bay Caravan Park, cycle routes to Ashington, Lynemouth etc.
3	Promenade should be identified as cycle friendly. The existing public rights of way should be reviewed and a management plan put in place to improve and publicise the more accessible routes. There is so much more to Newbiggin than the beach and promenade and is should be marketed as such.

4	We are very surprised that the Plan does not make explicit reference to the importance and the distinct possibility of re-opening the railway line to Newbiggin as an extension from the Blyth and Tyne railway. This is a huge historic opportunity which should not be missed.
5	A safe cycle route to Blyth which does not involve proximity to A189 Spine Road would be useful. Protection of the route from the Sandy Bay roundabout to Wansbeck Hospital (housing development near there may have an adverse effect)
6	A more direct route to Blyth that is separated (trees/or distance) from the A189 - the existing north end is great but then you either have to risk the spine road (you would need certifying as crazy!) or take a convoluted route to do the second half of the journey. There was talk about cycle/bridleway bridges and a coastal route a few years ago!
7	Road/Footpaths and rail line from Woodhorn. Develop access to the promenade from Sandy Bay are to make access to the Town Centre for Sandy Bay residents and visitors.
8	Working with housing association e.g. Bernicia and others. Lets set standards for gardens, repairs
9	No.
10	No comments.
11	No comments.
12	Cycle track along the promenade as there is no track through the town. No horses on the promenade.
13	Cycle track along the promenade as there is no cycle track through the town. No horses on promenade.
14	The road from Woodhorn is getting a lot busier if there is a funeral at De Baliol the traffic can be stopped passed the sports centre. My house is not that far from here, I was born and bred there. A few years ago the ceiling came down in the sitting room they could not find why it happened because there was no water involved like leak. I could not get any insurance. I believe it was all the heavy traffic.
15	No.
16	Slipway not the silly little ramp; waste of time.
17	I think there should be a public route made set back from the cliffs from sandy bay to links quarry a lot of people still use this dangerous route
18	Coastal path . Narrow path . Cycle path subway . Woodhorn pathways . Eastlea to colliery footpaths .
19	No
20	A circular route to encourage exercise.
21	No
22	Rail link
23	I leave the specifics of the route planning to those who know about this stuff ;)
24	No
25	Promenade and opportunities for pedestrian and cycle separation along with essential slipway safety works
26	Question 14, 15. Nearly all the paths across fields linking communities have been built over. The old ones around Woodhorn Village were drovers roads linking Ellington Cresswell Linton and North Seaton. All remembered routes should be on a plan as part of the area heritage and be part of the scrutiny process relating to planning applications. As far as identifying routes. These would have to be remembered and walked to see if they still exist and marked on a map for maintenance purposes.

27	entry down to east sea sands should be made better
28	Working with housing association e.g. bernicia and others: let set standards for gardens and repairs.
29	Cycle path from church point to cresswell beach as current only a walking path,
30	see above
31	More new shops less to travel as saves our money for older people to travel, Post Office we need in town for older people.
32	The footpath from the Needle's Eye to Sandy Bay.
33	Route that runs next to golf course car park is illegally blocked with stone and gap is not sufficient to cater for all members of society. This has been pointed out numerous times but apparently the powers that be have cotton wool in their ears.
34	Be able to bike up the coast, through Newbiggin

Q16 Do you have any comments on the proposed community actions to help ensure our area is well connected?

Answered by 40

#	RESPONSES
1	The Town should have adequate road, sail and pedestrian access, this would make Newbiggin by the Sea more attractive to developers.
2	Regarding community actions the main resource would be that all residents were aware of all the facilities available e.g. bus routes, timetables, cycle routes, footpaths etc.
3	A new comer to the village but struggle to understand where the 'go to; venue is a community centre - tourist information - citizens advice - library etc.
4	Maintain public rights of way making them accessible to all. It's a lovely walk along the coastal path then connecting to the riverside of the Wansbeck - people from the surrounding communities should be encouraged to use this route to walk/cycle into Newbiggin.
5	The problem with highways improvements is that they always result in an increase in motor traffic and a decrease in cycle or foot traffic...
6	I think pressure is needed to get the Northumberland line (old ABT) opened rather than talked about then make sure the bus route to Newbiggin includes a station stop. Longer terms push for an extension to Woodhorn/Newbiggin
7	Road/Footpaths and rail line from Woodhorn. Develop access to the promenade from Sandy Bay are to make access to the Town Centre for Sandy Bay residents and visitors.
8	Some good ideas, bikes, horse riding
9	General social standards - Bernicia Garage used beside Grasmere Terr by building or private houses can't get garage: this needs discussed or changed.
10	Highway Improvement - A speed limit of 20mph between White House Corner and Church Point.
11	No comments.
12	No comments.
13	Road to be completed from Front Street to Woodhorn Village. Railway Station at Wodhorn. Improvement of cycle routes.
14	Road to be completed from Front Street to Woodhorn village. Railway station at Woodhorn. Improvement of cycle routes.
15	Years ago the prom was a meeting place on a Sunday everyone was in the Sunday best it was like a fashion show, so why not improve what we have an make it better.
16	More child friendly cycle lanes - also why on earth is the prom still not allowed bikes!!

17	Fishing Meca
18	public rights of way should be kept and well maintained
19	Maintaining and signposting public rights of way.
20	No
21	If the rail link ever happens plans to connect public transport to Woodhorn
22	What kind of opportunities to develop do you mean?
23	Partnership working has to be a top priority so that we can get the best for our Town.
24	Similar to question 15. I oppose a link road between Newbiggin and Woodhorn roundabout. The reasons behind this are- 1. Safety: Pedestrians (including a majority of children) may be put at a significant risk of serious injury or fatality 2. Justification: There is no evidence, facts or business case that Newbiggin/Ashington Link is required 3. Soundness: There are no facts or justification that support the notion that Newbiggin/Ashington Link scheme should be classed as a Local Road Network improvement.
25	Rail link
26	I think there needs to be something considered about the Front Street. It is not equipped to take the large vehicles that come into it. There needs to be speed measure taken and perhaps even a one way system with more parking spaces on the main street. If we develop infrastructure we need to attend to the roads in and out of Newbiggin. We could consider more use of the sea ways also.
27	I think the area is very well connected my family have travelled from Newcastle easily although they wished there was a more direct route.
28	I think it is important to get the link road built from Woodhorn roundabout to get that final direct link for the A197 from the A1 but also to help stimulate development in this corridor
29	Question 16 Public rights of way addressed under question 14, 15. In the past 20 years Woodhorn Village residents have repeatedly asked for an alternative route for the C123 from Lynemouth to the A189, taking the increasing number of heavy wagons and domestic vehicles out of Woodhorn Village. This would put money into the local economy through jobs and services. Funding the project would most probably have to come from Central Government. If there was ever a time to get a promise of funds it is now to get people working after Covid. The safety of the road users and pedestrians would also be improved as well as the health Wellbeing and quality of life of the residents of Woodhorn Village and the walkers and cyclists who use the footpaths. This project ticks all the boxes. The developments proposed for Lynemouth will put a large number of additional vehicles onto the C123, add this to the further developments in Newbiggin and Woodhorn Village it's self and the increased take up of sites on Lynefield industrial park, Woodhorn Village crossroads will be a very dangerous place.
30	much needed
31	General Social Standards@ Bemicia garage used beside Grasmere Terr by building or private houses can't get garage: this needs discussed and changed
32	Some good ideas, bikes, horse riding
33	A train station towards Newcastle and Scotland
34	Since moving to Newbiggin 3 and half years ago, I have been frustrated by the lack of marketing for what is a lovely sea-side resort, within easy reach of other towns - both busy and quiet - and wonderful countrysie, scenery and castles, appealing to all tastes. A town centre - shops, services etc can only survive on customers and the 'Visit Northumberland' website does not even show Newbiggin - it shows Ashington! On the 'explore the Northumberland Coast' site the only attractions mentioned for Newbiggin is the couple sculpture - no mention of the beautiful bay, sandy beach, dolphins, golf club etc, etc. Click on the video and most of it is rubbish. I have 16 years experience of marketing and promotion, 5 years managing and Information centre, 11 years as a town centre manager. Going into Morpeth TIC with a colleague last year, no information about Newbiggin - no leaflets, no posters in bus station. A member of TIC staff said "well there is nothing there". When my colleague visited Newbiggin she said it's fantastic - lack of marketing is disgusting - she was rcorrect.

35	see previous answer
36	The extension of the road from Woodhorn Roundabout into Newbiggin could well be beneficial.
37	Keep our town safe and tidy so we can enjoy in the future, less hassle about the stress and it stops now if we stick together.
38	The rail link from ashington would be a major plus
39	How likely is it that the re-opened train line could be extended Woodhorn and then into Newbiggin by bus?
40	Keep paths well lit, weed free, and litter free.

Appendix 5: Housing issues consultation (December 2020)

Information on town council website

<https://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/2020/12/23/help-us-shape-the-future-of-the-town-housing-needs-consultation/>

Help Us Shape The Future Of The Town – Housing Needs Consultation

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23rd December 2020 by: Newbiggin.TC Categories: General News

During September and October 2020, we asked for feedback on the draft vision and objectives for our neighbourhood plan and also on possible planning policy themes and community actions. Background to the neighbourhood planning process is available on our website [newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/](https://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/). Thank you to everyone that responded to the consultation. We are currently considering all of the comments.

We now need your feedback on how housing matters should be addressed within our plan. We could not include this as part of the last consultation as we were waiting for the results of further work. This initial housing work is currently awaiting signing off by Locality following a recent Government announcement that proposes the formula used to allocate targets for English Planning Authorities be revised.

- You can provide your thoughts on the questions set out within the consultation document that is being delivered to every door in the Newbiggin Parish, using the online form that is available on the below link. Alternatively, you can send us your comments in writing by:
- Email to neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk; or
- Letter to Town Council Office, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland, NE64 6QD
- [Online survey](#)

Comments should be received by 22 January 2021.

Housing consultation document – sent to all households

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan
Help us to shape the future of the town!
Part 2 – Housing Needs



1. Introduction

1.1 During September and October 2020, we asked for feedback on the draft vision and objectives for our neighbourhood plan and also on possible planning policy themes and community actions. Background to the neighbourhood planning process is available on our website www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/. Thank you to everyone that responded to the consultation. We are currently considering all of the comments.

1.2 We now need your feedback on how housing matters should be addressed within our plan. We could not include this as part of the last consultation as we were waiting for the results of further work. This initial housing work has been completed and is available on our website.

1.3 You can provide your thoughts on the questions set out within this document using the online form that is available on our website. Alternatively, you can send us your comments in writing by:

- Email to neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk; or
- Letter to Town Council Office, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland, NE64 6QD

Comments should be received by 22 January 2021.

1.4 We will consider all comments submitted as part of this and the previous consultation and will use them to prepare a draft neighbourhood plan. We will ask you for your views on the draft plan early in 2021.

2. Key issues for housing in Newbiggin by the Sea

2.1 We explained in our last consultation that there has been limited housing development in our town in recent years, despite it taking place in nearby areas such as Ashington and Bedlington. This means that as residents try to find their first home or move to a larger home, there are no suitable properties. The availability of new housing development close by has resulted in our younger people and families moving out of the area. We believe this is having major implications on the sustainability and cohesiveness of our community.



2.2 There are sites available for new housing development in our town, however they have been identified for many years and development has not come forward. We consider that there is a need to review the location of future housing sites and to better understand what type and mix of housing is required. To inform this, we commissioned an independent local housing needs assessment, this is available on our website. Our review of the assessment has resulted in the identification of five key housing issues for our town:

- **Low levels of home ownership and high levels of social renting** compared to Northumberland. Only 57% of properties in our town are owned and 26% are social rented. The level of shared ownership and private rented homes are closer to both local and national averages;
- **Low house prices** – although house prices in Newbiggin by the Sea have risen since 2010, the rise is low by both Northumberland and national levels;

- **Low levels of detached homes and high levels of terraced homes** – terraced homes make up 55% of the housing stock in the town and detached homes are only 4% of the housing stock;
- **Small house sizes** – our houses have a smaller number of rooms per home than those in the rest of the county. There is also a lack of four and five bedroom homes;
- **Fewer young adults and working age residents** – we have fewer young adults and working age residents compared to elsewhere, with a significant fall in those aged 25 to 44.



Question 1: Considering the information contained within the housing needs assessment, do you believe we have identified the key issues for housing in Newbiggin by the Sea?

3. Amount of new housing

3.1 The emerging Northumberland Local Plan suggests that between 2016 and 2036 an additional 360 new houses should be built in Newbiggin by the Sea. Our housing needs assessment has considered national planning guidance, the population of Newbiggin by the Sea, the emerging Northumberland Local Plan and the number of houses that have been completed in the town. Based on this approach, it recommends that 520 dwellings are required to be built between 2016 and 2036.



Question 2: Do you have any comments on the level of housing proposed within the housing needs assessment?



3.2 The housing needs assessment also considered the need for affordable housing. It considered available evidence prepared by the county council, as well as house prices and income levels. The assessment concluded that there may be a need for new affordable homes for sale within the town to address the aspirations of people who can rent properties but cannot afford to buy. It is estimated that there is potential demand for 60 new affordable homes to be delivered to 2036.

3.3 The emerging Northumberland Local Plan includes detailed policies on affordable housing, including a requirement for 10% of all new homes on sites of 10 dwellings or more or 0.5 hectares or more in size to be affordable, with 100% of those affordable homes to be provided for home ownership.

Question 3: As the Northumberland Local Plan has detailed policies on the provision of affordable housing, do you consider it is necessary for the neighbourhood plan to also have a policy on affordable housing? Please explain your response.

4. Type and size of new housing

4.1 As our town has a high proportion of smaller homes this restricts choice for people who want to live here. The housing needs assessment illustrates that younger adults are leaving the area and there is a need for more, bigger houses, with at least four bedrooms. It is suggested that more four and five bedroom homes will help make our town more attractive to buyers.

Question 4: Do you agree that there is a need for more four and five bedroom homes in Newbiggin by the Sea and that our plan should include a policy to support this? Please explain your response.

5. Location of new housing

5.1 The Northumberland Local Plan proposes to allocate two sites for housing development. We believe that our plan should support the provision of homes for our local community and also for new families who can see that Newbiggin by the Sea is a great place to live.

5.2 We need your input to help identify which sites we should consider for housing development. The sites within the Northumberland Strategic Housing Availability Assessment are the starting point for our assessment. An online version of the this is available on NCC's website¹.



Figure 1: Extract from the NLP showing housing sites and those with planning permission

Question 5: Are there any sites which you would like to see developed for housing within Newbiggin by the Sea? Please provide details of the site(s) and explain your response.

Question 6: Are there any other comments you would like to make on housing issues within Newbiggin by the Sea?

6. Next steps

6.1 Thank you for taking the time to read this document. We hope you will send us your thoughts on the housing issues in Newbiggin by the Sea to inform the preparation of our draft plan.

6.2 Please remember that we need your comments by **22 January 2021**. There will be consultation on a draft plan early in 2021.

¹ <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/About/Maps/Digital-maps.aspx>

**Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan Consultation
Part 2 Housing Needs
Response form**

Question 1: Considering the information contained within the housing needs assessment, do you believe we have identified the key issues for housing in Newbiggin by the Sea?

Question 2: Do you have any comments on the level of housing recommended within the housing needs assessment?

Question 3: As the Northumberland Local Plan has detailed policies on the provision of affordable housing, do you consider it is necessary for the neighbourhood plan to also have a policy on affordable housing? Please explain your response.

Question 4: Do you agree that there is a need for more four and five bedroom homes in Newbiggin by the Sea and that our plan should include a policy to support this? Please explain your response.

Question 5: Are there any sites which you would like to see developed for housing within Newbiggin by the Sea? Please provide details of the site(s) and explain your response.

Question 6: Are there any other comments you would like to make on housing issues within Newbiggin by the Sea?

Please use additional pages if you would like to provide a fuller response.

Name:
Address:
Email:

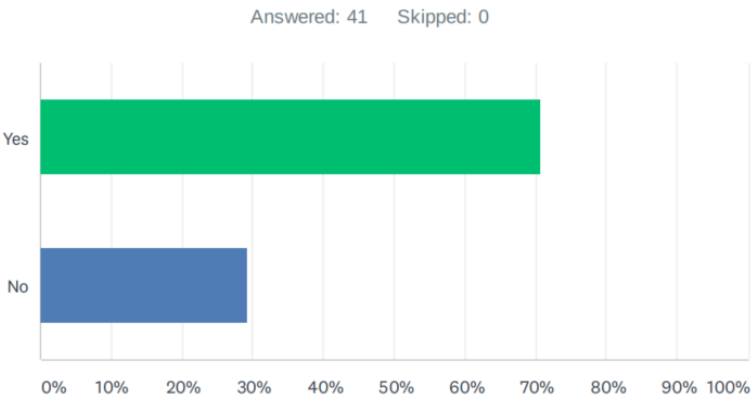
Any personal data supplied will only be used in relation to the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan. In line with General Data Protection Regulations you can view a copy of our Privacy Statement <http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/privacy-policy/>

Please ensure return completed response forms to: Town Council Office, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland, NE64 6QD. Comments can also be submitted online at or by email to neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk

Deadline for comments is 22 January 2021

Appendix 6: Responses to housing issues consultation

Q1 Considering the information contained within the housing needs assessment, do you believe we have identified the key issues for housing in Newbiggin by the Sea?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	70.73%	29
No	29.27%	12
TOTAL		41

Q2 Do you have any comments on the level of housing proposed within the housing needs assessment?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 2

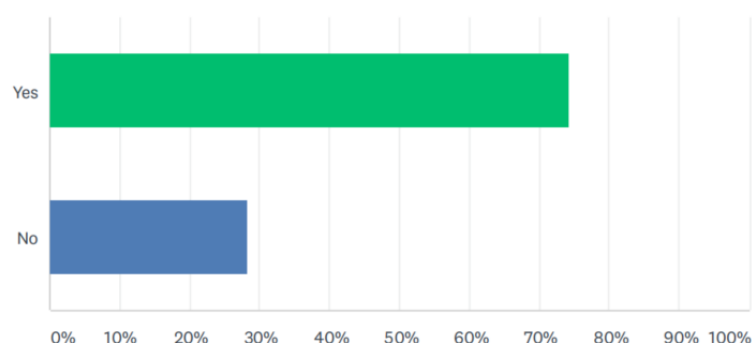
#	RESPONSES
1	.
2	Question 1 - The needs assessment has identified the key issues in relation to housing need within Newbiggin by the Sea. Newbiggin by the Sea has unfortunately missed out as other areas have taken advantage of new development and the benefits that brings of retaining a healthy and age diverse population. Unfortunately, those developments elsewhere, coupled with poor historical housing allocations provided by the Local Planning Authority has meant that those wanting a better level of accommodation have been forced to leave, particularly young families. Question 2 - The number of new homes suggested in the emerging local plan is too low. The housing needs assessment produced by the Town Council is by far more ambitious and more reflective of what the Town actually needs. Notwithstanding the identified need for housing and having the appropriate allocations it is as much about delivery and developer confidence. Planning permissions on paper are sadly not going to deliver the homes that the Town needs. Having good sites, with active developer interest is what is needed to kickstart the building of these homes which will then lead to (in time) the housing need being satisfied to the benefit of the Town.
3	Newbiggin is made up of pensioners and retired workers. We need more bungalows to buy or affordable flats with south facing gardens. People of Newbiggin generally don't want to move out of the village but jobs and education predict this. Newbiggin is made up of little shops with one main supplier - the Co-op/
4	Newbiggin is going down a disastrous route. Too many holiday homes, not enough full time occupation. This leads to business closure - example Beadnall Bay. Council tax driving people out of town - most expensive in Northumberland. The housing need does not take into account holiday lets. No point building houses if they turn into holiday lets like the old school of Gibson Street. Your plans are flawed.
5	We need more housing to keep people in Newbiggin affordable and low prices rent reasonable.
6	Just what you have said.
7	Newbiggin by the Sea needs at least 50 quality homes to be built each year to rebalance the housing and the economy. The Britishvolt investment can about the housing transformation that is needed.
8	It is vital to enable young families to want to live in Newbiggin and to want to stay here. 520 seems ambitious but it is better to aim high and at the same time provide a good variety of housing to suit all needs.
9	That's fine. I believe you have identified the majority of key issues. I would like to point out that there is a large influx of retiring people and couples wanting homes in the area.
10	I think you plan to build too many houses.
11	I agree with the assessment.
12	Newbiggin needs good quality higher end housing to attract people with larger disposable incomes to spend in the town. Everything must be done to encourage the building of good quality top end housing at the Moorside School site and behind Front Street next to the Arts Centre. These sites should be developed and town council should support it.
13	I feel the issues you mention were always going to be the issues identified but are we sure they should be presented as negatives? A high proportion of social housing and low house prices should be promoted as positives. In an era when these things are reducing nationally Newbiggin could be exalted as a bastion of common sense and good housing management. The more houses that are built the lower the cost to the potential buyer. 60 affordable homes of a total of 520 suggests that the other 460 are going to be unaffordable. How about 460 affordable social housing homes and 60 expensive homes aimed at the second home market. We can reinvest the excess profits and make the affordable more so.
14	There are no bungalows to buy in Newbiggin. This would free up some of our larger 3-4 bedroom owned houses. I think the more new housing small/medium/large and bungalows the better.
15	Newbiggin people can not afford to buy the new houses which were built on the front at Needles Eye rock end of Newbiggin - attracted people from outside of Newbiggin to buy them

	so building more houses in Newbiggin is a total waste of time if it is for the sole purpose of attracting Newbiggin buyers. The ratio of houses/flats to the amenities e.g. shops etc is massive. Newbiggin is one big housing estate with bought or rented properties. Make the homes which are here more attractive and concentrate on building a lucrative, sympathetic retail/services area to boost employment inviting more custom to the area.
16	I still think you need to have 2-3 bedroom houses for couples/individulas starting out, for whom a 4-5 bedroom house would be too expensive. It's alright having a plan to build this many houses but you must also make sure there are facilities for young and old - parks/skareparks/community centres, links to cycle network and improved road surfaces.
17	We definitely need more housing. I think a small number of 3-4 bedroom houses for private use and council houses but from my experience these do not improve the area at all. Small bungalows would be an asset and not really in existence.
18	Ensure new housing be affordable
19	The recent detached houses built in the village have a tiny footprint, limited garden size, small rooms and few parking spaces.. much less desirable than the many 4-6 bedroomed large terraced houses we have. Small house size does not equate to the number of rooms. Fewer young adults and working age residents is due to the ever increasing % of residents who are 60+ years old.
20	The County Council assessment reflects Newbiggin's designation as a 'Service Centre' the housing needs assessment is more realistic. However, both are unambitious reflecting a very limited understanding of all Newbiggin is, and can be. 10,000 people lived in Newbiggin by the Sea in the 1950's and 70's when the 'urban district' was far more vibrant and successful than it is now. With the new opportunity of Britishvolt promising a transformation of the local economy, why can't we look to many more people, with more disposable income coming to live in Newbiggin by the Sea
21	We need a wider variety of housing.
22	No
23	It sounds like an awful lot of houses. I moved here to get away from cramped areas in Newcastle and Gateshead. I love the town and the feel of the area. I am now considering my future seeing the plans to cram houses on land opposite my home, cheap housing will change the whole feel of this area. I know a few people who also feel it will destroy the area and no longer be a favoured area over Ashington and Blyth in terms of reputation.
24	Definitely need more larger properties
25	There are spaces available to build new homes, but we must preserve green spaces needed for sport and recreation eg football, lawn bowls and allotments, which could have a bearing on the number of new homes
26	520 is too high
27	We need private / shared ownership bungalows so that local people can downsize and apartments.
28	Nicer 3/4 & 5 bedroom houses needed. Lots of friends have moved out of Newbiggin by the sea to new housing estates in ashington, blyth & Morpeth due to the type of house not available here. Average cost of their new houses was over £200,000
29	I suspect that level is too high though there is a pressing need for redevelopment and renewal of housing in some areas
30	No comments
31	Mixture of houses and bungalows are required
32	We need to get developments on current undeveloped brownfield sites in Newbiggin
33	Consideration should be given also to 3 bed detached properties. At present, I do not believe we have sufficient facilities to accommodate larger families.
34	None
35	The Persimmon development will provide 700 plus new house in Newbiggin. This should allow

	the council to concentrate on our elderly population who require ground level bungalows with access capable of allowing assisted walking aids etc
36	NO
37	No
38	Housing should be reserved as dwellings only and not holiday lets if possible. Property is being snapped up immediately by those using homes for this. Thus means prices are being pushed up and its difficult for anyone to get on the property ladder.
39	2 and 3 bedroom bungalows needed, a development similar to what is on the old Ashington hospital site.

Q3 As the Northumberland Local Plan has detailed policies on the provision of affordable housing, do you consider it is necessary for the neighbourhood plan to also have a policy on affordable housing? Please explain your response.

Answered: 39 Skipped: 2



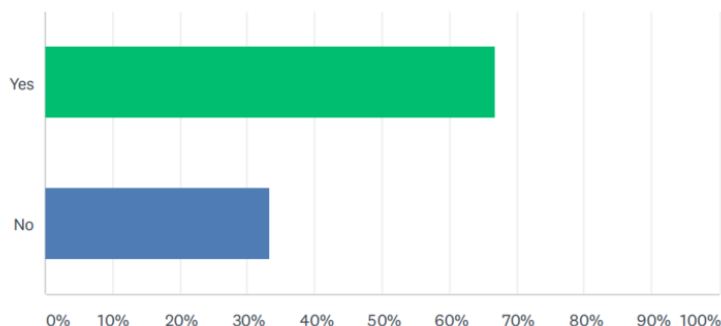
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	74.36%	29
No	28.21%	11
Total Respondents: 39		

#	COMMENTS
1	If you take the numbers of Northumberland County Council – i.e. the 360 homes and apply 10% for affordable homes, the town will only potentially achieve 36 affordable homes. You have identified a need for 60 affordable homes, by increasing the housing allocation to 520 you will achieve 52 affordable homes which is much closer to the required target. The application of a 'bespoke' affordable homes policy is difficult and anything above 'national' expectations may cause a loss of developer interest. Therefore, it would be better for the Town to increase the total housing numbers to ensure the right level of affordable homes is achievable as a result of the 10% threshold than create a 'bespoke' affordable housing policy which may appear unattractive to developers and stifle development.
2	The problem with this is you reduce quality people then get upset for living in substandard facilities.. Yes affordable quality housing. Maybe offered to people who have rented here for 2 years otherwise more cheap holiday homes which equals dead town.
3	.
4	Yes, very much we need affordable housing.
5	A range of housing from 4/5 bedroomed detached to 3 bedroom bungalows. Many residents want 3 bedroom bungalows to upgrade from the 2/3 bedroom homes that they live in currently/
6	The detailed policies in the Northumberland Local Plan should be sufficient and need to be followed. However in Newbiggin there is a clear need for more larger properties with gardens if we are to retain a balance of families.

7	Definitely needs affordable housing both private and social, but they need to be considered especially as todays young couples don't always work due to childcare or qualifications so cannot afford mortgages (deposits)
8	I am sure there is enough affordable housing in Newbiggin
9	There is sufficient affordable housing in the town already.
10	We have more than enough affordable housing in the town. We need to executive type 'top end' housing to attract more working professionals to the town. Newbiggin is in a unique position in Northumberland we should do all we can to encourage executive type housing.
11	Absolutely. How is affordable housing built and sold/rented at a lower price. Through government and council subsidy? Why not bring that to local council level? Work with a local builder to investigate the plan of a version of it above.
12	Don't think we need any more social housing but starter homes for working youngsters a must modern, bright and heat energy efficient.
13	Young people leave a place (here) for work elsewhere. Younger people are leaving the area you say, as a high proportion of smaller homes restricts people who want to live here. A younger person doesn't need a large home. most young people do not want to live with parents. So no need. You are suggesting 4-5 bedroom properties are needed. Haha - Who for? Out of towners?
14	yes, affordable for local people should be a priority otherwise they will move out and new people from outside will come in diluting the natural population.
15	but on a small scale, we do not know what the future brings. If you are bring family into Newbiggin. More schools, policing, bigger doctors etc which would be lovely by expensive.
16	To enable the younger residents to get onto the property ladder, a greater number of part ownership/rental helps those who have difficulty in meeting the extra mortgage demands.
17	Newbiggin needs a Local Housing Trust charged with providing, obtaining and supporting a range of affordable homes for people with a local connection. This would go far beyond the provisions in the Northumberland Local Plan
18	As we need a variety, giving people choices of new affordable housing as well as the current housing stock there currently is.
19	No
20	Affordable housing seems to be everywhere here, there are several areas near my home that are small estates of socially rented housing. I am worried that existing residents who love this area are going to see it flooded with cheap rentals and with it anti social behaviour.
21	we need a neighbourhood policy on affordable housing to cater for Newbiggin's specific needs.
22	we need houses locals can afford
23	This should be covered by Northumberland County Council local plan not the town council.
24	The affordable housing is much needed however builders/councils usually find means to bypass the requirements. They should also not be means of creating more AirB&B style holiday lets in town
25	All housing in Newbiggin itself is very affordable. Perhaps an element of affordable housing is required for ay developments in Woodhorn Village though.
26	Residents are more interested in the neighborhood plan
27	We have high levels of unemployment and people in low income jobs so housing needs to be accessible to all
28	It will allow more people the chance to buy a house
29	Absolutely
30	People are leaving the village as they cannot afford to stay here.

Q4 Do you agree that there is a need for more four and five bedroom homes in Newbiggin by the Sea and that our plan should include a policy to support this? Please explain your response.

Answered: 39 Skipped: 2

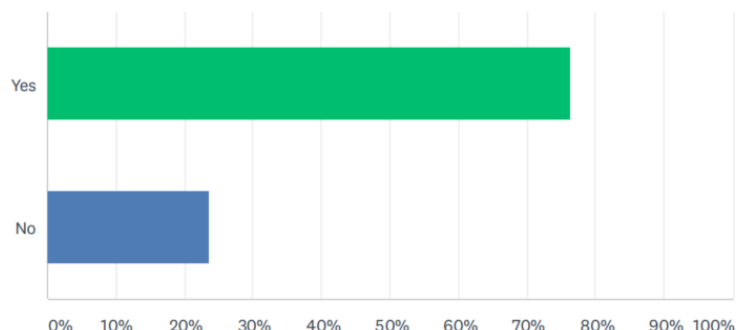


ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES
Yes		66.67% 26
No		33.33% 13
Total Respondents: 39		
#	COMMENTS	
1	I agree that larger properties could be useful but I don't see why they couldn't be terraced as long as they have space in front of them. If garages are to be included then they need to be large enough to be used as garages rather than becoming store rooms. Some new housing projects have roads that are too narrow and that makes this a worse issue. Corrosion remains an issue near the sea and in the short to medium term electric vehicle charging is going to be difficult without garage or driveway space.	
2	It is clear that there is limited housing of the size, type, location, and quality for those who want to stay in the Town but who want / need a greater level of accommodation. This is young families who want to be able to stay in the Town but aspire to have a detached home, garden, and enough bedrooms to provide a quality environment for there family to live and grow. It is clearly evident that these people have sought new homes in Ashington and the surrounds. The Town needs to retain this young resident population to help support services, vitality and to achieve a rounded sense of place that Newbiggin by the Sea is a prosperous, up and coming Town ideally suited for young families.	
3	Do we need more holiday lets in Newbiggin? because I can see this happening with larger or special needs accommodation.	
4	Families are smaller, not larger. Give people bigger gardens.	
5	Bungalows as well as 2-3 bedroom houses.	
6	When our children were small we did need a bigger house and there were none. We had to device a bedroom as be had 4 children	
7	Yes -British Volt!	
8	Absolutely! At present families that outgrown their starter homes must move away (to North Seaton, Ashington and Bedlington) when buying a larger home. They are needed here to broaden the diversity of the inhabitants of the village.	
9	There is a need for 4 bedroom but not a lot and do we need more than 2, 3 or 5 bedrooms? but yes you need to support a small percentage.	
10	I agree there should be more 4-5 bedroom houses for families.	

11	There is a very urgent need to attract more professional people to live in Newbiggin and the availability of more 4-5 bedroom houses will do this.
12	As stated we have enough affordable housing. We need encourage top professionals to the town to spend money in local business and pay higher band council tax to be reinvested in the town. Very disappointed to see some town councillors opposing housing on the old derelict site next to the arts centre. It's an eyesoe.
13	4-5 bedrom homes are only a positive if they are affordable. I would argue that without any local investment in jobs and careers those families who are ready for such a large house would need to leave the area. Keep the houses cheap and it will be worth though families staying.
14	Not sure how many people buying houses look for 4-5 bedroom if any, small amount needed.
15	Every place needs affordable housing - we have some affordable housing. I would like to see money spent on creating cultural/keeping traditions of town - supplying the people already here with more opportunities, a great unspoilt shopping area with quality retail and a fish sales area for selling the catches caught straight from the sea. Also a fish bar/shack on the front - not more and more houses - we are swamped with them.
16	There are plenty of large homes in Newbiggin.
17	Newbiggin has become a retirement place and they also bring money into us. Families with to work situation would be looking for more benefits and teenagers increase the alcohol and drug taken. Keep us safe.
18	These extra large houses are not required for the younger generation of local people
19	N/B has a significant number of 4-6 bedroomed houses, Front St, Gibson St, Haven View, Windsor Terrace, Windsor Road, Haven View, Victoria Terrace. Many of which are occupied by older, small households who may want to downsize if suitable appropriate single level housing was available. As the average family size is 2.2
20	Newbiggin needs to attract more people with more disposable income to spend in the local economy and increase rateable values to the benefit of the public purse. We can take advantage of the irreversible trend to home working which will mean that people are looking for ever more space at home.
21	Newbiggin lacks four bedroom homes and as families grow the opportunity needs to be available we also require two bedroom bungalows.
22	It is more probable that people outside Newbiggin would buy the bigger homes.
23	Larger homes are needed, however cheap townhouses aren't the answer. I really like the style of the houses being built at the top of woodhorn road opposite the Church. Much thought has gone into the style of them, they are a nice fit for the area. The housing behind the high st which is also planned for opposite my home is cheap council estate housing and will bring my property price down.
24	As more people work from home, they need an office and a spare bedroom can provide this as well as space for the family.
25	we need houses locals can afford , this is not 4 & 5 bedrooms
26	There are lots of local people who would like to downsize to private / shared ownership bungalows but are stuck in larger properties rather than leave their home town.
27	Yes definitely not all houses have to be affordable, there's lots of younger people on good wages who have to move out of the area. Newbiggin by the sea is also an area that new people are coming to live here as they've moved up from down south so have money to spend on quality houses.
28	It is certainly true that there is a lack however a) is there actual demand for that many rooms b) would they not be prohibitively expensive for those who actually need so many?
29	A mixture Is required of 3 & 4 bed homes
30	I believe we need more 3 bed properties to accommodate more 'average' sized families
31	As long as it is affordable or social housing as there us a risk that those in need miss out due to those who can afford rather than need it
32	The Persimmon development of 700 plus houses will include plenty of larger homes. The council can then concentrate as previously stated on our elderly population
33	Absolutely, many people want more room so they don't have to keep moving

Q5 Are there any sites which you would like to see developed for housing within Newbiggin by the Sea? Please provide details of the site(s) and explain your response.

Answered: 38 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	76.32% 29
No	23.68% 9
Total Respondents: 38	

#	COMMENTS
1	The historical housing allocations are of the wrong size, location and are heavily constrained to be able to deliver the housing required. Mr Clippingdale has recently successfully obtained planning permission for a new tourism site on the outskirts of the town and has begun work. Other land in the ownership of Mr Clippingdale is ideally suited to accommodate high levels of housing numbers, be appropriately positioned to the town and easy to develop in the longer term. The extract below shows land that Mr Clippingdale would like included in the plan for housing allocations. The area marked red measures 5.17 hectares. Working on a very crude calculation of 50 houses per hectare it would be possible for the land identified to provide 250 – 300 houses, depending on the site, scale, layout etc. Such an allocation would therefore bring forward between 25 and 30 affordable homes. As is shown by the development of the tourism site, Mr Clippingdale as landowner and developer would not simply sit on a planning permission but would actively bring the site forward bucking the past trend of allocation without delivery. Plan provided.
2	We have the old colliery school plot that has not been built on
3	Do not destroy sea front with your ideas. Leave the seafront alone. Housing needs to be in the town, i.e. old school that keeps the community alive.
4	Colliery school site.
5	The Colliery school site. We have waited for the bungalows to be built.
6	The land between Spital Farm and North Seaton road to Grace Darling Academy is a perfect setting for new housing development
7	The site of the old colliery school should be addressed first. It is ideally situated near current amenities and could close the gap between colliery houses and the rest of the village. The rich sites should be pursued including the quarry as Sea View are popular - though countryside restrictions must be considered.
8	Old school ground across from sports centre, it has been empty for a while. More along spittal way on the right between a189 and housing estate., not on the left.
9	No new houses should be built on greenbelt land. Totally disagree with the town council backing the new holiday lodges along the cliffs.

10	The obvious site that needs development to me is opposite the Leisure Centre which has been awaiting work for many years despite the owners 'coming soon' notice board. The second site that needs urgent address is the 'Bank House' building - a building that could readily be converted into luxury apartments.
11	The derelict site at the Moorside first school and the allotment site behind front street should be developed as soon as possible - absolute eyesores! The Town Council should push for these to be developed ASAP
12	The old school site opposite the leisure centre. The tennis courts near the Needles Eye would be a great site for expensive sea-front properties targeting the second home market.
13	Would love new housing estate including bungalow provision on Moor School land, Spital Farm land and George Birchalls land.
14	No.
15	No.
16	Going towards Spital to Ashington, Woodhorn Area - Car parking facilities needed
17	Newbiggin Colliery, old school site
18	As an addition to those which already have planning, the present overflow car park would be a suitable site as central and easy access to local services .
19	<p>The two identified sites should be developed as a matter of urgency, the Moorside school site is an absolute disgrace and detrimental to the town. We want to see a major expansion of housing to make the town more attractive to people with good jobs and disposable income. However, it is vital for Newbiggin to retain the characteristics that make it unique and to preserve both a distinct settlement boundary between the town and North Seaton/ Ashington.</p> <p>Now though would be a good time to bring Newbiggin & Woodhorn much closer together with major redevelopment of the Colliery and the former colliery site over to the Moor</p>
20	Putting more people onto an already inadequate highway infrastructure is potentially dangerous and will effect the wellbeing and quality of life of those who live along the route.
21	I think it makes sense to build homes on the old school grounds which have been left derelict for some time. It is not right on the high st and wont make visitors feel the area is so cramped. The site opposite Coronation street is a terrible site for loads of cheap houses. I am appalled at the plans to put more cheap housing on there with an access road opposite an already dangerous road to drive in and out of. Recently there were temp traffic lights on the coronation st junction, it really highlighted how dangerous it will be if cars have to stop at that point. If the council said we are building fewer large in keeping homes on that land we would all be happy. I understand profit is important but I for one may leave if this kind of cheap social housing is opposite my quiet home.
22	Across from the leisure centre
23	The sites identified on the map.
24	the site opposite the sports centre is a disgrace , it was meant to be built on years ago
25	All those that have been designated for year and never started ie: Spital farm , colliery school , Woodhorn lane and then there is the Welfare field all the land beyond the School the site outside McColls the land behind Storey Crescent bungalows where the square used to be . If our economy is to grow we need homes for locals as well as new residents and less holiday cottages and absent landlords who only care about the income and not the community.
26	I don't agree with the central orange area, this should be turned into a town centre car park which is next to the public toilets. Newbiggin by the sea has a lack of parking & if these groups in the town want to Create new things for visitors we need more parking centrally. The over spill car park is too far out & visitors don't know where to go when/if they park there.
27	Former schools sites which have remained vacant too long
28	Development along the Woodhorn side of Central Parkway seems obvious as this would open up the possibility of creating the access road
29	Moorside first school site
30	Dolphin garage site
31	Maybe the site of the old tennis courts/dilapidated garages
32	The area to the West of Spital should be built on to enclose the wasted space next to the new Persimmon development
33	I agree with the two proposals. Possibly also land at Woodhorn, before you leave the village, on the left before the bridge.

Q6 Are there any other comments you would like to make on housing issues within Newbiggin by the Sea?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 9

#	RESPONSES
1	I'm an owner occupier, but I'm not bothered by the relative low level of private ownership. It seems to be the case that owner occupied and socially rented properties are adequately maintained. However, it also seems to be the case that maintenance of privately rented and privately owned empty properties is less adequate. Poor maintenance of road, pavements and drainage in side streets like Emerson Road is a significant issue that is likely to depress the use of existing properties. I'm not concerned by the number of terraced homes as they are likely to be more energy efficient than detached or semi-detached properties, although terraced homes could generally do with better sound insulation
2	As identified in Question 5, Mr Clippingdale has a site which would make an ideal allocation within the plan. However to provide greater confidence to the Neighbourhood Planning Team and also the Town Council, Mr Clippingdale would like to bring forward additional information in the form of a Master Plan for the site identified to show in greater detail what can be achieved. Mr Clippingdale would like to do this in conjunction with the Town Council so that an appropriate mix of housing, including affordable housing can be provided including making provision for additional connectivity to the Town. If acceptable to the Town Council and the Neighbourhood Planning Team this Master Plan could form the basis of this allocation or at the very least be a 'Design Brief' for future development. Further discussions on working with the Town Council and the Neighbourhood Planning Team would be welcome to show how this site can be delivered. If you have any questions or require any further information in response to the answers above, please do not hesitate to contact me.
3	Workers on zero hours contracts cannot obtain a mortgage these are young 25 year olds who have been Newbiggin residents all their lives.
4	Leave the front alone.
5	If new houses are built in right place - no problem.
6	We need more built. There are so few flats and bungalows available to purchase especially for the elderly, disables and younger people and houses for families.
7	The future prosperity of Newbiggin by the Sea will be determined by the availability of high quality housing particularly 3-4 bedroom semi-detached bungalows. Dutch bungalows are needed to rebalance the demographics and free low cost existing older properties.
8	The covid pandemic has shown that a private open air space is of great benefit. Access to the beach for exercise has helped much more working from home has occurred - this may continue after immunisation. Cars going electric - space for cars and chargers needs to be planned. The re-opening of the railway (sadly not to Newbiggin) will affect transport links and the popularity of Newbiggin as an attractive place to live.
9	As long as the village feel is kept and local housing not knocked down for new. And not on green grasslands where horses are kept as they are part of Newbiggin's history.
10	Local people should come first. Be very careful you don't spoil the place with overdevelopment.
11	An urgent need for better quality and larger properties.
12	We need higher quality top end housing. We have more than enough affordable housing. We need to attract professionals who pay more council tax and spend in local businesses. More tax = more investment in the town.
13	The world is changing by using the ideals of the past such as maximum home ownership and minimal social housing we will only repeat the mistakes of the last 30-40 years. Let's build socially owned locally built and environmentally sustainable homes that will ensure Newbiggin and its future residents don't pay the cost of local decisions.
14	More housing, more caravans, more holiday lets means more people - we need to also improve parking.
15	Yes - we have a boat load and more of home in Newbiggin by the sea, I love this place where I live. I would love to see it prosper and the people in it - I just can't see building more houses is going to change it for the better.
16	Maybe it would be a good idea when building the new homes to include a local supermarket in

	the new build area, so there are less car journeys into Newbiggin or Ashington
17	My experience as an OAP with private residence. How found I am a target for cowboy builder and people taking money people taking money to then not do the job. We need a system to provide suitable handymen who are vetted and police checked.
18	Easy access and either private or off-street parking
19	The number of properties which are being bought and converted to self catering for visitors has prevented many of the young residents from purchasing affordable housing. A useful tool would have been to survey all residents in what they perceive as there future housing need would be in 5 yrs, 10 yrs. There is a definite need for bungalows to be purchased or rented, allowing the older residents to downsize and free up the 3-5 bedroomed houses.
20	Newbiggin needs more housing but the Town and County Council; and local organisations and local people need to be very much more assertive in promoting the needs of the town and present and future populations rather than the easy options most attractive to developers
21	I would have commented in more detail but I could not find the housing needs assessment. As a general comment. We should restrain ourselves from consuming anymore green field land for development of any kind. Our local natural world is disappearing at an alarming rate and it has all happened in the last six years. Ask yourself. What has changed in this local area? Reducing chemical driven agriculture and traffic pollution in communities will go a long way to improving the natural world and the quality of life of all.
22	I am really sad I moved here thinking it was a lovely quiet town with barely any anti social behaviour. I am worried this is the start of a trend of flooding the town with housing that doesnt fit with the feel and people. I dont think it is right to compare Ashington or Bedlington to Newbiggin, I spent 2 years looking at areas and chose Newbiggin because it was a nicer quieter area with little anti social reports vs many in the surrounding areas. I am not a snobby person I just had 20 years of councils adding affordable housing to areas I bought and saw the anti social nightmare that followed. Thanks
23	Myself and husband are currently renting, we want to buy in Newbiggin but will have to reconsider due to lack of housing
24	There are lots of cheap well built houses available to buy, but they do not provide off road parking or gardens as they are terraced homes. People today have different needs.
25	we need more bungalows, more affordable housing that locals can afford , unless you want to drive us all out
26	Nice quality houses with good gardens is needed. No more little boxes with postage stamp gardens.
27	Some neighbourhoods eg colliery, are suffering real neglect with lots empty properties made worse by current situation
28	No comments.
29	No
30	Need to develop more bungalows for the elderly and ideally on a site best suited for the elderly with good connectivity's
31	None
32	Support the Persimmon development and stop trying to prevent Newbiggin from prospering

Appendix 7: Pre-submission engagement - consultation bodies identified by NCC

Appendix A: Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Bodies for Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council

Consultation Body	Organisation	Contact Details
Local Planning Authority	Northumberland County Council	
The Coal Authority	The Coal Authority	
Homes England	Homes England	
Natural England	Natural England	
The Environment Agency	The Environment Agency	
Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England	Historic England	
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited	Network Rail Infrastructure Limited	
National Highways	National Highways	

Consultation Body	Organisation	Contact Details
Relevant Primary Care Trust	NHS Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group	
Any person who owns or controls electronic communications apparatus situated in any part of the area of the local planning authority	The Alncom Group	
	Avonline	
	British Telecommunications Plc.	
	Briskona	
	CTIL (Acting on behalf of Vodafone and O2)	
	EE	
	Three	
	Virgin Media Limited	

Consultation Body	Organisation	Contact Details
	Wildcard Networks	
	Arqiva	
	Openreach	
Any person to whom the electronic communications code applies	CTIL (Acting on behalf of Vodafone and O2)	
	EE	
	Three	
Any person to whom a licence has been granted under section 6(1)(b) and (c) of the Electricity Act 1989.	Northern Powergrid	
	National Grid	
Any a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 7(2) of the Gas Act 1986.	Northern Gas Networks	

Consultation Body	Organisation	Contact Details
Sewerage undertaker	Northumbrian Water Limited	
Water undertaker	Northumbrian Water Limited	
Marine Management Organisation	Marine Management Organisation	
Adjoining local authorities – Parish Councils	Ashington Town Council	
	Cresswell Parish Council	
	East Bedlington Parish Council	
	Ellington and Linton Parish Council	
	Lynemouth Parish Council	
Voluntary Bodies some or all of whose activities benefit all or any part of the neighbourhood area	Newbiggin Arts Centre	
	RNLI	
	Women's Institute	
	Newbiggin-by-the-Sea Regeneration Trust	
Bodies which represent the interests of different	Church of England – Diocese of Newcastle	

Consultation Body	Organisation	Contact Details
religious groups in the neighbourhood area	Vicar for Woodhorn and Newbiggin	
	St. Mary's Catholic Church	
	Salvation Army	
	St. Andrew's & St. Mark's Methodist / United Reformed Church	
Bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the neighbourhood area		
Bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in the neighbourhood area	Newbiggin-by-the-Sea Traders Association	
Bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the neighbourhood area	Disability North	

In addition, the following organisations have asked to be notified about neighbourhood plans in Northumberland. Please notify them about the Regulation 14 consultation.

Organisation	Contact Details
The Theatres Trust	
Sustrans	
National Farmers Union	
All Things Neighbourhood Planning	
SSA Planning	
Quod Planning	
Tetlow King Planning	

Appendix 8: Pre-submission engagement - other interested parties identified by the town council

Business

- Advance Northumberland - [REDACTED]
- The Coble – Pub – [REDACTED]
- Chelsea Nicole Beauty [REDACTED]
- The Endeavour Restaurant and Coffee House [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Shave By The Shore [REDACTED]
- The Fruit Shop [REDACTED]
- Newbiggin Suite and Furniture Shop [REDACTED]
- Caffè Bertorelli [REDACTED]
- Hair By Kelly [REDACTED]
- Tan and Gan [REDACTED]
- Florist By The Sea [REDACTED]
- Star Video [REDACTED]
- Marion's wool and haberdashery [REDACTED]
- Butcher By The Sea [REDACTED]
- Cee jays Café [REDACTED]
- Pretty Things By The Sea [REDACTED]
- The Grooming Room [REDACTED]

Landowners of housing sites that were assessed

- Bernicia [REDACTED]
- Persimmon Homes [REDACTED]
- Mr G W Birchall [REDACTED]
- Mr G Armstrong [REDACTED]
- Mr Clippingdale - c/o George F White [REDACTED]
- Mr B W Elliott [REDACTED]

Others:

- Newbiggin Sports and Community Hub [REDACTED]
- Newbiggin and District Allotment and Smallholders Association [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Newbiggin Golf Club [REDACTED]
- Grace Darling Academy [REDACTED]
- Newbiggin Boxing Club [REDACTED]
- Parkdean Caravan Park [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Newbiggin by the Sea Sailing Club [REDACTED]

Appendix 9: Pre-submission engagement - letters sent to consultation bodies and other interested parties



NEWBIGGIN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

27th June, 2022

Dear Consultee

Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012: Regulation 14 consultation and publicity

Newbiggin By The Sea Town Council, as a qualifying body for the purposes of neighbourhood planning for the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Area, has completed the preparation of the Pre-Submission Draft Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan.

You are identified by the Town Council as a consultation body whose interests may be affected by the policies contained in the Draft Plan for the purposes of the Regulations. I am therefore writing to consult you about the Draft Plan. Any comments you may wish to make about the Draft Plan must be made in writing. The Regulations require that consultation must take place for a period of not less than six weeks starting on the date the Draft Plan is first publicised. Written representations are being invited on the Draft Plan for a period of not less than six weeks, commencing **9 am on Monday 27th June 2022** and ending at **5pm on Monday 22nd August 2022**.

The Plan and supporting documents can be viewed on the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan website at www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan. Hard copies of the Plan will be available to inspect at Newbiggin Town Council Offices, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, NE64 6QD between 11 am and 12 pm Monday to Friday.

Representations may be made by email to neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk or by post to: The Town Clerk, Newbiggin Town Council, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, NE64 6QD.

A drop-in event has been organised for the public to view the Plan on Saturday, 23rd July between 10 am and 4 pm at the St Bartholomew's Church Centre, Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea.

We would be pleased to receive any written representations you may wish to make on the Plan and supporting documents **before 5pm on Monday 22nd August 2022**.

If you have any questions about this consultation, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

Cllr Louise Spratt

Chairman, Newbiggin By The Sea Town Council



NEWBIGGIN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

27th June, 2022

Dear Consultee,

Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan: Consultation on Draft Neighbourhood Plan

I am writing to inform you that the Town Council has completed work on preparing the Draft Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan. We are now required to formally publicise and consult on the Plan for a period of not less than six weeks. Consultation on the Draft Plan begins on **9 am on Monday 27th June 2022** and ends at **5 pm on Monday 22nd August 2022**.

The Draft Plan and supporting documents can be viewed on the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan website at www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan. Hard copies of the Plan will be available to inspect at Newbiggin Town Council Offices, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, NE64 6QD between 11 am and 12 pm Monday to Friday.

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We would be pleased to receive any written representations you may wish to make on the Plan and supporting documents **before 5 pm on Monday 22nd August 2022**.

If you have any questions about this consultation, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Louise Spratt
Chairman, Newbiggin By The Sea Town Council

Appendix 10: Pre-submission engagement website and social media



[ADMINISTRATION](#)

[COUNCILLORS](#)

[NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN](#)

[NEWS/EVENTS](#)

[SERVICES](#)

[DIARY](#)



Consultation On Neighbourhood Plan Summer 2022

[Home](#) > [Neighbourhood Plan](#) > [Consultation on Neighbourhood Plan Summer 2022](#)

We need your views on our draft plan!

Newbiggin By The Sea Town Council has prepared a draft Neighbourhood Plan. The plan proposes a number of planning policies which, once adopted, must be used in the determination of planning applications within the town.

We need your comments on the following documents:

- Pre-submission draft Neighbourhood Plan – [Newbiggin by the Sea Pre-submission draft plan FINAL](#)
- Draft Policies map – [Newbiggin NP Policies Map A1 Newbiggin NP Policies Map Inset A1](#)
- Draft Environmental Report – [Newbiggin by the Sea ER_final](#)
- Appropriate Assessment – [Habitats Regulations Assessment](#)


The draft plan has been informed by the following evidence documents:

- Housing Needs Assessment – [210414 Newbiggin-by-the-Sea HNA final report \(revised\)](#)
- Housing site assessment background paper – [Newbiggin by the Sea housing site assessment background paper FINAL](#)
- Local green space background paper – [LGS background paper FINAL](#)

Comments can be made in the following ways:

- Using the online form available <https://forms.gle/tzvtp4kyiNUREbCQ8>
- Completing a response form and sending it to us via post or email (details below) – [Response form](#)
- By email to: neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk; or

<https://www.facebook.com/NewbigginbytheSeaTownCouncil>



Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council
27 June 2022 · 🌐

We need your comments on this pre- submission draft - Newbiggin By The Sea Neighbourhood Plan by 22nd August 2022.

Drop in event on Saturday 23rd July, between 10am - 4pm at St Bartholomew's Church Centre, Front Street. This leaflet provides a summary of the draft plan. The full draft plan and all the supporting information is available on the Town Council website:
<http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neigh.../consultation>

Submit comments in the following ways: -... See more

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

We need your views on our draft plan

We have prepared a draft neighbourhood plan informed by the feedback provided by the local community and other stakeholders during 2020 and 2021. Our draft plan includes planning policies covering a range of issues which seek to protect what make our area special whilst supporting development needed by the local community.

What is a neighbourhood plan?

- The opportunity for local communities to prepare a neighbourhood plan was introduced in 2011. It enables people living and working in an area to guide where and how future development happens.
- Neighbourhood plans are prepared by local communities through town and parish councils, rather than being prepared by Northumberland County Council.
- They do not need to repeat policies contained within the Northumberland Local Plan but do need to accord with them.
- Because neighbourhood plans are used to inform decisions on planning applications, it gives the local community a genuine influence over the future of the area.
- Plans can include a range of policies, including those which guide new development, conserve and enhance the environment and support the provision of community facilities.
- Plans can also include community actions which could be delivered by the town council as well as other local groups and organisations.

How to get involved....


This leaflet provides a summary of the draft plan. The full draft plan and all of the supporting information is available on the town council website:
<http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>

If you do not have access to the internet, a hard copy of the plan can be provided on request using the contact details below.

You can submit comments in the following ways:

- Using the online form available on our website;
- Attending the drop in event on Saturday 23rd of July, between 10am and 4pm at St Bartholomew's Church Centre, Front Street;
- By email to: neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk;
- By letter to: Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland, NE64 6QD.

We need comments by 22nd August 2022



Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Our neighbourhood plan vision

By 2036 Newbiggin by the Sea will be successful, thriving and sustainable. A place where people want to live and work because of the rich and distinctive environment, range of services and facilities, diverse opportunities, as well as access to high quality housing, employment and protected open spaces with linked wildlife corridors.

New employment opportunities have increased the number of residents commuting out of the town for employment and they have access to sustainable modes of transport.

The town centre is vibrant, with a range of shops, cafes and leisure facilities. These services, facilities and leisure opportunities are well fully accessible, contributing to health and well-being and have resulted in a growth in visitor numbers who support the success of the local economy.

New development secures the protection and enhancement of the area and safeguards the identity of the local community.

Our neighbourhood plan objectives and policies

Objective 1 - Distinctive place

Achieving a balance between development and maintaining the clear separation of settlements, conserving and enhancing the natural built and historic environment, as well as providing important open spaces.

- Policy N1 - Design:** would require new development to respect the character of the area.
- Policy N2 - Visual integration:** would require contributions from new residential and tourism development to integrate against impacts from recreational disturbance on internationally and nationally designated sites.
- Policy N3:** Local green spaces, nature and other recreational sites in the settlement from development.

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Objective 2 - Sustainable, thriving and healthy

Supporting new development which meets the needs of growing and future residents. This includes providing the right types of housing, supporting investment in employment spaces and the wider economy, strengthening the role of the town centre and improving infrastructure to support health-well.

- Policy N4 - Housing and infrastructure:** promotes the provision of three housing sites: Greenfield, Church and two sites to the south of the town to deliver between 140 and 175 new homes.
- Policy N5 - Community services and facilities:** identifies 10 facilities as being important to the local community and to be given protection (Health centre, Community centre, Village Hall, Swimming hall, WC, Disables hall, Recreation area, Maritime Centre and Community Activity Centre).

Objective 3 - Well connected

Providing access to sustainable modes of transport which connect people to a wide range of services, facilities and employment opportunities, as well as enhancing opportunities for active travel and creating spaces for all.

- Policy N6 - Sustainable transport:** supports development which maintains the use of sustainable modes of transport.
- Policy N7:** Rights of way provides support for improvements and extensions to the rights of way network.

Community actions


Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Your feedback

Please use the space below to provide feedback on our draft plan (please attach additional sheets if needed).

10

8 shares



Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council
4 July 2022

Don't forget we need your comments on this pre- submission draft - Newbiggin By The Sea Neighbourhood Plan by 22nd August 2022.

Drop in event on Saturday 23rd July, between 10am - 4pm at St Bartholomew's Church Centre, Front Street. This leaflet provides a summary of the draft plan. The full draft plan and all the supporting information is available on the Town Council website:
<http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neigh.../consultation>

Submit comments in the following ways: -

- Use the online form available on our website
- Attend the drop in event on Saturday 23rd of July
- By email - neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk
- By letter - Newbiggin By The Sea Town Council, 76 Front Street, Northumberland, NE64 6QD.

#newbiggin #newbigginbythesea Northumberland County Council

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

We need your views on our draft plan

We have prepared a draft neighbourhood plan informed by the feedback provided by the local community and other stakeholders during 2020 and 2021. Our draft plan includes planning policies covering a range of issues which seek to protect what make our area special whilst supporting development needed by the local community.

What is a neighbourhood plan?

- The opportunity for local communities to prepare a neighbourhood plan was introduced in 2011. It enables people living and working in an area to guide where and how future development happens.
- Neighbourhood plans are prepared by local communities through town and parish councils, rather than being prepared by Northumberland County Council.
- They do not need to repeat policies contained within the Northumberland Local Plan but do need to accord with them.
- Because neighbourhood plans are used to inform decisions on planning applications, it gives the local community a genuine influence over the future of the area.
- Plans can include a range of policies, including those which guide new development, conserve and enhance the environment and support the provision of community facilities.
- Plans can also include community actions which could be delivered by the town council as well as other local groups and organisations.

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We need comments by 22nd August 2022



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New employment opportunities have reduced the number of residents commuting out of the town for employment and there have been access to sustainable modes of transport.

The town centre is vibrant, with a range of shops, social and leisure facilities. These services, facilities and leisure opportunities are now fully accessible, contributing to health and well-being and have resulted in a growth in visitor numbers who support the success of the local economy.

New development secures the protection and enhancement of the area and safeguards the identity of the local community.

Our neighbourhood plan objectives and policies

Objective 1 - Distinctive place

Achieving a balance between development and maintaining the clear separation of settlements, conserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment, as well as protecting important open spaces.

- **Policy M1 - Design:** ensure new development respects the character of the area.
- **Policy M2 - Visual integration:** ensure contributions from new residential and tourism accommodation to mitigate against impacts from recreational disturbance on internationally and nationally designated sites.
- **Policy M3 - Development control:** ensure that all development is in accordance with the plan.

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Objective 2 - Sustainable, thriving and healthy

Supporting new development which meets the needs of existing and future residents. This includes providing the right type of housing, supporting investment in employment space and the wider economy, strengthening the role of the town centre and ensuring infrastructure to support health needs.

- **Policy H1 - Housing mix:** encourage the provision of a mix of housing types (including affordable housing) and new homes to the south of the town to address between 100 and 125 new homes.
- **Policy H2 - Community services and facilities:** ensure that facilities are being improved to the local community and to be given protection (health centre, community centre, Wilson Park, Riverside Park, St. Andrew's Park, Victoria Park, Maritime Centre and Community Activity Centre).

Objective 3 - Well connected

Providing access to sustainable modes of transport which connect people to a wide range of services, facilities and employment opportunities, as well as ensuring opportunities for safe and active travel and parking spaces for all.


- **Policy W1 - Sustainable transport:** encourage development which maximises the use of sustainable modes of transport.
- **Policy W2 - Rights of way:** provide support for improvements and extensions to the rights of way network.

Community actions

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Your feedback

Please use the space below to provide feedback on our draft plan (attach additional sheets if needed).



Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council
21 July 2022

Don't forget we are holding a Drop in event for Newbiggin By The Sea Neighbourhood Plan this Saturday between 10am - 4pm at St Bartholomew's Church Centre, Front Street.

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<http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neigh.../consultation>

#newbiggin #newbigginbythesea Northumberland County Council

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

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This leaflet provides a summary of the draft plan. The full draft plan and all of the supporting information is available on the town council website:
<http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>

If you do not have access to the internet, a hard copy of the plan can be provided on request using the contact details below.

You can submit comments in the following ways:

- Using the online form available on our website;
- Attending the drop in event on Saturday 23rd of July, between 10am and 4pm at St Bartholomew's Church Centre, Front Street;
- By email to: neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk;
- By letter to: Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland, NE64 6QD.

We need comments by 22nd August 2022



Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Our neighbourhood plan vision

By 2036 Newbiggin by the Sea will be a sustainable, thriving and accessible place where people want to live and work because of the rich and distinctive environment, range of services and facilities, leisure opportunities, as well as access to high quality housing, employment and potential open spaces with coastal wildlife corridors.

New employment opportunities have reduced the number of residents commuting out of the town for employment and they have access to sustainable modes of transport.

The town centre is vibrant, with a range of shops, social and leisure facilities. These services, facilities and leisure opportunities are now fully accessible, contributing to health and well-being and a sense of growth in a vibrant community who support the success of the local economy.

New development secures the protection and enhancement of the area and safeguards the identity of the local community.

Our neighbourhood plan objectives and policies

Objective 1 - Distinctive place

Achieving a balance between development and maintaining the clear separation of settlements, conserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment, as well as protecting important open spaces.

- Policy 01 - Design:** will require new development to respect the character of the area.
- Policy 02 - Visual Amenity:** will require contributions from new residential and tourism accommodation to mitigate against impacts from occasional disturbances or intrusively and aesthetically inappropriate uses.
- Policy 03 - Local Nature Reserve:** will require an allocation within sites for conservation from development.

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Objective 2 - Sustainable, thriving and healthy

Supporting new development which meets the needs of existing and future residents. This includes providing the right types of housing, supporting investment in employment space and the wider economy, strengthening the role of the town centre and improving infrastructure to support health needs.

- Policy 04 - Housing mix allocation:** promotes the allocation of three housing mix: Shared Ownership and new plots in the south of the town to deliver between 150 and 175 new homes.
- Policy 05 - Community, services and facilities:** identifies 10 facilities as having importance to the local community and to the green corridor health corridor, community centre, Millburn Park, Greenacre East, St. Elizabeths Hall, Laidlaw Lane Hall, Millburn Centre and Community Activity Centre.

Objective 3 - Well connected

Providing access to sustainable modes of transport which connect people to a wide range of services, facilities and employment opportunities. As well as enhancing opportunities for safe and secure travel and walking routes for all.

- Policy 07 - Sustainable transport:** supports development which maintains the use of sustainable modes of transport.
- Policy 08 - Rights of way:** provides support for improvements and measures to the rights of way network.

Community actions

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Your feedback

Please use the space below to provide feedback on our draft plan (please address about 2 responses).




1

10 shares

Appendix 11: Pre-submission consultation - leaflet sent to all households

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan



We need your views on our draft plan

We have prepared a draft neighbourhood plan informed by the feedback provided by the local community and other stakeholders during 2020 and 2021. Our draft plan includes planning policies covering a range of issues which seek to protect what make our area special whilst supporting development needed by the local community.

What is a neighbourhood plan?

- The opportunity for local communities to prepare a neighbourhood plan was introduced in 2011. It enables people living and working in an area to guide where and how future development happens.
- Neighbourhood plans are prepared by local communities through town and parish councils, rather than being prepared by Northumberland County Council.
- They do not need to repeat policies contained within the Northumberland Local Plan but do need to accord with them.
- Because neighbourhood plans are used to inform decisions on planning applications, it gives the local community a genuine influence over the future of the area.
- Plans can include a range of policies, including those which guide new development, conserve and enhance the environment and support the provision of community facilities.
- Plans can also include community actions which could be delivered by the town council as well as other local groups and organisations.


How to get involved....

This leaflet provides a summary of the draft plan. The full draft plan and all of the supporting information is available on the town council website:
<http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>

If you do not have access to the internet, a hard copy of the plan can be provided on request using the contact details below.

You can submit comments in the following ways:

- Using the online form available on our website;
- Attending the drop in event on Saturday 23rd of July, between 10am and 4pm at St Bartholomew's Church Centre, Front Street;
- By email to: neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk;
- By letter to: Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland, NE64 6QD.



We need comments by 22nd August 2022

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Our neighbourhood plan vision

By 2036 Newbiggin by the Sea will be successful, thriving and sustainable. A place where people want to live and work because of the rich and distinctive environment, range of services and facilities, leisure opportunities, as well as access to high quality housing, employment and protected open spaces with linked wildlife corridors.

New employment opportunities have reduced the number of residents commuting out of the town for employment and they have access to sustainable modes of transport.

The town centre is vibrant, with a range of shops, social and leisure facilities. These services, facilities and leisure opportunities are now fully accessible, contributing to health and well-being and have resulted in a growth in visitor numbers who support the success of the local economy.

New development ensures the protection and enhancement of the area and safeguards the amenity of the local community.

Our neighbourhood plan objectives and policies

Objective 1 - Distinctive place

Achieving a balance between development and maintaining the clear separation of settlements, conserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment, as well as protecting important open spaces.

- **Policy N1 - Design:** would require new development to respect the character of the area;
- **Policy N2 - Coastal mitigation:** would require contributions from new residential and tourism accommodation to mitigate against impacts from recreational disturbance on internationally and nationally designated sites;
- **Policy N3 - Local green space:** seeks to allocate eight sites to be protected from development;
- **Policy N4 - Newbiggin by the Sea Conservation Area:** requires new development to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the area and also identifies important buildings.



Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Objective 2 - Sustainable, thriving and healthy

Supporting new development which meets the needs of existing and future residents. This includes providing the right types of housing, supporting investment in employment space and the visitor economy, strengthening the role of the town centre and improving infrastructure to support health needs.

- **Policy N5 - Housing site allocations:** proposes the allocation of three housing sites (Storey Crescent and two sites to the south of the town) to deliver between 144 and 173 new homes;
- **Policy N6 - Community services and facilities:** identifies 10 facilities as having importance to the local community and to be given protection (health centre, community centre, Milburn Park, Simonside Hall, WI, Elizabeth Hall, Salvation Army Hall, Maritime Centre and Community Activity Centre);



Objective 3 - Well connected

Promoting access to sustainable modes of transport which connect people to a wide range of services, facilities and employment opportunities. As well as enhancing opportunities for safe and active travel and ensuring access for all.

- **Policy N7 - Sustainable transport:** supports development which maximise the use of sustainable modes of transport;
- **Policy N8 - Rights of way:** provides support for improvements and extensions to the rights of way network.



Community actions

1. Develop environmental enhancement projects particularly regarding improving wildlife corridors, public footpaths and bridleways;
2. Maintenance of open spaces, such as Central Parkway, East Lea Woods and Welfare/ Spital;
3. Work with NCC to update the Newbiggin by the Sea Conservation Area Appraisal;
4. Support projects to celebrate the diverse heritage of the area;
5. Work with others to seek to establish a business hub to provide office space and shared business support services;
6. Develop initiatives to promote Newbiggin by the Sea as a tourist destination;
7. Maintenance of public rights of way;
8. Working with NCC on highway improvement projects.

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Your feedback

Please use the space below to provide feedback on our draft plan (attach additional sheets if required)

Next steps

- We will make changes to the plan following feedback and submit it to the county council;
- There will be further consultation undertaken by the county council;
- The plan will then be examined by an independent examiner who will decide if it meets the various legal requirements;
- There will then be a referendum - if the majority of those voting are in favour of the plan it will be adopted by the county council and used to decide planning applications.

Appendix 12: Pre-submission engagement - response form



Pre-Submission Draft Newbiggin by the sea Neighbourhood Plan Response Form

You can use this response form to provide feedback on the Pre-Submission Draft Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan. If you have any questions, please contact the town council by email neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk or phoning 01670 851833.

1. Do you agree with the key issues for the plan to address, identified in section 2 of the draft plan?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have any comments on the key issues, please add them below.

2. Do you agree with the vision and objectives for the plan, set out within section 3 of the draft plan?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have any comments on the vision and objectives, please add them below.

3. Policy N1 requires new development to conserve local distinctiveness by demonstrating high quality design. It identifies a number of criteria against which all planning applications will be considered. Do you support the draft policy?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have any comments on policy N1, please add them below.



4. Policy N2 requires financial contributions from new residential and tourism accommodation development to provide mitigation against the impacts arising from increasing levels of recreational disturbance on important ecological sites. Do you support the draft policy?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have any comments on policy N2 please add them below.

5. Policy N3 identifies eight sites to be allocated as local green space and protected from development. Do you support the draft policy?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have any comments on policy N3, please add them below.

6. Policy N4 identifies the key considerations for assessing proposals within the Newbiggin by the Sea Conservation Area and also highlights key buildings. Do you support the draft policy?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have any comments on policy N4, please add them below.

7. Policy N5 proposes the allocation of three housing sites (Storey Crescent and two sites to the south of the town). Do you support the draft policy?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have any comments on policy N5, please add them below.



8. Policy N6 identifies facilities which are of great importance to the local community. Do you support the draft policy?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have any comments on policy N6, please add them below.

9. Policy N7 requires new development to maximise the use of sustainable transport modes and includes a number of criteria against which planning applications should be considered. Do you support the draft policy?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have any comments on policy N7, please add them below.

10. Policy N8 seeks to improve and extend the rights of way network. Do you support the draft policy?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have any comments on policy N8, please add them below.

11. Annex 1 to the plan identifies a number of community actions for the town council to deliver. If you have any comments on the proposed community actions, please add them below.



12. If you have any other comments on the plan or its supporting documents, please add them below.

Contact details

Name:
Address:

Email:

Any personal data supplies will only be used in relation to the preparation of the neighbourhood plan and will be maintained in accordance with the data protection regulations and the town councils privacy policy which is available at <http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/generalprivacynotice.pdf>

Completed response forms must be received by **22 August 2022**.

Please send completed response forms to: Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council, 76 Front Street, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland, NE64 6QD; or by email to: neighbourhoodplan@newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk

An online version of this form is available on the town council website: <http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>

Thank you for taking the time to give us your comments on the draft plan.

Appendix 13: Pre-submission engagement - display boards used at drop in event



Neighbourhood Plans

The Newbiggin-by-the Sea Neighbourhood Plan will set out the vision, objectives and policies for the sustainable development of the Parish to 2036



What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

Since 2011 the Government has allowed communities to produce 'Neighbourhood Plans' for their local area. These enable people living and working in an area to guide where and how future development happens. Neighbourhood Plans can help deliver types of development that local people would like to see in their community.

What will it do?

The purpose of neighbourhood plans is to create locally-distinctive planning policies to manage and guide development within a defined neighbourhood area.

They are important documents in the planning system because decisions on planning applications must be made in accordance with planning policies, including those in a neighbourhood plan.

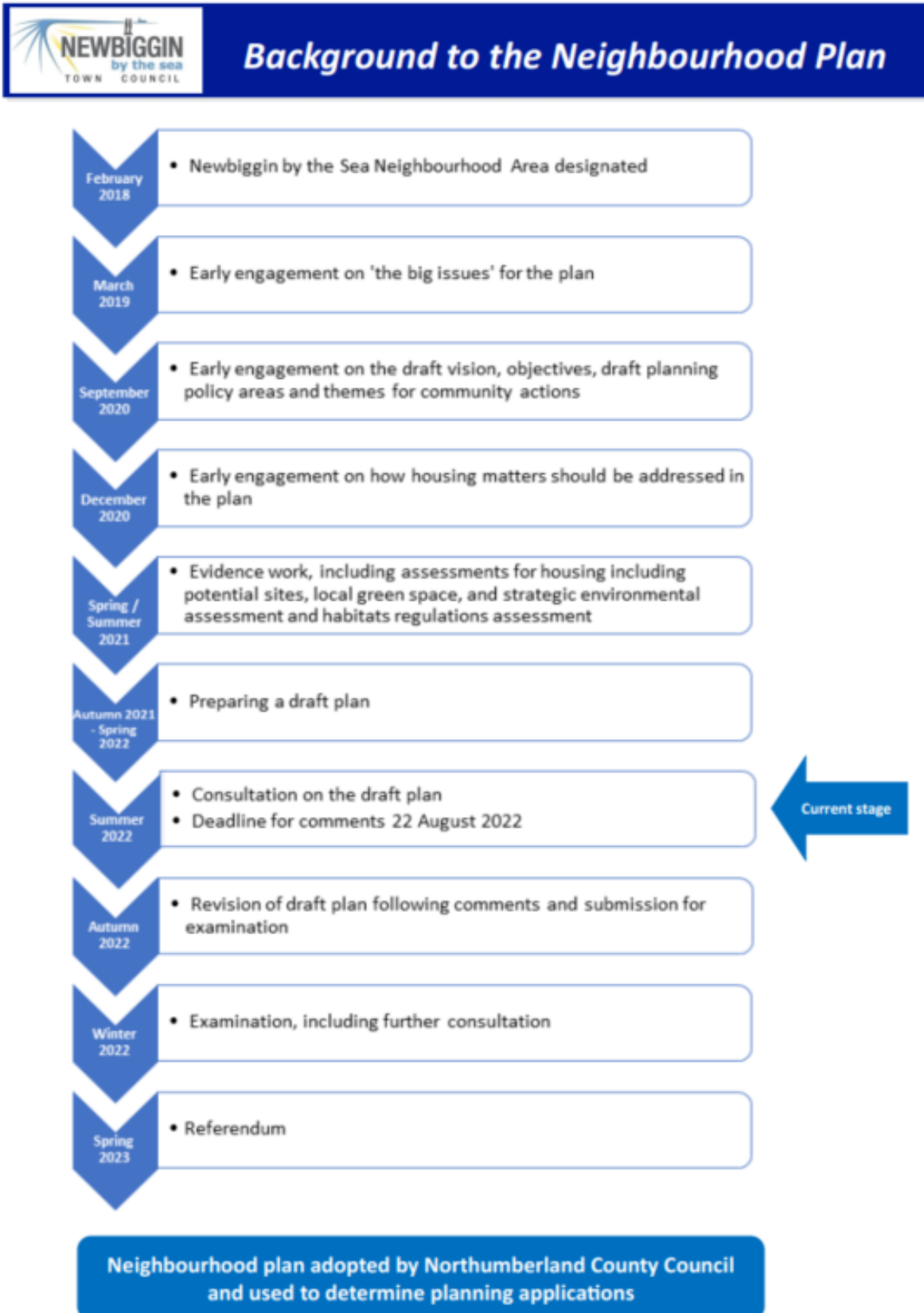
What issues can it cover?

Neighbourhood plans can create planning policies to cover any land-use matter which is important to the local community. This could include:

- Employment e.g. allocating sites for business development
- Housing e.g. allocating sites for residential development and determining the types of housing required
- Transport e.g. extensions to cycle routes or footpaths
- Natural environment e.g. designating protected open spaces
- Design e.g. producing a design code to shape development

What can't it do?

- It can't prevent development already agreed through the Northumberland Local Plan. It must be generally in conformity with policies in this plan.
- It must promote sustainable development.
- It can't cover strategic planning matters i.e. major infrastructure, minerals and waste matters.





Vision & Objectives

The vision sets out what the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan intends to achieve over the plan period to 2036. It informs all the plan objectives and draft planning policies.

A vision for Newbiggin by the Sea in 2036

By 2036 Newbiggin by the Sea will be successful, thriving and sustainable. A place where people want to live and work because of the rich and distinctive environment, range of services and facilities, leisure opportunities, as well as access to high quality housing, employment and protected open spaces with linked wildlife corridors.

New employment opportunities have reduced the number of residents commuting out of the town for employment and they have access to sustainable modes of transport.

The town centre is vibrant, with a range of shops, social and leisure facilities. These services, facilities and leisure opportunities are now fully accessible, contributing to health and well-being and have resulted in a growth in visitor numbers who support the success of the local economy.

New development ensures the protection and enhancement of the area and safeguards the amenity of the local community.

To deliver the vision, three objectives have been developed. These clearly relate to the issues identified through early engagement with the local community and other stakeholders, as well as the evidence base supporting the plan. The draft planning policies and community actions contained within the plan, should deliver the objectives.

Objectives

Objective 1 - Distinctive place:

Achieving a balance between development and maintaining the clear separation of settlements, conserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment, as well as protecting important open spaces.

Objective 2 – Sustainable, thriving and healthy community:

Supporting new development which meets the needs of existing and future residents. This includes providing the right types of housing, supporting investment in employment space and the visitor economy, strengthening the role of the town centre and improving infrastructure to support health needs.

Objective 3 - Well connected:

Promoting access to sustainable modes of transport which connect people to a wide range of services, facilities and employment opportunities. As well as enhancing opportunities for safe and active travel and ensuring access for all.



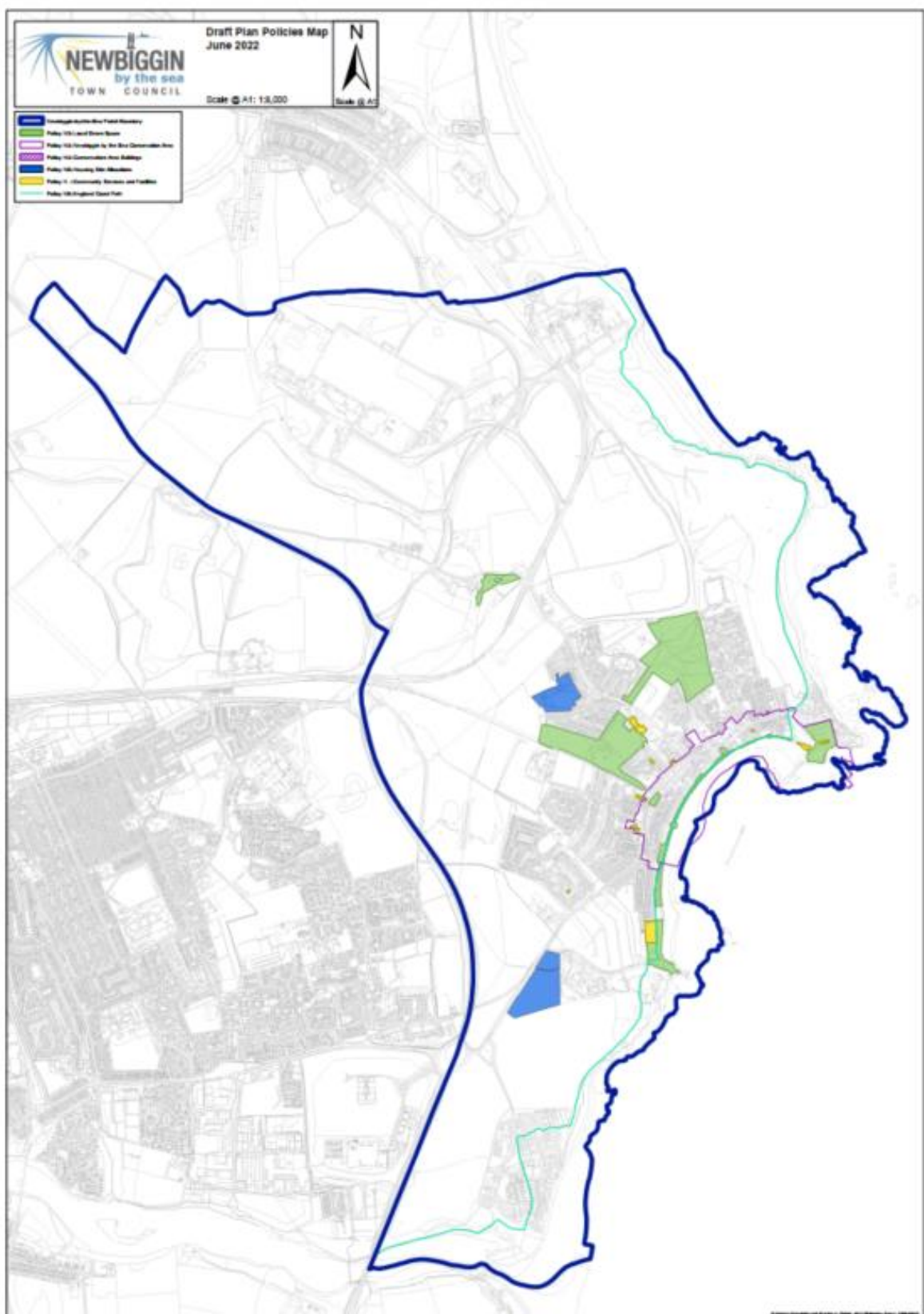
Draft Planning Policies

The draft neighbourhood plan contains 8 planning policies.

- **Policy N1 - Design** would require new development to respect the character of the area
- **Policy N2 - Coastal mitigation** would require contributions from new residential and tourism accommodation to mitigate against impacts from recreational disturbance on internationally and nationally designated sites
- **Policy N3 - Local green space** proposes to designate eight sites to be protected from development (Church Point, Milburn Park, Promenade and Quay Wall, Newbiggin Piazza, Woodhorn Picnic Area, Newbiggin Central Park, Newbiggin Memorial Park and Newbiggin Colliery Memorial and former colliery site)
- **Policy N4 - Newbiggin by the Sea Conservation Area** would require new development to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the area and also identifies important buildings
- **Policy N5 - Housing site allocations** proposes the allocation of three housing sites (Storey Crescent and two sites to the south of the town) to deliver between 144 and 173 new homes
- **Policy N6 - Community services and facilities** identifies 10 facilities as having importance to the local community and to be given protection (health centre, community centre, Milburn Park, Simonside Hall, WI, Elizabeth Hall, Salvation Army Hall, Maritime Centre and Community Activity Centre)
- **Policy N7 - Sustainable transport** supports development which maximise the use of sustainable modes of transport
- **Policy N8 - Rights of way** provides support for improvements and extensions to the rights of way network.



The proposed allocations are shown on a policies map.







Community Actions

As part of the process of developing the plan, a number of areas were identified by the local community which cannot be addressed through the planning system. These have been identified as 'community actions' – they do however relate to one or more of the policy areas.

These community actions are supported by the town council. However, many of them will be delivered by, or in conjunction with, other bodies and community groups.

The community actions are grouped under the three plan objectives.

The town council want these projects to be taken forward. This will only happen if there is enough community support, including (but not only) hands on support. It is your chance to get involved and make things happen.



Objective 1 – Distinctive place

1. Develop environmental enhancement projects particularly regarding improving wildlife corridors, public footpaths and bridleways
2. Maintenance of open spaces, such as Central Parkway, East Lea Woods and Welfare/ Spital
3. Work with NCC to update the Newbiggin by the Sea Conservation Area Appraisal
4. Support projects to celebrate the diverse heritage of the area.

Objective 2 – Sustainable, thriving and healthy communities

5. Work with others to seek to establish a business hub to provide office space and shared business support services
6. Develop initiatives to promote Newbiggin-by-the-Sea as a tourist destination



Objective 3 – Well connected

7. Maintenance of public rights of way
8. Working with NCC on highway improvement projects



Our Neighbourhood Plan: Next Steps



Help to shape our plan

- The draft Plan sets out planning policies to address issues you told us are important to the local community. Once it is finalised it will be used to make decisions on planning applications in the Parish. ***This is your chance to have your say on those policies.***
- Public consultation runs for eight weeks from **27th of June to 22nd August**. We would like to hear your views on the Plan.

What will we do with your comments?

- All of the written comments you provide are important to us. We will prepare a report summarising all comments received during the consultation period and how we have responded to these. This will be available online at: <http://www.newbiggintowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>

What happens after this consultation period?

- We will review and redraft the Plan taking account of all comments made and the level of support expressed for the draft policies before submitting a final version to the County Council in autumn 2022.
- The County Council will publicise the final Plan for a further six week period when you will be able to have a final say.
- The County Council will arrange for the Plan to be 'independently examined'. All your comments at this stage will go straight to the independent examiner.

Progressing the Neighbourhood Plan

- The examiner submits a report to the County Council advising whether the Plan meets the legal requirements and basic conditions. The County Council will publish this report.
- If the Neighbourhood Plan passes examination the County Council arranges a referendum to give local people the final democratic say on whether it should be adopted. If more than 50% vote in favour of the Plan, it must be adopted by the County Council and used to make decisions on planning applications in the Parish.

Appendix 14: Pre-submission consultation responses and proposed amendments

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
General		
Northumberland County Council	Thank you for consulting the County Council on the Pre-Submission Draft Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan. Firstly, I would like to congratulate the Town Council and their Steering Group on reaching this stage in plan preparation and for creating a well-considered draft plan for the future of the parish.	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Highways England	<p>National Highways welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the Pre Submission Draft of the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan (the Neighbourhood Plan) and we have undertaken a review of the Neighbourhood Plan in accordance with our responsibilities and aims. This letter provides an overview of the Strategic Road Network (SRN) in Northumberland, the background to Highways England's engagement with the adopted Northumberland Local Plan and our formal response to this Neighbourhood Plan consultation.</p> <p>Strategic Road Network Context Considering the location of Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Area, the SRN which could be impacted upon by proposals within the Neighbourhood Plan are represented by the A19, principally the A19 / A189 Moor Farm junction, and A1, via the Morpeth Norther Bypass. The other SRN route in Northumberland is the A69, whilst important to the movement of traffic in the county, is not considered likely be impacted upon by proposals presented in the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Background The strategic road network - Planning for the future: A guide to working with Highways England on planning matters, details the approach we take to engaging in the planning system. It identifies that as a statutory consultee in the planning system we are under a regulatory duty to co-</p>	Comments noted , see response to comments on proposed housing sites (policy N5)

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>operate and aim to give consideration to all proposals received and to provide appropriate, timely, substantive responses when consulted.</p> <p>We seek to be a proactive planning partner supporting local and national economic growth and regeneration and aim to actively engage at an early stage of thinking on all planning matters that could impact on the SRN. It builds on DfT Circular 02/2013 The Strategic Road Network and the delivery of sustainable development, which sets out the way in which Nation Highways will engage with communities and the development industry to deliver sustainable development and economic growth, whilst maintaining the safe and efficient operation of the SRN.</p> <p>We have been actively involved throughout the preparation and development of Northumberland County Council's, now adopted, Local Plan. National Highways is committed to continue to work with the Council in relation to the Plan and agreed a Joint Position Statement (JPS) and supporting Technical Memorandum (TM) dealing with Highways England Related Matters, which informed the Plan's Examination in Public (EiP).</p> <p>It was agreed with the Council that the existing operational performance and safety record of the A19 Moor Farm junction are such that a major intervention is required, if the junction's performance was not to represent an obstacle to the development promoted through the Local Plan. Whilst National Highways has undertaken work to identify an intervention at this junction it remains that no scheme is yet committed and no funding is yet allocated for deliver. This work is intended to continue into the next Road Investment Strategy (RIS) period.</p> <p>National Highways' consideration of the Neighbourhood Plan is within the context of the county's future planning proposals and the potential impact this has on the operation and safety of the SRN.</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
Historic England	<p>Historic England is keen to ensure protection of the historic environment is appropriately taken into account in neighbourhood plans. Having reviewed the information provided in correspondence of 27 June 2022, we do not consider there is a need for us to be involved in development of the plan. Nonetheless, the plan area does contain a small number of designated heritage assets (including a conservation area and listed buildings) as well as the potential for non-designated heritage assets. I therefore set out below some general advice and some detailed comments.</p> <p>Overall, we welcome the vision and objectives set out in the draft plan in so far as they affect our area of interest. We welcome that you have included some discussion of impact on the historic environment when planning the location of new development allocations. We welcome that you have taken the opportunity to designate Local Green Space important to the community because of its historical significance. You have also included a design policy to identify the special qualities of the area and how they should be reflected in development. We welcome that you have included a community action in an annex to update the relevant conservation area documentation.</p>	Support welcomed and comments noted; no amendments required.
Marine Management Organisation	<p>We advise that in regard to the marine and coastal environment you take note of any relevant policies within the North East Marine Plan Documents. As marine plan boundaries extend up to the level of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS), there is an overlap with terrestrial plans, which generally extend to the Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS) mark. It is important to note that marine plan policies do not work in isolation, and decision-makers should consider a whole-plan approach. We encourage you to mention the North East Marine Plan when discussing anything coastal or marine themed.</p> <p>Further information on the background to marine planning, policy context and using the marine plan can be found in the North East</p>	Noted, no amendments required the North East Marine Plan Documents were reviewed as part of the preparation of the plan.

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan: Consultation Statement (January 2023)

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	Marine Plan itself. Supporting information for each marine plan policy can be found in the accompanying North East Marine Plan Technical Annex.	
Section 2 – Background to Newbiggin by the Sea		
Policy/ paragraph	A brief history of Newbiggin by the Sea Parish	
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	<p>I accept that the ‘brief History of Newbiggin by the Sea Parish’ has to be very brief. However, the proper title is ‘Woodhorn with Newbiggin by the Sea Parish’ and the fact is that this area has a unique and remarkable history which could contribute enormously to achieving the vision and objectives of this Plan.</p> <p>Over ten years Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project and Family History Centre have created the world’s biggest community family tree www.newbigginbytheseacommunitytree This is a fantastic resource for publicity, arts and creative industries and an inspiration for a whole range of tourism and community development. I have attached an article I wrote for ‘The Journal on August 9th which envisages a ‘ 2027 Homecoming’ of thousands of people with family links to Newbiggin who are now living all over the world. This would seem to be an opportunity to market Newbiggin by the Sea to an international audience.</p>	Noted, amend to refer to the Genealogy Project and Family History Centre , no further amendments required. The neighbourhood plan area is designated following the boundary of the civil parish, which is names Newbiggin by the Sea. The information on the website referred to has been reviewed however, it is unclear which element of it would be helpful to include within this section of the plan.
Policy/ paragraph	Paragraph 2.11	
Northumberland County Council	There is a typo in paragraph 2.11. It should read: ‘Newbiggin by the Sea has a lower proportion of home ownership (57%) and a notably higher proportion of social rented households (26%) than is typical either <u>either</u> locally across Northumberland...”	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Policy/ paragraph	Key issues for the plan	
Mr M Clippingdale	The key issues set out in section 2 specifically paragraph 2.22 are agreed and supported.	Support welcomed; no amendments required.

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
John Lawson (resident)	Support the key issues that have been identified	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Jane Small (resident)	Support the key issues - I'd like to suggest you add to this statement: Regeneration of the town through endorsing employment and providing appropriate infrastructure and start up units; with particular focus on young people.	Support welcomed and comments noted; amend paragraph 2.22 (point 6) to refer to housing and economic growth to retain young people as well as attracting families.
Section 3 - Vision and objectives		
Policy/ paragraph	Paragraph 3.1 (vision)	
Northumberland County Council	<p>The vision set out in the plan contains some mixed tenses. It is therefore recommended that the Plan's Vision be amended as follows:</p> <p><i>"By 2036 Newbiggin by the Sea will be successful, thriving and sustainable. A place where people want to live and work because of the rich and distinctive environment, range of services and facilities, leisure opportunities, as well as access to high quality housing, employment and protected open spaces with linked wildlife corridors.</i></p> <p><i>New employment opportunities will have reduced the number of residents commuting out of the town for employment and they will have access to sustainable modes of transport.</i></p> <p><i>The town centre is will be vibrant, with a range of shops, social and leisure facilities. These services, facilities and leisure opportunities are now will be fully accessible, contributing to health and well-being and have resulted will result in a growth in visitor numbers who will support the success of the local economy.</i></p> <p><i>New development will ensure ensures the protection and enhancement of the area and safeguards safeguard the amenity of the local community"</i></p>	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Mr M Clippingdale	The vision as set out in paragraph 3.1 is supported. The three objectives as set out in paragraph 3.2 are supported.	Support welcomed; no amendments required.

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan: Consultation Statement (January 2023)

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	In the 1950's 60's and 70's Newbiggin by the Sea had more than 10,000 inhabitants. In 2022 it has more than 6,000. In pursuing laudable aims that Newbiggin will be 'successful, thriving and sustainable by 2036' what consideration has the Council given to restoring the population as well as the prosperity of the town? Do the plan's objectives with regard to housing and employment match really match the above vision? Or should we be more ambitious for Newbiggin by the Sea ?	Noted, no amendments required. The policies within the plan support housing growth in addition to that identified within the local plan to seek to support the delivery of the vision. With regard to the economy, as explained within section 5 of the plan, the local plan includes several policies which would support the sustainable growth of the local economy.
John Lawson (resident)	Support the vision and objectives	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Angela Mason (resident)	Support the vision and objectives	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Jane Small (resident)	Support the vision and objectives. I'd like to see a focus on education and mental health included.	Support welcomed and comments noted; no amendments required. The vision and objectives refer to health, well-being and infrastructure.
Policy/ paragraph	Objective 1: Distinctive place	
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	<p>In seeking 'a balance between development and maintaining the clear separation of settlements' what attention has been paid to the triangle of land immediately north of the junction of the B1334 and A197 and south of the boundary of Spital estate and an area designated as green space. The plan is silent about this area. However this land is understood to be in the ownership of Persimmon homes who already have permission for further development just over the A197 at North Seaton. Surely this is a threat to the 'separation of settlements' particularly if housing developments H2 (11-14 dwellings) and H3 (93-109 dwellings) to the east of the B1334 are to go ahead? In order to protect the 'separation of settlements shouldn't this particular piece of land be included in the area designated as 'green space'.</p> <p>With regard to the location of new development is there a case both for expanding Newbiggin towards Woodhorn and expanding Woodhorn towards Newbiggin?</p>	<p>Noted, no amendments required. The land to the east of the A189 (west of the B1334 and south of the Spital estate) was considered for allocation as local green space. As a result of the size of the site, it was concluded that it is an extensive tract of land and therefore would not meet the requirements for allocation as local green space. Part of the area is however identified as forming part of the South East Northumberland Wildlife Network within the local plan. Persimmon Homes have confirmed the land is to be used as ecological mitigation land.</p> <p>Sites to the north of the town were considered as part of the housing site assessment process, however these were not available or suitable for development (see housing site assessment background paper).</p>

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>Woodhorn and Newbiggin have actually been inextricably linked for more than 1000 years as part of the Woodhorn with Newbiggin Parish. For hundreds of years Woodhorn Mill made a fundamental economic contribution to a Newbiggin port which in the early Middle Ages was one of the foremost grain exporting ports in England. Woodhorn has previous been a much larger and more economically active village with a public house and blacksmiths and a school. As well as the mill, the vicarage and of course St Mary's, Woodhorn, one of the great historic churches of Northumberland.</p> <p>To quote the draft neighbourhood plan at paragraph 4.4 - 'The local plan does not actively direct development to small villages, however, it recognises that a level of development is required to support their vitality. Therefore small villages can support a level of development that is proportionate to their size. The local plan does not define settlement boundaries for Newbiggin by the Sea or Woodhorn...'</p> <p>This seems to offer some support for an idea of 'expanding Newbiggin towards Woodhorn and Woodhorn towards Newbiggin' in a way which is sustainable and in the interests of Woodhorn with Newbiggin together. As it stands the current plan envisages 40-50 new dwellings at housing site Hi Storey Crescent. Why can't this be bigger and linked to the possible site for a new railway station?</p> <p>Could this site also contain a new purpose-built modern hotel?</p>	<p>Within the Northumberland Local Plan Woodhorn is identified as a small village where development would only be supported where it was proportionate to the size of the settlement. It is submitted that to propose development that would see the merger between Newbiggin by the Sea and Woodhorn would be contrary to the strategic policies contained within the local plan.</p> <p>Hotel developments are a main town centre use. National and local policies require that, wherever possible these should be located within the centres of the main towns and service centres. The local plan contains detailed policies that would be used to assess a future proposal for the development of a new hotel within the parish.</p>
Policy/ paragraph	Objective 3: Accessibility	
Northumberland County Council	The County Council supports the inclusion of sustainable transport themes within Objective 3.	Support welcomed; no amendments required.

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
Section 4 – Distinctive place		
Policy/ paragraph	Policy N1: Design	
Northumberland County Council	<p>Policy N1 relates to design and sets out criteria which will be applied to development proposals in the Neighbourhood Area. The County Council considers that many aspects of this policy are already covered in greater detail by the recently adopted Northumberland Local Plan.</p> <p>Criterion (j) should be amended to remove the “where appropriate”, as this repeats the final sentence of the preceding paragraph.</p> <p>In the final paragraph, the reference to ‘design codes’ is confusing as it suggests multiple codes applying to Newbiggin. In addition, the ‘national model design code’ is, strictly speaking, guidance on how to produce a design code. For clarity, we suggest that in the final paragraph, reference is made only to the National Design Guide, the purpose of which is set out in para 4.7.</p> <p>Given the references to flooding within the Plan, consideration should be given to the inclusion of a requirement for sustainable drainage (SuDS) in Policy N1.</p>	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Mr M Clippingdale	<p>Policy N1 is generally supported. It is suggested that:</p> <p>i) the words ‘where appropriate’ are included after the word ‘Respects’ criterion e). Not all development sites will have established, or existing building lines.</p> <p>ii) The words ‘or land uses’ are added after ‘adjacent properties’ in criterion g). This will ensure the amenity of all land uses not just properties.</p>	Support welcomed and comments noted; amend criterion ‘g’ to refer to land uses. With regard to criterion ‘e’, ‘where appropriate’ applies to all of the criteria (this is included at the end of the first paragraph of the policy). Therefore, it is not necessary to add this to the end of criterion ‘g’ or to qualify to that not all development sites will have established or existing building lines.
Historic England	Policy N1: In paragraph (c), it would be more accurate to say “Conserves and enhances the significance of heritage assets including that generated by the relationship they have with their setting.”	Comments noted, amend as suggested

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Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
John Lawson (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Angela Mason (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Jane Small (resident)	Support the policy. I totally agree that development must respect history and local building styles, but I'd like to see provision made for the opportunity to bring new and innovative flare into designs for our town, too.	Support welcomed and comments noted; no amendments required. The policy would support new and innovative design as part of a new development.
Policy/ paragraph	Policy N2: Coastal mitigation	
Northumberland County Council	The County Council considers the policy to be appropriate. However, the buffer zone referred to in the policy is not shown on the policies map. Additionally, the second paragraph of the policy is not required as the whole Parish is located within the 7km buffer.	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Natural England	Natural England welcome the policy requiring a contribution to Northumberland's Coastal Mitigation Strategy. We have no other comments to add.	Support welcomed and comments noted; no amendments required.
Mr M Clippingdale	This is an established means of mitigating the effects of development and is generally supported, the wording of policy N2 should be retained to ensure that where opportunities exist for alternative mitigation this can be provided instead for or as well as financial contributions.	Support welcomed and comments noted; no amendments required.
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	<p>Given that the plan proposes housing developments at H1 (40-50 dwellings), H2 (11-14 dwellings) & H3 (93-109 dwellings) which are within 7 km of the coast it is clear that developers will be required to contribute to Northumberland County Council's Coastal Mitigation Service.</p> <p>What guarantees will Newbiggin Town Council seek about the way that these funds are to be disbursed? Shouldn't these substantial funds to mitigate development in Newbiggin be explicitly used to the benefit of Newbiggin by the Sea. As it stands the major work of the Coastal</p>	Noted, no amendments required. Appendix H4 of the local plan explains how the contributions are calculated and spent. Paragraph H.110 identifies that the Coastal Mitigation Service employs coastal rangers who undertake a range of activities, with the aim of ensuring that further development within the coastal zone of influence does not increase recreational disturbance to SSSI or SPA birds or increase the spread of pirri-pirri bur. In addition to a physical presence on the coast,

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	Mitigation Service surely takes place within the AONB on sites many miles distant from Newbiggin, which will not experience any impact from these developments?	the rangers use a website and social media presence to keep promoting and reinforcing seasonally specific information such as the arrival of autumn migrants or the importance of winter high tide roosts. Contributions will also ensure robust monitoring protocols and governance arrangements. Further details can be found in the Coastal Mitigation Service Strategy Document.
John Lawson (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Angela Mason (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Jane Small (resident)	Do not support the policy. I think everyone that enjoys our coastal area should contribute not just new comers.	Noted, no amendments required. Planning policies cannot include a requirement for a charge for visitors to the area. Policies only relate to matters which require planning permission.
Policy/ paragraph	Policy N3: Local green space	
Northumberland County Council	No comments.	Noted, no amendments required.
Mr M Clippingdale	No comments on this policy.	Noted, no amendments required.
John Lawson (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Angela Mason (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Jane Small (resident)	Support the policy. But it needs to go further to fully protect these areas from inappropriate developments.	Support welcomed and comments noted; no amendments required. The policy states that development of the land will not be permitted other than in very special circumstances, in accordance with national planning policy.

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
Policy/ paragraph	Paragraph 4.20	
Historic England	It is not the case that the presence of a heritage asset on the local Historic Environment Record itself makes it a non-designated heritage asset (NDHA). A planning decision needs to be made to identify such an asset as a NDHA; preparing a neighbourhood plan provides an opportunity for just such a planning decision. If you wanted to plan for NDHAs in your plan area, you would need to follow robust nomination and sifting procedures and include a specific policy in order to ensure a sound process. See sections 1.2 and 2.4 (and in particular paragraph 8) of our neighbourhood planning advice note, below. Without this, as it stands, your plan would not add anything new to planning for NDHAs in your plan area.	Comments noted, amend to explain the role of the Northumberland Historic Environment Record.
Policy/ paragraph	Paragraph 4.23	
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	The delineation of the 'Historic Core' seems to exclude Prospect Place which is the oldest named street in Newbiggin. Given its orientation towards the Moor and the East Sea Sands it is likely to have suffered Danish Viking raids around 875.	Noted, no amendments required. The reference is taken from the conservation area character appraisal.
Policy/ paragraph	Paragraph 4.24	
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	The house at the end of Prospect Place 'the Crows Nest' is Moor End House, home of Sir Philip Watts from 1885 – 1902. Sir Philip has a claim to have made more of an impact on world history than anyone else in Newbiggin and most people in British history. As chief designer to the Royal Navy 1902-12 he was the architect of HMS Dreadnought which at its launch in 1908 was so advanced in speed and armaments to make every other battleship in the world obsolete. Sir Philip designed many other battleships, contributing to the 'arms race' which contributed to the beginning of the First World War. He was a great engineer, the chief designer at Armstrong's factory in Elswick during his time in Newbiggin and someone whom Newbiggin would benefit from commemorating.	Comments noted, amend to include the additional information with clarification on which is from the character appraisal.

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>116 Front Street is more significant than the mere place of employment of John Braine (incidentally the current plaque is placed over the wrong set of stairs. The stairs which led to the library are those on the right of the building.) The building was opened on May 6th 1899 as a new Co-operative Society public hall and shops. The opening was performed by Lady Watts of Moor End House, Newbiggin by the Sea. Lady Watts was a distinguished nurse, balloonist and geographer. The premises consisted of grocery and hardware shops and the 'Store Hall' which as well as being partly utilised as a library has been the scene of many Newbiggin events over the years. The whole building is an attractive and imposing structure. The architect for the building was Mr T. E. Davidson of Newcastle. In commemorating the work of John Braine shouldn't we also note 10 Matfen Terrace which may be outside the conservation area but which is actually where John Braine wrote 'Room at the Top'.</p> <p>The Queens Head is one of the oldest public houses in Newbiggin predating Queen Victoria and possibly going back to Elizabeth 1st. Thanks to its early 20thC refurbishment it is quite as attractive as the Queen Victoria or the now demolished New Dolphin ever were.</p> <p>The Coble has a claim to be the oldest public house in the Newbiggin, the Cresswell Arms was once also the location of a brewery and the Old Ship was Newbiggin's very earliest tourist destination from the days when its guest arrived by horse and carriage. Inquests used to be held in the room above the New Ship. They all have claims to history and character, just as good as the ones which are singled out.</p>	
Policy/ paragraph	Policy N4: Newbiggin by the Sea Conservation Area	
Northumberland County Council	Policy N4 appears to interpret the existing Conservation Area Character Appraisal and has included locally-distinctive criteria within the policy as a result.	Support welcomed and comments noted; amend as suggested.

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>Northumberland Local Plan Policy (ENV 9), as well as promoting the enhancement of the Conservation Area, uses the phrase “...while, wherever possible, better revealing its significance”. This phrase is useful as it draws applicants towards thinking more carefully about what the distinctive features of the Conservation Area are, some of which are listed in the Policy and the supporting text, with much more detail contained in the Conservation Area Character Appraisal.</p> <p>On the inset map the key for the conservation area buildings should state ‘N4’ (not N3).</p>	
Mr M Clippingdale	No comments on this policy.	Noted, no amendments required.
Historic England	<p>Policy N4: We broadly welcome this policy in setting out some of the specific themes, characteristics and features to be protected when applying higher level policy. In the second paragraph, it would be better to say: “... key considerations when paying special attention to the impact of...”; and in the third paragraph: “Special attention should be paid to the impact of...”. Using this phrase rather than “assessing” or “consideration” better reflects what the legislation requires in relation to conservation areas.</p> <p>The final paragraph of the policy appears only to rewrite some relevant paragraphs in the NPPF rather than adding value to them. This might make this paragraph redundant in that it might not be regarded as distinctly reflecting and responding to the unique characteristics and planning context of the specific neighbourhood area for which it has been prepared.</p> <p>There is some discrepancy between the list of CA numbers in the policy and on the proposals map, eg. CA7 and CA8 appear to be transposed. There may be other discrepancies. It would be worth including ‘and former rocket house’ for CA2 now that its significance is better understood following recent conservation work.</p>	<p>Support welcomed and comments noted; amend the second and third paragraphs of the policy, remove the final paragraph and add clarification regarding the former rocket house, as suggested. Amend policies map as suggested. Amend to include reference to heritage at risk within the community actions.</p>

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Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>Heritage at risk: Your plan could offer solutions to heritage assets that are at risk from their condition or vacancy, or are vulnerable to becoming so during the life of the plan. The plan area contains one entry on the national Heritage At Risk Register, the Grade I listed St Mary's Church. Finding a sustainable future for this under-used church could be an important goal for local planning work. The national register does not ordinarily cover Grade II listed buildings or NDHAs, so your plan could usefully consider whether any of those are also at risk or vulnerable to becoming so. I would encourage you to consider including a heritage at risk policy to help plan for removing risk to these assets as part of your plan's positive strategy for the historic environment.</p>	
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	<p>Given the dismal record of destruction which has been allowed to some of Newbiggin's key buildings – in particular the New Dolphin and former West End Primary School/Library isn't there a case for strengthening Policy N4 thus?</p> <p>'No development in or affecting the setting of the Newbiggin by the Sea Conservation area will be supported unless where it preserves or enhances the character or appearance of the conservation area and its setting. Identified buildings and settings outside the conservation area will be similarly protected.'</p> <p>This amended Policy N4 would obviously include St Mary's Woodhorn. The former Parish Church is urgently in need of sympathetic development which while preserving its character and appearance would bring the Church back into regular public use as a museum, performance and exhibition space and important venue.</p>	<p>Noted. The proposed amendments would not accord with national or local planning policies on heritage assets. Amend to include community actions regarding non-designated heritage assets and also heritage at risk.</p>
John Lawson (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Angela Mason (resident)	Support the policy. Is there actually going to be any housing built on this land?	Support welcomed; no amendments required. No specific development is proposed within the conservation area. The

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
		intention of the policy is to guide development proposals which came forward within the conservation area.
Jane Small (resident)	But these key buildings should be allowed to be rebuilt to their finer glory where currently modernised etc.	Noted, no amendments required. The policy is not proposing that buildings are redeveloped, it highlights key buildings within the conservation area.
Section 5 – Sustainable, thriving and healthy community		
Policy/ paragraph	Paragraph 5.2	
Northumberland County Council	There is a reference in paragraph 5.2 to the Borderlands work. It is not clear how this is relevant to the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan.	Noted, no amendments required. Paragraph 2.9 explains the background to the Borderlands work. There are a number of overlapping themes, housing in one of them.
Policy/ paragraph	Policy N5: Housing site allocations	
Northumberland County Council	<p>Table 1 refers to the NP allocations being sites 5090, 9231a and 9231b. However, the allocations on the Polices Map only relate to SHLAA sites 5090 and 9231a (9231b is a separate larger site to the south-east). This should be amended in Table 1 and the Housing Site Assessment background paper.</p> <p>In Table 1, a date should be given for the data on planning permissions / current applications.</p> <p>In Table 1, why is only one Northumberland Local Plan housing site allocation described? Are the other 2 sites (Site Adjacent to Arts Centre, Woodhorn Road and Former Moorside First School, Woodhorn Road) counted elsewhere?</p>	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Highways England	Having considered the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan - Pre-Submission Draft and associated supporting information, we find no issue with the overarching aim and objectives. However, we are concerned that Policy N5: Housing site allocations seeks to allocate more dwellings than identified within the adopted Local Plan.	Comments noted, amend to include reference within the plan to consider the impact of the delivery of housing on the proposed allocation to the A19 Moor Farm junction.

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>As noted, National Highways engaged in extensive consultation with the Council agreeing the Local Plan's allocation's impact at the SRN and associated infrastructure requirements.</p> <p>Whilst we note the reasoning underpinning the housing need assessment supporting the proposed allocation increase, and necessity to deliver the objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan, it remains that it represents an increase compared to the housing numbers and associated trip making potential considered by National Highways at the time of the Local Plan's identification.</p> <p>We consider the Neighbourhood Plan's conflict with the adopted Local Plan to be a matter for the Council. However, should the Council be minded to accept the proposed increase in housing numbers, and whilst an objective of the Neighbourhood Plan is to retain and encourage work – home opportunities within Newbiggin by the Sea, this cannot be guaranteed or ensured. Thereby, wider network trips must be considered in relation to further housing development, and these have the potential to impact the critical A19 Moor Farm junction.</p> <p>We recognise the Neighbourhood Plan period is to 2036 and it would be reasonable to assume that exceedance of Local Plan housing numbers would be towards the end of the Plan Period. It would be hoped that by this time an intervention at the A19 Moor Farm junction would be identified and delivered.</p> <p>However, these assumptions also cannot be guaranteed and there exists the need for the additional housing's impact at the SRN to be examined.</p> <p>Any application for housing exceeding that promoted through the adopted Local Plan would need to be assessed on a basis agreed with Northumberland County Council in consultation with National</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>Highways and, given that the sites are not allocated within the Local Plan, should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • considering the full additional housing numbers promoted through the Neighbourhood Plan; and • on the basis of being additional to the full Local Plan allocations and any additional committed developments that have gained consent. <p>Whist National Highways could identify that we find the Neighbourhood Plan to not be sound given the absence of evidence regarding the additional housing allocations' impact at the SRN, instead we suggest that our concern could be addressed through recognition of this assessment need being included within Policy N5 and / or the supporting text.</p> <p>National Highways response to Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan – Pre-Submission Draft consultation is that we recommend that the wording of Policy N5: Housing and / or the supporting text should be amended to include recognition that:</p> <p><i>Any application for housing that exceeds the housing numbers allocated within the adopted Northumberland Local Plan for the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan area shall be supported by a Transport Assessment that considers the full housing allocation identified in the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan as additional to the Northumberland Local Plan allocations. The scope of the Transport Assessment shall be agreed with Northumberland County Council in consultation with National Highways.</i></p> <p><u>Reason:</u> To ensure the continued safe operation of the Strategic Road Network.</p>	
The Coal Authority	Our records indicate that within the identified Neighbourhood Plan area there are recorded coal mining features present at surface and shallow depth including: mine entries, probable shallow coal workings	Noted, no amendments required.


Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>and recorded mine gas sites. These features may pose a potential risk to surface stability and public safety.</p> <p>The Coal Authority's records also indicate that surface coal resource is present in the area, although this should not be taken to imply that mineral extraction would be economically viable, technically feasible or environmentally acceptable. As you will be aware those authorities with responsibility for minerals planning and safeguarding will have identified where they consider minerals of national importance are present in your area and related policy considerations. As part of the planning process consideration should be given to such advice in respect of the indicated surface coal resource.</p> <p>We note that housing site allocations are proposed within the Neighbourhood Plan. I have checked these sites against the records we hold for coal mining features at surface or shallow depth and can confirm that the sites appear to fall outside of what we have defined as the Development High Risk Area. On this basis I can confirm that the Planning team at the Coal Authority have no specific comments to make on the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	
Mr M Clippingdale	<p>It is agreed that there is a need for local level policies to support of housing delivery in Newbiggin-by-the-Sea to boost the amount and variety of new homes which are delivered in the area. New homes and their future occupiers will help to support the economic resilience and growth of the town and underpin the overall sustainability of the area. In allocating land for development, it is important to have regard to the land's availability, suitability, viability and ultimate delivery. It is not sufficient to identify land if there is not a willing landowner to release the site and a willing developer to deliver it economically. The size of sites is also important to ensure that economies of development can be achieved whilst also providing for high quality developments, landscaping, amenity areas and other necessary infrastructure</p>	<p>Support welcomed and comments noted; amend housing background paper to include additional details regarding site constraints.</p>

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>including sustainable drainage systems. Small to medium size sites are often built-out relatively quickly and can make an important contribution to meeting housing requirements in an area.</p> <p>The two identified Sites H2 and H3 are both within our client's land ownership. He has indicated these sites are genuinely available for development.</p> <p>The two Sites are suitable for development. They are well related to the settlement of Newbiggin-bythe-Sea which is identified as a Service Centre in the Northumberland Local Plan (2022). There are accessible with good level access routes to nearby services and facilities, with potential to improve these routes for both walking and cycling. Nearby facilities and services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools • Churches • Medical Centres • Retail outlets and cafes • Sport and leisure facilities, and • Employment opportunities <p>The following constraints have been assessed and demonstrate that the sites are suitable for residential development.</p> <p>Constraints</p> <p>Public transport opportunities (bus stops) are located in close proximity to the site on North Seaton Road and to the south, known as Sandy Bay, with bus services no:35 and no:X21 providing access to the surrounding areas relatively frequently.</p> <p>The Sites lie in close proximity to the Northumberland Coast, which is designated as a Special Protection Area, a RAMSAR Site and Site of Special Scientific Interest, as well as a Marine Conservation Zone, Nature Improvement Area and part of the South East Northumberland</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>Wildlife Network. Assessment of the potential impact of any development proposals on the area of interest would be undertaken and where appropriate mitigated.</p> <p>The Sites lie within a Mineral Safeguarding Area and have been identified as suitable for wind energy development of heights up to 40m to blade tips. The Sites lie within a Coal Mining report area but are not in a 'Development High Risk Area. The Sites do not lie within an Air Quality Management Area. This demonstrates that the sites are relatively free from these constraints to development.</p> <p>There are no known heritage assets within the sites or in close proximity.</p> <p>The Sites are or could be well connected to Public Rights of Way to the south and east along the coastal route. Connectivity to the existing network could be enhanced as part of the development of the two sites.</p> <p>Highways and Access</p> <p>There is an adopted highway to the west of the Sites - the B1334 and along the north of Site H2. To the south of Site H3 a new access to the B1334 and highway is being constructed to adoptable standards. There are not expected to be any insurmountable technical issues which would prohibit the provision of appropriate vehicular access to the Sites. It is anticipated that Site H2 would be served from the adopted highway to the north through the provision of an appropriately designed access with the required vision splays and radii. Footpaths of 2m would be provided along the Site frontage giving opportunities to link the Site to both the north and east. It is anticipated that Site H3 would be served from the new access road currently under construction to the south of the Site.</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>Within each Site access roads would meet Northumberland County Council highways standards in width and design including car parking requirements and provision for cycle storage. Connectivity through the phases of development specifically for pedestrians and cyclists will be provided and maintained. The location of the coastal route to the east of the Site provides the opportunity for pedestrian and cycle connectivity to the existing network which could be enhanced.</p> <p>Flood risk and Drainage</p> <p>The Sites lie within the EA Flood Zone 1 and as such are at least risk of flooding from rivers and the sea. There are small areas of potential surface water flooding on both sites however it is considered that this can be mitigated through the design of the Sites layout and buildings, and through the application of the drainage hierarchy employing sustainable drainage solutions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water harvesting or water butts on down pipes • Permeable paving • Rain gardens • Open attenuation areas (eg ponds) • Open linear attenuation features (eg swales flowing the fall of the site) <p>Noise</p> <p>The Sites are adjacent to the B1334 Road, there may be the potential for noise disturbance arising this. An acoustic survey will be undertaken and if necessary, mitigation measures incorporated into the design and layout of the Sites this could include specific orientation of buildings, the inclusion of buffer areas and specific landscaping, noise attenuating fencing or glazing.</p> <p>Ground Conditions</p> <p>The Sites are greenfield and have not been previously developed. Ground stability and contamination impacts arising in terms of former</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>coal mining in the locality could be satisfactorily addressed by means of mitigation, if necessary, secured by planning conditions in respect of the operational phases of development.</p> <p>Economic</p> <p>Statistics indicate the surrounding areas have significant levels of deprivation, particularly in terms of employment and income. The provision of housing for older persons and housing for young families and professionals on the two Sites will provide opportunities for residents to remain in the area through the provision of a range of housing types which will also attract new residents to live there. The corresponding investment in local shops and businesses will assist with the regeneration aspirations for the area.</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>The two Sites allocated a H2 and H3 are available, suitable and deliverable for residential development in the short and medium term. The Sites offer a natural and logical extension to the built-up area of Newbiggin-by-the-Sea. Constraints to development can be addressed and mitigated where necessary. An indicative plan is attached to this response demonstrating the key principles of development on these sites, this would be further developed with the Town Council to identify how the integration of wildlife corridors, connectivity of footpaths and cycleways and the inclusion of open spaces could be accommodated in the development. The two Sites would be developed in phases from the north to the south. The Sites would provide a mix of house types and tenures providing for starter homes, downsizing opportunities, family housing, and larger scale executive housing comprising a combination of single and two storey properties ranging from 2 to 5 bedroomed dwellings and ranging in density and plot sizes.</p> <p>The Sites provide the opportunity to deliver much needed new homes in Newbiggin-by-the-Sea in a phased development over the Plan</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>period. We would be delighted to discuss these proposals further with the Town Council.</p> 	
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	<p>I note that Table 1 fails to identify enough housing to meet the highest figure identified by the Housing Needs Assessment.</p> <p>Given the close historic links between Woodhorn and Newbiggin I fail to see any reason why the two settlements cannot be more closely linked together. There is surely much more scope for housing development and much better reason to place it between Woodhorn and Newbiggin than to forever be fighting off housing developers who wish to join us with Ashington.</p> <p>Storey Crescent is identified in N5 H1 but why can't we look to much more ambitious plans for housing development between Newbiggin Colliery and towards Woodhorn.</p>	<p>Comments noted, amend to include additional explanation regarding the level of housing planned for. This is included within the housing site assessment background paper, namely: that it would be significantly in excess of the housing requirement included within the local plan.</p> <p>With regard to the relationship with Woodhorn village, as explained above, sites to the north of the town were considered as part of the housing site assessment process, however these were not available or suitable for development (see housing site assessment background paper).</p> <p>Within the Northumberland Local Plan Woodhorn is identified as a small village where development would only</p>

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
		be supported where it was proportionate to the size of the settlement. It is submitted that to propose development that would see the merger between Newbiggin by the Sea and Woodhorn would be contrary to the strategic policies contained within the local plan.
Patrick Wild (resident)	I own a semi inside the proposed development area according to your neighbourhood plan recently published. Is it envisaged to demolish the existing semis in the proposed area? If so will owners be apparently compensated?	Comments noted, amend the policies map to exclude existing properties from the proposed allocation. There are no proposals through the neighbourhood plan to demolish existing residential dwellings.
Alfie Birchall (resident)	<p>I am writing to voice my concerns regarding plans for development of Storey Crescent and the surrounding area as laid out in the most recent neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>I feel that it is of upmost importance to protect green spaces in the town to promote biodiversity in both flora and fauna and plans to build pose yet another threat to our already fragile ecosystem and wildlife. This is in direct contradiction to several policies proposed.</p> <p>I would kindly ask that the green adjacent to Storey Crescent and Pelaw Avenue (and all green areas in the town) be protected from housing developments and instead be transformed into a wildflower meadows and orchards.</p> <p>Wildflower meadows provide an important habitat for a variety of animals and pollinating insects and have been proven to be cost effective for councils to establish and maintain, with some councils in other areas of the country even saving thousands when replacing current grass mowers. They also play an important part in carbon offsetting, storing 3 tonne of carbon per hectare (more than double that of woodland).</p>	<p>Noted, no amendments required. The neighbourhood plan proposes the allocation of eight sites as local green space the policy on design also highlights the importance of embedding biodiversity within new development. There are further detailed policies within the local plan which would ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural environment. The Storey Crescent site was allocated for housing development for many years within the former Wansbeck Local Plan and is identified within the Northumberland Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment as suitable for housing, with delivery anticipated in 16+ years.</p> <p>The plan includes a community action to develop environmental enhancement projects, particularly those that will improve wildlife corridors, public footpaths and bridleways. Wildflower meadows could be included as such a project.</p>

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>They also provide a natural beauty to the surrounding area and this benefits the mental health of surrounding residents. I'm sure you can agree that this, after a difficult few years, must be considered.</p> <p>They have, however, been in steep decline over the last century, with 97% of Britain's wildflower meadows lost. This has, of course, been at the detriment of our native wildlife and I believe that it is time we started to plan efforts to grow and care for our natural world rather than pave over it.</p> <p>Orchards and woodland also provide an important habitat for wildlife as well as natural drainage, which would help defend against flooding in an area already troubled by subsidence from historic mining works.</p> <p>Improving our surrounding areas promotes education regarding the natural world amongst residents and younger generations and raises awareness of the importance of protecting our environment.</p> <p>I also believe that creating environmentally friendly and sustainable areas would set an example to be followed by surrounding towns councils and the wider county.</p> <p>Again, I ask that my voice be heard and plans to destroy our green areas and put profit ahead of our natural history and future be shelved. I would appreciate your consideration of the points I have made and kindly ask you to confirm receipt of this email and your thoughts on the matter.</p> <p>In the mean time I will seek support and signatures from residents in the town to oppose further destruction of our environment.</p>	
Lisa Davidson (resident)	I live in a council house in store farm road. The plans say the new builds will be built out the back of my house and there is already new build council houses out the front. I want to know why store farm road (6houses) are being left while story crescent are being demolished. My	Comments noted, amend the policies map to exclude existing properties from the proposed allocation. There are no proposals through the neighbourhood plan to demolish existing residential dwellings.

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	bathroom is at least 20 years old the previous tenant painted the toilet and when I moved in it was refused an update. My kitchen is damp to the extent paint is falling off the walls my radiators are all rusty but they will not be changed, my windows most don't close properly and those that do don't lock which isn't safe for kids but again fine according to bernicia, and lastly my back garden is sliding down into my next door neighbours garden my block paving is literally falling down a two foot drop into the next garden it is unsafe for the kids to play in, and I have been waiting months for a new fence built and the subsidence fixed. I am going to be paying the same amount of rent as these people in the planned new build council houses they will have new kitchens bathrooms radiators windows no damp and new fences- where is the money and time coming from to build & maintain these houses when I can't have my already built house maintained properly?	
John Lawson (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Angela Mason (resident)	Support the policy. Hopefully, the road network will be improved and there will be a bus route on this site. Is there going to be any encouragement to cycle by rejuvenating the cycle structure.	Support welcomed and comments noted; no amendments required. When proposals come forward for the development of the housing allocations they will be required to accord with other policies contained within the development plan (local plan and neighbourhood plan). These policies include provisions regarding sustainable transport.
Jane Small (resident)	Do not support the policy. I worry that H3 will eat into our green area.	Noted, no amendments required. The identification of potential housing sites was informed by a thorough site assessment process as explained within the housing sites background paper.
Persimmon Homes	As you know, Persimmon have sought to engage in the Neighbourhood Plan process and have been in contact with the Town Council in this respect since November 2020. Since this time we have liaised with	Noted, no amendments required. The identification of potential housing sites was informed by a thorough site

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Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>your consultant Jo-Anne Garrick to assist with any queries and progress of the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>You will be aware, Persimmon Homes own land to the west of Newbiggin by the Sea, which we have promoted for allocation as part of the Northumberland Local Plan as well as the Northumberland Council SHLAA consultation. New housing and allocations within Newbiggin are now devolved to the local level as part of the Neighbourhood Plan process. Following review of the Neighbourhood Plan consultation document, I attach our representations to the consultation, which includes for a Statement with regards to land west of Newbiggin by the Sea.</p> <p>We understand that Northumberland Council have allocated a number of sites within the Northumberland Local Plan and other allocations within Newbiggin have been devolved to the local level as part of the Neighbourhood Plan. We acknowledge that there are existing commitments which will deliver new housing and services within the town in the short term and consider that land west of Newbiggin is a logical location to come forward for development in later years to deliver sustainable growth within the town and to align with further investment at the local level. Persimmon seek to embark upon a process of partnership working and remain committed to this process to assist with the delivery of housing and investment in the town for a sustainable future. The development of new homes within the town could have a significant sustaining effect upon the provision of local facilities and services. As part of this process we seek to continue to engage and continue to be involved in the Neighbourhood Plan process to help bring forward development within the town, which is representative and sensitive to the town and its local community.</p> <p>Persimmon Homes are in a very strong and fortunate position to be able to progress with development opportunities in wider</p>	<p>assessment process as explained within the housing sites background paper.</p> <p>[See comments on housing background paper as suggesting alternative site for allocation – no specific comments on draft plan other than proposing an alternative site]</p>

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>Northumberland. Our site at Seaton Vale in Ashington and the next phase at Woodhorn Meadows, is one of our strongest performing developments in terms of sales in the North East, bringing much needed Council Tax revenue and spending power to local business in the area, as well as highlighting the demand for new homes in the area.</p> <p>I hope that we can continue to engage in dialogue throughout the Neighbourhood Plan process. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the site further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.</p>	
Policy/ paragraph	Employment (paragraphs 5.7 – 5.10)	
<p>Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project</p>	<p>With the parlous state of Newbiggin's economy and the inclusion of the Newbiggin Central and East ward in the 10% most deprived areas in the country it is disappointing to see so little innovation in the Neighbourhood Plan. Newbiggin should not meekly accept its designation as a 'service centre' when it is a unique and historic small town.</p> <p>Northumberland lacks a university and Newbiggin residents have a major lack of qualifications compared to the rest of the County and the Country. At the same time, the development of the Britishvolt factory at East Sleekburn promises an investment in jobs which will be greater than anything seen in the area for the past 100 years.</p> <p>Why not go out to Higher Education and to major new investors to seek a step change in Newbiggin's Employment and Training.</p> <p>Newbiggin has a superb environment and a unique history.</p> <p>Why not seek establish an environmental science centre on the former leper hospital site in Milburn Park? This would complement any playground development in the Park and provide a major new attraction for local people, visitors and researchers in the natural and marine environment of Newbiggin Bay.</p> <p>Why not establish a crafts market and artisan village on the derelict site of Lawson's Yard – behind 22-24 Front Street as another visitor</p>	<p>Noted, no amendments required. The neighbourhood plan explains that the policies within it do not need to repeat those contained within the local plan. Paragraphs 5.7-5.10 provides a summary of the local plan policies relevant to supporting appropriate economic development. The neighbourhood plan cannot change the identification of the town as a service centre within the neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>Proposals for new education/ training facilities, an environmental science centre, crafts market or innovation village within the town would be supported through existing local plan policies.</p>

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>attraction and an opportunity for local people to develop craft skills linked to Newbiggin's history, environment and culture ?</p> <p>Why not seek a comprehensive redevelopment programme for the Colliery to help create an 'innovation village' for younger people and students, amongst the remnants of Newbiggin's workforce housing of the past?</p>	
Policy/ paragraph	Policy N6: Community services and facilities	
Northumberland County Council	No comments.	Noted, no amendments required.
NHS Property Services	<p>NHSPS seeks minor amendments to this policy to enable our work to adapt the health estate to meet changing healthcare requirements.</p> <p>In order to enable the NHS to be able to promptly adapt its estate to changing healthcare requirements, it is essential that all planning policies enable flexibility within the NHS estate. On this basis, NHSPS would advise the Council that policies aimed at preventing the loss or change of use of community facilities and assets, where healthcare is included within this definition, can have a harmful impact on the NHS's ability to ensure the delivery of facilities and services for the community. Where such policies are overly restrictive, the disposal of surplus and unsuitable healthcare facilities for best value can be prevented or delayed, which in turn delays vital reinvestment in the NHS estate.</p> <p>The NPPF is clear in stating that Local Plans should adopt policies that "take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community" (Paragraph 93b).</p> <p>It is important that policies consider that some public service providers, such as the NHS, routinely undertake strategic reviews of their estates. Reviews of the NHS estate are aimed at improving the provision of healthcare services by increasing efficiencies, including through the</p>	<p>Noted, no amendments required. It is considered that if a wider NHS estate reorganisation programme identified that a facility was not needed or viable for its current use, this would meet the criteria included within the policy. It is not considered necessary to include a specific criterion referring to public service estate reorganisation.</p>

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>disposal of unneeded and unsuitable properties. This means that capital receipts from disposals, as well as revenue spending that is saved, can be used to improve facilities and services.</p> <p>Where it can be demonstrated that health facilities will be changed as part of a wider NHS estate reorganisation programme it should be accepted that a facility is neither needed nor viable for its current use.</p> <p>With this in mind, we are keen to encourage that flexibility be granted to the NHS via the wording of any planning policy. This will ensure that the NHS can promptly and efficiently respond to the healthcare requirements of residents through the evolution of its estate.</p> <p>We would suggest the inclusion of additional wording (in blue) be included in Policy INDP2 to make this policy more robust:</p> <p><i>A development that would result in the loss of a building or land which provides a community service or facility will be supported where the applicant can demonstrate that:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a. It is no longer needed in its current form;</i> <i>b. A replacement service or facility of sufficient size, layout and quality is to be provided in an alternative suitable location; or</i> <i>c. It would not be economically viable or feasible to retain the service or facility and there is no reasonable prospect of securing an alternative community use of the land or building; or</i> <i>d. The loss or change of use of existing facilities is part of a wider public service estate reorganisation.</i> <p>These changes would directly address the issues outline above; they would ensure that the NHS is able to effectively manage its estate, disposing of unneeded and unsuitable properties where necessary, to enable healthcare needs to be met.</p>	
Mr M Clippingdale	No comments on this policy.	Noted, no amendments required.

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
Mary Messenger (resident)	Will there be an improvement in facilities in our town, such as doctors, dentists and our school? It's just the public is finding it hard to access any of these at the moment. I support new housing for Newbiggin, but we also need easier access to the above facilities. More housing means better access to all of those.	Noted, no amendments required. Local plan policy INF2 supports improvements in the quantity, quality, accessibility and range of community services and facilities – it is not necessary to repeat this within the neighbourhood plan.
John Lawson (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Angela Mason (resident)	Support the policy. I am not sure where the Community Activity Centre is. Re: Milburn Park are the tennis courts going to be resurfaced and brought alive for use again? What other proposals are there for the use of Milburn Park apart from the outlandish idea of a water park.	Support welcomed and comments noted; no amendments required. The community activity centre is identified on the policies map (it is located on Gibson Street). The proposals regarding Milburn Park are taking place outside the neighbourhood plan process. Milburn Park is however proposed to be allocated as local green space and the pavilion and bowling green identified as having great importance to the local community.
Jane Small (resident)	Support the policy.	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Section 6 – Well-connected		
Policy/ paragraph	Policy N7: Sustainable transport and new development	
Northumberland County Council	The inclusion of sustainable transport themes within the Plan is recognised and supported. However, there is a degree of overlap between Policy N1(h) and Policy N7(f); however N1(h) refers to cycle parking while N7(f) does not. It is suggested that Policy N7 should be amended to ensure alignment with Policy N1.	Support welcomed and comments noted; amend as suggested.
Mr M Clippingdale	This policy is supported, reference could be made under criterion g) to include reference to cycle parking/storage.	Support welcomed and comments noted; amend as suggested.

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Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan mentions the potential to extend the new Northumberland railway line to Newbiggin and Woodhorn without doing much about it.</p> <p>As in the 19thC the introduction of a new railway station at Newbiggin by the Sea would be a huge boost for development.</p> <p>It is surely imperative that the Neighbourhood Plan recognises and protects the line of a new rail link as far as possible utilising the line of the former passenger railway line and identifies a site for a new railway station, presumably in the vicinity of the school and not far from new housing development at Storey Crescent? This will be vital if Newbiggin Council is to lobby successfully for a restoration of this vital train service. In turn the re-establishment of a rail service will support the further development of land beyond Storey Crescent in full accordance with Policy N7.</p>	Noted, no amendments required. The Northumberland Local Plan includes policies which would prevent development that would prejudice the retention of rail transport facilities. With regard to the Northumberland Line, policy TRA5 specifically refers to branch lines, including the line from Woodhorn to Newbiggin by the Sea. It is not necessary for the neighbourhood plan to repeat this policy approach. The identification of specific station sites in the parish would need to be supported by a detailed feasibility study.
John Lawson (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Angela Mason (resident)	Support the policy.	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Jane Small (resident)	Support the policy.	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Policy/ paragraph	Policy N8: Rights of way	
Northumberland County Council	No comments	Noted, no amendments required.
Mr M Clippingdale	This policy is supported.	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
John Lawson (resident)	Support the policy	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Angela Mason (resident)	Support the policy.	Support welcomed; no amendments required.
Jane Small (resident)	Support the policy. Very important to me.	Support welcomed; no amendments required.

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
Annex 1 – Community actions		
Angela Mason (resident)	All of worth but there also needs to be mentioned a community hub where young people have access to information about training and apprenticeships, volunteers to provide support with people's ideas and dreams and a physical support where they can access the internet, have help with job/ careers applications and cvs etc.	Comments noted and support welcomed, no amendments required. There is work ongoing regarding these issues, including the 'learning hive' and the provision of further support services within the sports and community centre.
Policies Map		
Historic England	In relation to Policy N4, the map does not use hatching to identify the garden lodge named in key building CA11. It might be better to identify the whole plot with hatching, thus ensuring all buildings and features at CA11 with potential for significance are included. The same principal might be considered for the hatching of some of the other key buildings identified in Policy N4. The map is labelled as an inset and we could not see a wider map of the whole plan area on the relevant website.	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Other comments on draft plan		
Alan Thompson (resident)	We continue to put forward our case to the relevant bodies for significant investment. The beach and the breakwater were delivered because we campaigned for that investment. Look at the difference? The difference that investment made is evident. Infrastructure provides the basis for prosperity. To use a small percentage of our bay to create a marina would have an even bigger transformational effect and make Newbiggin by the Sea an even more desirable destination. Ten or twelve years ago only few people came to visit Newbiggin by the Sea, now how many more come. We can create an asset that will benefit our community, our region and our country. Attracting disposable income by investment in a marina will bring prosperity, and the joy of a range of healthy sea related activities.	Noted, no amendments required. Should proposals for a marina come forward there are policies within both the local plan and neighbourhood plan that would support the principle of the development.

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Jane Small (resident)	I'd like to see included an over arching model that outlines what we see Newbiggin to be in 10 years time so smaller projects can slot into this and we don't get a hotch-potch of odd developments which we later regret.	Noted, no amendments required. The purpose of the development plan is to provide planning policies and land allocations against which new development proposals can be assessed. The development plan includes the Northumberland Local Plan and will also include the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan. Both the local plan and neighbourhood plan have policies maps associated with them.
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	Could there be a mobile home camping site.	Noted, no amendments required. The local plan includes policies which would support the development of camping sites where specific criteria are met.
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	What about a policy to limit the numbers of houses being turned into holiday lets	Noted, no amendments required. The change of use of a private dwelling into a second or holiday home does not require planning permission. The local plan includes a policy which, within parishes where 20% or more of homes have no permanent residents, new dwellings will only be permitted where they are restricted to occupation as a principal residence.
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	We need a strong policy for young adults, to encourage them to stay in Newbiggin and grow their families here.	Noted, no amendments required. The plan can only include policies development that requires planning permission. By supporting new housing development as well as the retention of important services and facilities it is hoped that this will encourage young people to stay in the town.
Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project	We have added to our vision for the 2027 'Homecoming' with the article from the Journal of August 9th as set out below Journal – August 9th 2022 'If only these old stones could speak, what a story they'd have to tell.' My good, late friend, was looking around inside St Bartholomew's Church, Newbiggin by the Sea, its tower constructed for defence, its walls showing signs of damage, presumably inflicted by 14th Century	Noted, no amendments required.

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>Scots 'visitors'. His words came back to me recently when I was kneeling outside, carefully, but inexpertly painting in the few remaining letters on my great, great, great grandfather's gravestone.</p> <p>This time last year I was finishing a book 'A Newbiggin Man' about William Renner (1800-1871) then, on the very evening it was launched, having reported that his grave was lost, I was led to it.</p> <p>My obvious inadequacy as historic researcher has done nothing for book sales. Thankfully, the stone itself, located just by the vestry door, windswept by sand and salt for 150 years is well worth finding. Looking closely it's still possible to discern the flowers and wreaths and colours of a piece of high Victoriana, devoted to my 3 times great grandmother. While Jane Renner's name has gone, the act of gradually picking out what's left in bright black paint has added to the story, and to my understanding of who these people were.</p> <p>Now there's a little piece of discovery, which has been hugely important to me.</p> <p>Newbiggin by the Sea is unique and fascinating. However, the work that we have been carrying out there for the last decade, could be done in any community, albeit with different, yet just as extraordinary, results. Nevertheless, there are thousands of us, many spread right across the globe, for whom Newbiggin by the Sea has a special resonance. Sometimes I think you have to leave the place to get a real perspective, or a big blast of the familiar when you return</p> <p>In the summer before Beeching scrapped it, our family took the train from Newbiggin, for a week in York. I was just a daft laddy of 9 coming up 10, obsessed with football and getting in the school team. However, on a visit to the City Museum, I was suddenly enthralled by what was such a simple display of some mundane objects, a clay pipe, a pouch, other things. It was the thought that others had held and used them, many years ago, yet now they were here, in front of me, that so appealed to my childish imagination. Later, in my teens I used to listen, once more fascinated, to my Granny's tales of family long gone,</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>engaged by a similar sense of what I can only describe as a sort of personal ‘connectedness’.</p> <p>Walt Whitman was right, we are large, we each contain ‘multitudes.’</p> <p>It’s five years away, but in 2027 we are hoping to encourage some of the worldwide Newbiggin diaspora to return for a grand homecoming, to celebrate the 400th wedding anniversary of Robert Robinson and Katharine Milburne. Married at Woodhorn on November 15th 1627, Robert and Katharine are our grandparents of 15 generations, now spread across the globe. This year I hope that some of these far- flung cousins will be able to join us online, for part of our ‘Newbiggin Discovery Weekend’ to be held over August Bank Holiday, at the Family History Centre and next door in the Church Centre.</p> <p>It’s certain to be a fascinating experience over the entire three days.</p> <p>There’ll be talks and an intriguing display of historic maps charting the town’s development from 1840, to those halcyon days of the 1960’s.</p> <p>There’ll be the first showing of ‘The Newbiggin Timeline’, with events of 20,000 years of Newbiggin history all set out in one room. Loads of stories and another opportunity to engage with ‘the biggest community family tree in the world’, our online record of 37,800 people who have ever lived in Newbiggin by the Sea. There’ll be a mound of artefacts, of stuff, for people to weigh and feel.</p> <p>Above all, there’ll be the chance to discover something we didn’t know. As always when looking into the past it might turn out be something about the about the here and now, or perhaps about the person doing the ‘discovering’?</p> <p>I think it’s going to be amazing. At least one former Newbiggin resident has a claim to have changed the whole world, not necessarily for the better. Whoever we are, wherever we come from, we all come trailing a long line of people, back beyond the written history of any place, who interacted with the momentous events of every age.</p> <p>There’ll also be a chance to win a real piece of Newbiggin history, the gift of a Newbiggin family, to be raffled in aid of our work. It’s a</p>	

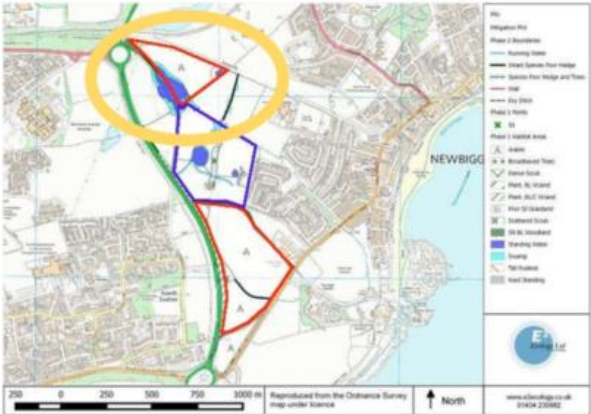

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Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	commemorative jug, produced almost 120 years ago and originally sold in aid of the families of 7 Newbiggin fishermen who died going to assist a stranded ship, the SS Anglia on December 9th 1904. These solid material things don't have to be made of gold to be real treasure. Much more important is that connectedness with people and such meaning, rattling down the years. Everybody matters you know, we really do.	
Keith Shirley (resident)	Could someone in the Council please re-write a simple, shortened version of this neighbourhood plan which might be comprehensible to those, like myself, who are not familiar with such documents and appear to be designed to put people off reading them, for reasons which I can only guess.	Noted, no amendments required. The leaflet that was circulated to all households as well as information available at the drop in event provides a summary of the neighbourhood plan.
Angela Mason (resident)	I believe the Town council should be working hard to make sure Newbiggin acquires Town status and all the benefits that would bring. Newbiggin should have an economic plan for bringing money into the town, including capital investment in empty buildings, encouraging developers to want to invest in a hotel here by developing current buildings.	Noted, no amendments required. It is not possible for the neighbourhood plan to amend the identification of Newbiggin by the Sea as a service centre within the local plan. The policies within the local plan would support new economic, tourism and leisure development in the town.
Jane Small (resident)	I'd like as much involvement as possible from the Community. Perhaps the TC can propose setting up a community group and ask for volunteers to join, as advisors to them.	Noted, no amendments required. The draft neighbourhood plan has been shaped by engagement from the local community.
SEA		
Historic England	We have no comment to make on the May 2022 SEA Environmental Report that accompanies it.	Noted, no amendments required.
Housing Site Background Paper		
Persimmon Homes	1.0 INTRODUCTION 1.1 INTRODUCTION	Noted, no amendments required. This site has been discounted in the SHLAA as it is a large greenfield site, outside of a settlement. Critically the SHLAA concluded that the

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>This Deliverability Statement has been produced by Persimmon Homes (North East) in support of existing assets in the area to the west of Newbiggin-by-the-Sea. The site is shown on the plan (right) and is proposed for the inclusion and consideration as a site allocated for housing or mixed-use development (service area) in the emerging Newbiggin-by-the-sea Neighbourhood Plan. This document provides the strategy, physical and policy context for the site as well as a section demonstrating the deliverability during the plan period.</p>  <p>1.2 PURPOSE As set out above, this document has been produced with the express purpose of supporting the allocation of land to the west of Newbiggin-by-the-sea to form part of the emerging Neighbourhood plan. This document takes the reader through how the site will look to ensure continued development in Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.</p> <p>1.3 LOCATION AND ROLE OF NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newbiggin is identified as a 'Service Centre' on the north eastern boundary of the South East Delivery area. 	<p>development of the site would result in the risk of merging of Ashington and Newbiggin. The housing site assessment process agreed with these conclusions and therefore the site was filtered out. The information provided within the submission does not alter the fact that the site is located within the countryside, separate from the built-up area of the town and would result in the merger of Ashington and Newbiggin.</p>

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town is a coastal town with a beach, holiday park and a golf course supporting tourism. • Development of the visitor economy is also enhanced by the Woodhorn Museum near Ashington. • The town centre encompasses a full range of social, employment, shopping and cultural uses. • The town is well connected to several Main Towns in the surrounding area such as; Ashington, Blyth, Morpeth and Cramlington. • The Northern Morpeth Bypass offers improved connections to the strategic highway network (A1). • The town also has excellent connections to the Tyneside conurbation to the south via the A189 Spine Road. • The Northumberland Line, from Ashington to Newcastle also acts as improved rail infrastructure which will eventually serve the town. <p>2.0 SITE CONTEXT</p> <p>2.1 TRANSPORT, ACCESS AND HIGHWAYS</p> <p>Newbiggin-by-the-Sea benefits from existing major road connections via the A189, which links to the south and the wider Tyneside conurbation, and the A197 which links to the Strategic Highways Network to the West (A1) via the North Morpeth Bypass. The below provides a breakdown of the Transport context of the area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The A189/A19 corridor provides important sub-regional road links to Tyneside for jobs, learning, shopping and leisure; • There are opportunities through the re-introduction of passenger rail services to the Northumberland Line; • The South East area of Northumberland has benefited in recent years from the opening of the North Morpeth Bypass, and access to the Strategic Highway Network (A1) has significantly improved in the area. • Under Policy TRA 3 of the Northumberland Local Plan it is stated: <i>In assessing development proposals, support will be given to the maintenance and improvement of Northumberland's Local Road</i> 	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p><i>Network. Development will not be supported where it is considered to potentially prejudice the progression of the following Local Road Network improvement schemes and such prejudice cannot be overcome:</i></p> <p><i>b. Newbiggin/Ashington Link</i></p> <p>The route of this proposed road is indicated by the red line from the A189 roundabout to Newbiggin-by-the-sea on the plan (right), taken from the Northumberland Local Plan Policies Map. It is our view that this route could be incorporated into any scheme brought forward on our land and help assist it's delivery, as well as providing access to open up this parcel of development.</p> <p>2.3 STRATEGIC ECOLOGICAL APPRAISAL</p> <p>The site promoted in this document for residential development is identified as northern triangle of land on the plan (right). This plan is taken from Ecological Investigation work by Persimmon in 2018, in support of our application to the west of the A189. As shown in the plan, the site proposed for development is primarily arable land. A wetland feature sits in the south east corner of the proposed site and any proposed development would look to retain this feature and sensitively address the boundary within it. Any proposed development would adequately mitigate and compensate for any adverse impact within the South East Northumberland Wildlife Network, and also consider the wider ecological context within the proposed design.</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	 <p>2.4 FLOOD RISK AND DRAINAGE</p> <p>As shown from the EA Flood Risk Map (right) the site is contained within Flood Zone 1. The pond within the south east corner of the site will be sensitively addressed through any forthcoming planning application. Any planning application will be supported by a comprehensive sustainable drainage strategy.</p> 	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>3.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT</p> <p>3.1 LOCAL PLANNING CONTEXT</p> <p>Northumberland's planning policy currently consists of the Northumberland Local Plan (adopted March 2022). The adopted local plan provides a long term strategy and direction for growth to provide a competitive economy and housing growth up to 2036.</p> <p>Policy STP 1 sets out the spatial strategy for sustainable growth. The spatial strategy seeks to focus the majority of development within the Main Towns and Service Centres. Newbiggin-by-the-Sea is identified as a Service Centre. The focus of new housing and development is to Main Towns and Service Centres across Northumberland, where housing growth is directed.</p> <p>Policy HOU 2 sets of that the housing requirement across Northumberland over the plan period 2016-2036 is for at least 17,700</p> <p>3.2 NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK (NPPF) 2021</p> <p>The NPPF was revised and published in July 2021 and continues to place emphasis on the Government objective of significantly boosting housing supply and delivering a sufficient supply of homes, in order to meet the national target of providing 300,000 new homes per year.</p> <p><u>Sustainable Development</u></p> <p>As well as priority of supporting the provision of new homes, the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development (para 7). The planning system has three overarching objectives which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways. These objectives should be implemented throughout the preparation and implementation of plans and the application of policies.</p> <p>It is contended that development of the site within this promotion document represents sustainable development, which would contribute economically, socially and environmentally – this is highlighted throughout this document. At the heart of the NPPF is a</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>presumption in favour of sustainable development (para 11). This ensures that for plan-making plans should promote a sustainable pattern of development that seeks to meet the development needs of their area and as a minimum, provide for objectively assessed needs for housing – the site offers an opportunity to contribute to meeting the development needs in the area.</p> <p><u>Delivering a Sufficient Supply of Homes</u></p> <p>A priority of the NPPF is to significantly boost the supply of new homes. Para 61 states that it is important that a sufficient amount and variety of land can come forward where it is needed.</p> <p>Planning policies should identify a sufficient supply and mix of sites, taking into account their availability, suitability and likely economic viability – the promoted site is considered to be available, suitable and economically viable. This document outlines that the site is suitable for residential development and should be considered to help meet the housing needs within Newcastle, or alternatively brought forward as mixed-use development (service area).</p> <p>With the above in mind and in light of the evidence contained within this document, residential or mixed-use development (service area) within the location promoted within this document upholds the principles set in the NPPF and would underpin the overall sustainability of development in Newbiggin-by-the-sea and Northumberland.</p> <p>3.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT</p> <p>3.3 EMERGING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</p> <p>The emerging Neighbourhood Plan contains a number of policies which will be a material consideration in assessing planning applications and a guide to the location of future development in Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.</p> <p>The pre-Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan is supported by a Housing Needs Assessment (2021) and is positive in recognising the</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>housing need in Newbiggin to ensure development is brought forward when needed.</p> <p>Paragraph 5.3 outlines a summary of the Housing Needs Assessment which identified a housing target in the range of 424 to 521 dwellings to 2036, an increase in the housing figure identified in the local plan.</p> <p>Policy N5: Housing site allocations acknowledges the need for additional development proposals to contribute to meeting identified needs in the area by allocating housing sites.</p> <p>Whilst the draft Neighbourhood Plan is positive in ensure the housing need in Newbiggin is addressed, it is considered that other sites are recognised to help meet the housing need. The following section of this document assess the deliverability of the site referenced within this document and demonstrates the opportunity for this site to be delivered for residential development.</p> <p>3.4 WHY DOES NEWBIGGIN NEED TO GROW?</p> <p><u>National Housing Shortage</u></p> <p>The need for housing is caused by decades of under delivery is recognised by the Government. The link between the delivery of housing and economic growth is key and as such the Government have launched a number of incentives and pro-growth policies the help boots the housing supply.</p> <p>Housing initiatives have been set out at a National level through the NPPF, ‘in significantly boosting the supply of homes’, the Housing Delivery test and through financial initiatives.</p> <p>A national target of providing 300,000 new homes per year has also been set and is a drive to ensure housing is being delivered.</p> <p><u>Northumberland Housing Need</u></p> <p>National planning policy and guidance emphasises that the planning system should support the Government’s objective of significantly boosting the supply of homes.</p> <p><u>Newbiggin-by-the-Sea - Settlement Role</u></p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>Newbiggin is a service village which offers a range of local services and amenities. Newbiggin needs to maintain a critical mass of residents and development to ensure its own services and facilities are retained and improved upon.</p> <p>4.0 SETTLEMENT CONTEXT AND SITE DEVELOPMENT 4.0 WHERE CAN NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA GROW?</p> <p>It has been established that there is a need for new development in Newbiggin and growth in Newbiggin would help retain its role as a sustainable service village.</p> <p>The next logical question to ask is where can this growth be accommodated?</p> <p>The purpose of this document is to demonstrate that the site east of the A189 should be brought forward and allocated in that it represents a logical expansion of development and is available to be brought forward now and within the settlement boundary.</p> <p>The site identified within this document is identified in the Northumberland SHLAA (April 2022) with the site reference 9174. The site is currently shown as not suitable or achievable due to the greenfield nature. Persimmon Homes consider that this is a good opportunity for housing growth or mixed-use development (service area) for the town. The sales rates experienced at our existing development sites at Ashington on the other side of the A189, indicate that there is demand for further development in this area.</p> <p>The development site can enable improved vehicular and pedestrian access from Newbiggin to Ashington through assisting the creation of the long aspirational transport link from the A189 roundabout, which can be used to open up development in this area.</p> <p>Land to the south of the proposed site can provide for additional improvements to ecological mitigation and improve and enhance existing site features and contribute positively to ecology.</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>4.1 SITE ACCESS AND CONTEXT The site is adjacent to Summerhouse Lane with potential access from the roundabout to the west, off the A189. There is also a newly proposed connection road to Newbiggin from this road, which his development site could assist in delivering. The size of the site is approximately 8ha, which would allow for mixed-use development or approximately 240 dwellings, however, the area associated with flood risk and potential new highways connection to Newbiggin would be sensitively addressed and would reduce the figure down to approximately 150 -175 dwellings.</p> <p>4.0 SETTLEMENT CONTEXT AND SITE DEVELOPMENT 4.3 LANDSCAPING, SUDS AND ECOLOGY STRATEGY The majority of the field is arable land, there is also a pond which partially covers the site, which provides increased habitat opportunity. The development would take this into account through the design to ensure the layout sensitively addresses these features and provides an opportunity to create a strong peripheral landscape strategy to the edges of the site. Drainage will be inclusive of a comprehensive sustainable drainage system and will feed into the adjacent water course.</p> <p>4.4 DEVELOPMENT STRUCTURE The parcel of land can accommodate positive outward facing development, and utilise a new access road from the A189 roundabout, which has the potential to continue to Newbiggin, in line with the aspirations of the Northumberland Local Plan. The development has the opportunity to enhance overlooking onto the water feature to the south west of the site and provide an enhanced landscape feature of this area.</p> <p>5.0 DELIVERABILITY ASSESSMENT</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>5.1 DELIVERABILITY APPRAISAL</p> <p>Central Government Guidance defines that for a site to be considered deliverable it must be; Suitable, Available and Achievable. This site deliverability statement will now set out how this proposal accords with all three aspects of deliverability.</p> <p>Suitability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National and Local planning policy actively encourages housing growth and sustainable development, the current sites constraints can be easily mitigated through appropriate design and landscaping. • There are no physical limitations to the site. Vehicular and pedestrian access to the site can be achieved and would work alongside the proposals within the Northumberland Local plan and the proposed link road. <p>Availability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The land is under the control of PersimmonHomes and there are no restrictions on the land. This demonstrates the site is available. <p>Achievability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market Factors : The recent upward trend in the housing market indicates that the sector is booming. It is Persimmon's professional view and from experience with surrounding development that this site is located in an attractive, well serviced service centre. As such is considered to be a marketable site. • Deliverability Factors: Persimmon Homes is one of the largest house builders in the UK, and in the North East it delivers 21% of all market housing. <p>PersimmonHomes are in an unrivaled position to develop this site, which is considered to have no insurmountable barriers to development.</p> <p>In light of the above, the site is considered to be Suitable, Available, Achievable and therefore Deliverable four housing or mixed-use development (service area)</p>	

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>6.0 CONCLUSIONS</p> <p>6.1 CONCLUSIONS</p> <p>This document has demonstrated that Newbiggin-by-the-Sea is well connected to the strategic road network to the west (A1) via the newly created Northern Morpeth Bypass. The town also has excellent links to the south via the A189 Spine Road. This enables easy access to several main towns in the local area which provide excellent service and employment opportunities. Further to this, there are aspirations by Northumberland County Council to introduce passenger rail services via the Ashington to Newcastle line, which is a key policy in the Local Plan, and will further open this area for development.</p> <p>The town itself is identified as a ‘service centre’ in the Local Plan, which is second behind ‘main towns’ in terms of areas to direct growth. The town has existing services and housing and there is identified demand for further growth in the area.</p> <p>The Strategic Land Review in 2014, identifies that the best location for the town to grow is to the west and south west, which is the location of these site being presented by Persimmon Homes. It is our view that this location represents the most sustainable area of growth for the town and utilise the existing transport network without the need to facilitate extra trips through the town centre of Newbiggin. Further to this the sites are best located to enable the development the highways link from Newbiggin to A189 roundabout, which has been an aspiration for sometime, as well as being closely linked with the proposed rail link from Woodhorn, to the north of Ashington.</p> <p>It is Persimmon Homes’ view that the proposed housing numbers for this area are low in the Local Plan and this is also shown within the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Persimmon has experienced excellent sales rates from our development site on the western side of the A189 at Seaton Vale. This area represents a logical area of growth which would deliver the housing required or provide a good location for mixed-use</p>	

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan: Consultation Statement (January 2023)

Consultee	Comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>development (service area) which works with aspirations of the Northumberland Local Plan.</p> <p>The site detailed within this document would offer excellent opportunity to help meet housing need within Newbiggin-by-the-Sea and should be considered for allocation in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan for housing or opportunity for mixed-use development (service area) to come forward alongside the proposed highways link.</p>	

Appendix 15: Comments from health check and proposed amendments

Part 1 – Process

Criteria	Health check response/ comment	Response/ proposed change
Have the necessary statutory requirements been met in terms of the designation of the neighbourhood area?	<p>NNP paragraph 1.9 indicates the date that Newbiggin by the Sea by the Sea was designated as a neighbourhood area with reference to the map at Figure 1. There is no evidence provided as to whether the statutory requirements have been met in terms of the designation of the area. Such evidence, for example including minutes from the Town Council, correspondence with NCC, confirmation of the process followed and the formal designation letter, should be referenced and included within the Basic Conditions Statement.</p> <p>A summary of the designation process in the NNP is advised. In the absence of documentation, it cannot be confirmed if the necessary statutory requirements have been met in the designation of the neighbourhood area albeit there is no suggestion otherwise. It is noted from the NCC website that the Town Council area designation was approved on 7 Feb 2018.</p> <p>The Basic Conditions Statement should include a copy of the confirmation and any relevant report/minutes of the designation from NCC.</p> <p>Subject to the inclusion of necessary documentation within the NNP and its supporting evidence, the statutory requirements appear capable of being demonstrated.</p>	No change to the plan – this will be included within the basic conditions statement.
If the area does not have a parish council, have the necessary statutory requirements been met in terms of the designation of the Parish Council?	The NNP is being produced by Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council.	No change to the plan
Has the plan been the subject of appropriate pre-submission	<p>The NNP completed Regulation 14 consultation on 22 August 2022.</p> <p>A Consultation Statement should be produced to include details of how the vision/aims and policies of the NNP have responded to the community</p>	Comments noted, amend as suggested including preparation of consultation statement (which was planned)

Criteria	Health check response/ comment	Response/ proposed change
consultation and publicity, as set out in the legislation, or is this underway?	<p>comments/land use aspirations to date. Given that the Regulation 14 consultation has been completed, the Statement should also include what changes are made to the NNP in response to the feedback received.</p> <p>The NNP should include a brief summary of consultation and engagement activities (expanding on that provided at paragraph 1.9-1.10). At present, the balance of evidence suggests that the NNP will be subject to appropriate pre-submission consultation, and this would appear capable of being demonstrated through the NNP and the Consultation Statement in due course.</p>	
Has there been a programme of community engagement proportionate to the scale and complexity of the plan?	<p>The NNP refers to community engagement in formulating the draft plan (page 4). However, the NNP provides only brief details of the chronology of engagement and consultation activities and there no specific details of what has occurred, when and with what outcome. Whilst full details may be provided in any ensuing Consultation Statement, it would be prudent to provide a summary of what engagement has occurred and how that has influenced the content of the plan itself.</p> <p>The Consultation Statement should include a clear narrative of all activities undertaken, including those from 2018 onwards, which explains the outcome of each engagement activity, who was involved and specifically how they informed the content of the NNP.</p> <p>The indications suggest that there will have been a programme of community engagement proportionate to the scale and complexity of the plan albeit the details must be captured within the Consultation Statement and summarised in the NNP.</p>	Noted, no amendments required. This will be fully detailed in the consultation statement as planned.
Are arrangements in place for an independent examiner to be appointed?	<p>There is no information provided on this. Whilst the qualifying body has not yet reached the stage of submitting the NNP to NCC under Regulation 15, it is advised that discussions should be scheduled on how to identify a suitable independent examiner.</p> <p>Whilst the general approach is to assess the resumes/CVs provided by prospective examiners, you may also find it helpful in coming to a decision by reading examples of their reports on other NPs.</p>	Noted, no amendments required. NCC is fully aware of the timetable to which the town council is working and will appoint an examiner in due course.

Criteria	Health check response/ comment	Response/ proposed change
Are discussions taking place with the electoral services team on holding the referendum?	It is not yet appropriate to put in place arrangements for a referendum after the examination of the plan. However, as the plan continues to advance, discussions should be held with NCC.	Noted, no amendments required. NCC is fully aware of the requirements and will make arrangements for a referendum in due course.
Is there a clear project plan for bringing the plan into force and does it take account of local authority committee cycles?	There is no process set out for bringing the NNP into force. This could be developed in liaison with NCC.	Noted, no amendments required. NCC is fully aware of the requirements and will make arrangements for this in due course.
Has a SEA screening been carried out by the LPA?	<p>A HRA Screening report has been undertaken by NCC on 8 March 2022 which refers to earlier screening advice that is not available. The HRA Screening identifies the need for an Appropriate Assessment which is interpreted as triggering the requirement for SEA. A SEA has been undertaken.</p> <p>A helpful Locality guide on the process of SEA is available here. This confirms that “The SEA Directive requires that if an eligible plan or programme requires an appropriate assessment under the Habitats Directive, then that plan or programme will also require an SEA.”</p> <p>All previous screenings and associated correspondence should be collated into the NNP evidence base to show a clear chronology of how the plan has been drafted and has had regard to SEA/HRA requirements.</p>	Noted, no amendments required. NCC is fully aware of the requirements for HRA and AECOM are working on the SEA.
Has a HRA screening been carried out by the LPA?	<p>As noted above, a HRA Screening concludes the need for an Appropriate Assessment.</p> <p>The available screening does not include any consultation responses from Natural England. A HRA Report was undertaken in relation to the pre-submission draft NNP (March 2022). This concluded in part that:</p> <p><i>8.2 Policy N5 is likely to have a significant effect on the Northumbria Coast SPA/Ramsar Site for the reasons identified in Section 5 of this Report. Accordingly, an appropriate assessment has been undertaken of this objective and these policies.</i></p>	Comments noted, contact NCC to ensure HRA screening includes response from Natural England.

Criteria	Health check response/ comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p><i>8.3 In accordance with Regulation 106 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 as amended; Northumberland County Council concludes that the Newbiggin by the Sea by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Draft (March 2022) will have an adverse effect on the integrity of European sites without mitigation.</i></p> <p>It is unclear if Natural England (NE) has been consulted on the HRA Appropriate Assessment albeit an email confirms that NE supports a policy of coastal mitigation. The NNP has been drafted to take into account the HRA Report.</p> <p>Attention is drawn to the fact that the Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018 were made on 5 December 2018 and came into force on 28 December 2018. These amend the prescribed Basic Condition related to Habitats Assessments - the revised Basic Condition took effect from 28 December 2018. See the following link: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2018/1307/contents/made (Section 3). This amendment follows the ruling of the European Court in People over Wind and Sweetman on 12 April 2018. This was acknowledged by the HRA Screening.</p>	

Part 2 – Content

Identified requirement	Health check response/ comment	Response/ proposed change
Are policies appropriately justified with a clear rationale?	<p>The NNP is informed by a general understanding of the existing development plan in the NCC area.</p> <p>The NNP has a 'vision' (Chapter 3). It would be helpful to briefly explain how this has been derived (e.g., with the input of the community?). Thereafter the NNP establishes 3 objectives which, once again, would be bolstered by providing their rationale. Feasibly with reference to community engagement.</p> <p>There are 8 planning policies within the NNP. These are grouped under the 3 objectives relating to 'distinctive place', 'sustainable, thriving and healthy community' and 'well connected'.</p>	<p>Comments noted, no amendments required. The text at the end of section 2 explains how the vision and objectives have been developed. Amendments to the policy wording will be informed by the comments from NCC.</p>

Identified requirement	Health check response/ comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p>The policies are supported by text which seeks to explain the justification for the policies. In some instances, the supporting text should be reviewed to ensure it is clearly explaining the evidence and justification for the policies which follow. This may be undertaken alongside the post Regulation 14 consultation review work to ascertain the need for appropriate amendments.</p> <p>Whilst generally well presented, there is a necessity to ensure that some policies are clearer⁹ in their wording and purpose so as to aid future effective implementation. Some aspects of the current policies are insufficiently justified by the evidence cited and partially repeat aspects of the existing development plan. They consequently are likely to be ineffective or unnecessary. Liaison with NCC is recommended to discuss the policy wording.</p> <p>Some examples for potential amended wording are identified below (see detailed comments in Part 3).</p> <p>There is useful advice to be found here: https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/Writing-planning-policies-toolkit-HK-071218-0907-COMPLETED-JS-complete-.pdf</p> <p>Each policy is clearly identified by separated and colour coded text. There is no doubt what constitutes proposed planning policy.</p>	
<p>Is it clear which parts of the draft plan form the 'neighbourhood plan proposal' (i.e., the neighbourhood <i>development plan</i>) under the Localism Act, subject to the independent examination, and which</p>	<p>The NNP is supported by a contents table and runs to 27 pages. The document is legibly laid out. The NNP clearly identifies which parts of the plan are planning policies and which relate to community actions.</p> <p>Subject to amendments (as recommended), there is sufficient clarity as to what is the NNP and what will be the subject of examination.</p>	<p>Noted, no amendments required.</p>

⁹ See PPG Reference ID: 41-041-20140306.

Identified requirement	Health check response/ comment	Response/ proposed change
parts do not form part of the 'plan proposal', and would not be tested by the independent examination?		
Are there any obvious conflicts with the NPPF?	Section 3 below identifies matters where clarity could be enhanced to resolve potential tensions with national policy, albeit there appear to be no fundamental conflicts with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).	Noted, no amendments required.
Is there a clear explanation of the ways the plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development?	The NNP is drafted in a positive manner with an acknowledgement of the national requirement for sustainable forms of development. However, the NNP itself does not provide a clear explanation as to how the plan will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. This should be resolved by additional text which should explain more fulsomely how the NNP will contribute towards sustainable forms of development (because this is a Basic Condition). The Basic Conditions Statement will need to reference the contribution of the NNP to achieving sustainable development. Subject to additional explanation, the NNP and its evidence should be capable of indicating how a suitable contribution to the achievement of sustainable development will be secured.	Noted, no amendments required. This will be fully detailed in the basic conditions statement as planned.
Are there any issues around compatibility with human rights or EU obligations?	There is no evidence on this matter. The Basic Conditions Statement should include details which show how Human Rights and other EU obligations (under retained EU law) have been assessed. This could be supplemented by the production of an equalities impact assessment/statement clearly indicating how equality has been addressed in the plan production process. From an assessment of the documents received it cannot be concluded that there are no outstanding issues regarding compatibility with human rights and EU obligations.	Noted, no amendments required. This will be fully detailed in the basic conditions statement as planned.
Does the plan avoid dealing with excluded	The NNP policies appear to avoid dealing specifically with such excluded development.	Noted, no amendments required.

Identified requirement	Health check response/ comment	Response/ proposed change
development including nationally significant infrastructure, waste and minerals?		
Is there consensus between the local planning authority and the qualifying body over whether the plan meets the basic conditions including conformity with strategic development plan policy and, if not, what are the areas of disagreement?	<p>There is no evidence to demonstrate a clear consensus (or otherwise) between Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council and NCC.</p> <p>This should be remedied (by further minuted meetings/correspondence), ideally before consultation and certainly before submission. Any areas of obvious disagreement should be obviated or minimised. A SOCG would be helpful and could also address any matters arising with the emerging NCC Local Plan.¹⁰</p> <p>If appropriate, the Parish Council could consider the Locality advice on establishing a Memorandum of Understanding with NCC (and others). A guide is available here.</p> <p>There are no obvious issues of general non-conformity (i.e., disagreement) with the strategic development plan policies of the extant development plan but liaison with NCC should be undertaken to agree such a position.</p> <p>Advice on the issue of 'conformity' is available here.</p>	Noted, no amendments required. There is regular and on-going dialogue with NCC. There are no major areas of disagreement.
Are there any obvious errors in the plan?	Some suggestions are made in Part 3 below.	Noted, responses below.
Are the plan's policies clear and unambiguous and do they reflect the community's land use aspirations?	<p>Detailed comments are made below on the content and drafting of the NNP's policies.</p> <p>It is recommended that the policies should now be further reviewed following the completion of the Regulation 14 consultation and prior to submission of the plan to NCC. Some policies would benefit from greater clarity to aid their implementation and with clearer links to supporting evidence without which they would not be</p>	Noted, responses below.

¹⁰ PPG Reference ID: 41-009-20190509

Identified requirement	Health check response/ comment	Response/ proposed change
	justified. A further 'sense check' and refinement to ensure that they are clear and effective is required (regard should be had to the advice in the PPG ¹¹).	

Part 3 – Detailed comments

Section/ policy	Health check comment	Response/ proposed change
Title page	Should include the intended plan period over which the NNP is intended to operate (eg 2022-2036).	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Page 1	A contents page is always helpful and good to see.	Noted, no amendments required.
Section 1 – Introduction		
Page 3	<p>Paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 set out the background to neighbourhood plan which is informative. It would be helpful for local stakeholders/ residents to couch this section in the Newbiggin by the Sea context by explaining that the Town Council are the body developing the NNP and that the draft plan contains some community actions at Annex 1. For example:</p> <p><i>[Paragraph 1.1] Neighbourhood planning is a right for communities introduced through the Localism Act 2011. Neighbourhood plans are community-led, prepared by parish councils and in areas without parish councils they are prepared by neighbourhood forums. Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council is preparing this neighbourhood plan. Plans set out guidance on how new development will be managed...</i></p> <p><i>[Paragraph 1.2] ...These are often referred to as 'community actions. Annex 1 of this plan includes the community actions which apply to Newbiggin by the Sea. However, the main purpose of a neighbourhood plan is to set policies for the use and development of land.</i></p>	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Page 4	Paragraph 1.7 refers to sustainable development. Whilst reference is made to the intended Basic Conditions Statement, it is recommended that a summary of how the	Noted, no amendments required. This matter will be addressed in the basic conditions statement.

¹¹ See PPG Reference ID: 41-041-20140306.

Section/ policy	Health check comment	Response/ proposed change
	NNP and its policies will contribute to sustainable development is included here which will emphasise how this key Basic Condition is satisfied.	The local community feedback is that the plan is already long and complicated – it does not need this information included.
Page 4	Paragraphs 1.9-1.11 refer to the background to the NNP and summarise the NNP formulation process with brief reference to early engagement activity. It would be useful to cross reference the necessary Basic Conditions and Consultation Statements at this point. In addition, it is also recommended that a précis be provided explaining in more detail how the Town Council has engaged with the community and how the draft plan, its vision, and objectives have been developed. For example, what did the March to April 2019 ‘big issues’ engagement consist of? How was feedback on the vision and objectives and policies undertaken? How was feedback on housing matters obtained and to what effect? This is an opportunity to fully express that the NNP is a product of local engagement and responsive to the identified issues of the community.	Comments noted, amend to refer to the consultation statement.
Page 6	Paragraph 1.17 sets out the next steps for the NNP. The timescales should be discussed and agreed with NCC.	Noted, no amendments required. There is regular and on-going dialogue with NCC.
Section 2 - Background		
Page 7	Provides a short history of the parish. Paragraph 2.4 has an erroneous ‘had’ in the third sentence.	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Pages 8-9	Provide a pithy summary of the socio-economic data applicable to the parish. Paragraphs 2.10-2.11 refer to the population and housing context but there is no citation for the origin of the evidence used. This should be remedied (e.g., census data) and perhaps supplemented by the introduction of one or more tables, feasibly illustrating the position of Newbiggin by the Sea in the broader Northumberland context. The addition of tables or graphic illustrations of the available data for all of the sub-headings used may enhance the presentation of the plan.	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Page 10.	The evidence sources for the data contained in paragraph 2.20 should be cited.	Comments noted, amend as suggested

Section/ policy	Health check comment	Response/ proposed change
Page 10	Paragraphs 2.22 and 2.23 set out the main challenges highlighted by the community and the Town Council. However, it is unclear how these challenges have been identified. It would be prudent to expand the narrative as to how the data and the community engagement has led the Town Council and stakeholders to identify the 6 items listed at paragraph 2.22 and thereby the themes set out in paragraph 2.23. This may be aided by a cross reference to the Consultation Statement when completed. As presented, these paragraphs appear somewhat isolated from any justification for their inclusion.	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Section 3 – Vision and objectives		
Page 11	Sets out the Vision and Objectives for the NNP. These are helpful but would be aided by some explanation as to how they have been derived. For example, to what extent has the community been involved in developing options for the plan and perhaps iterations of the vision/objectives? The Vision itself would benefit from grammatical clarity on the tenses used; for example, the first sentence uses the future tense to set out what the town will be in 2036, whilst the remainder uses the present tense to describe, presumably, what the town will experience at the end of the plan period. The consistent use of the future tense is recommended for the Vision.	Comments noted, no amendments required. The background to early engagement is identified in section 1 and full details will be included within the consultation statement.
Page 11	Paragraph 3.2 states that three objectives have been developed (Distinctive Place, Sustainable, thriving and healthy communities and Well Connected) and refers to the evidence base for their justification. However, it is unclear how the objectives have been developed and it is also unclear what evidence has informed the three objectives within the plan. These matters should be succinctly explained, feasibly with a cross reference to the Basic Conditions and Consultation Statements as appropriate.	Comments noted, no amendments required. The background to early engagement is identified in section 1 and full details will be included within the consultation statement and basic conditions statement.
Policies (general)	In general terms the policies of the NNP are focussed and reasonably succinct. Nevertheless, following the concluded Regulation 14 consultation and before submission, it would be prudent for all policies to be reviewed against the advice of the PPG which states: <i>“A policy in a neighbourhood plan should be clear and unambiguous. It should be drafted with sufficient clarity that a decision maker can apply it consistently and with confidence when determining planning applications. It</i>	Comments noted, amend as suggested

Section/ policy	Health check comment	Response/ proposed change
	<p><i>should be concise, precise and supported by appropriate evidence. It should be distinct to reflect and respond to the unique characteristics and planning context of the specific neighbourhood area for which it has been prepared”.</i>¹²</p>	
	<p>Regard should also be had to the helpful Locality advice on how to write planning policies which includes the following, “The golden rule is that your policies should be clear, precise, positive, relevant and capable of being delivered. They also need to be evidence based (see Box 1)”.</p> <p>Box 1 – Top tips for writing planning policies</p> <div data-bbox="450 560 1249 1166" style="background-color: #00a0c0; color: white; padding: 10px; border-radius: 15px;"> <p>Write in everyday English – try to avoid jargon and stick to common sense language.</p> <p>Avoid duplication – there is little point in addressing issues that are already covered by the policies in your Local Plan.</p> <p>Be clear – avoid ambiguity and be as precise as you can about the intention of your policy.</p> <p>Vision and objectives – each planning policy should stem from a clear vision for your neighbourhood and help deliver at least one of your plan’s objectives.</p> <p>Stand out – the policies are the centrepiece of your neighbourhood plan – make them stand out by putting them in a box in clear bold text.</p> <p>Evidence – you can’t just include policies on a whim, they need to be backed up by robust evidence and rooted in the feedback from your public engagement.</p> <p>Keep it local – your planning policies cannot conflict with Central Government policy or challenge the strategic elements of your local authority’s planning policies</p> <p>Targets – use your policies to set targets or provide indicators which can be used to monitor success</p> <p>Be positive – word policies to welcome development that meets your expectations instead of turning development away.</p> <p>Delivery – your policies need be capable of being delivered within the time frame.</p> </div>	<p>Comments noted, amend as suggested</p>
	<p>The Locality ‘Roadmap’¹³ advises that the input of NCC officers will often be useful in ensuring that the planning policies of any NP are suitably drafted as it can be a time consuming and challenging task. It is recommended that further liaison be</p>	<p>Noted, no amendments required. There is regular and on-going dialogue with NCC.</p>

¹² PPG Reference ID: 41-041-20140306.

¹³ <https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/toolkits-and-guidance/create-neighbourhood-plan-step-by-step-roadmap-guide/>

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	undertaken with NCC prior to submission in order to refine the NNP policies and its content/evidence. This could ensure that the extant LP policies are appropriately referenced and that unnecessary repetition is avoided. ¹⁴	
Section 4 – Distinctive place		
Paragraphs 4.1 – 4.8	Chapter 4 of the NNP relates to the objective of ‘Distinctive Place’. Paragraphs 4.1 – 4.8 set out the national and local planning policy context with an emphasis on the location of new development and design. Whilst generally informative, there is some scope to set a clearer context for the design policy N1. Whilst the NNP acknowledges correctly that national policy supports neighbourhood planning in influencing design, there is no particular indication as to what the specific design characteristics of Newbiggin by the Sea are and why the criteria of Policy N1 are required. For example, Policy N1 requires that new development should conserve local distinctiveness and respects existing character and responds to the distinctive character of the area. However, there is no indication in the supporting text on pages 12 and 13 what are the locally distinctive characteristics etc. Consequently, it is likely to be difficult for developers, stakeholders and decision makers to understand how to gauge the suitability of new development within Newbiggin by the Sea. Consequently, it would be prudent to include some analysis of the design characteristics of the town which will inform the implementation of the policy (similar to that which is employed for Policy N4 Conservation Area).	Comments noted, no amendments required. The policy captures the key design principles that the local community and other stakeholders identified through the early engagement on the plan.
Policy N1	The criteria of Policy N1 currently appear to add minimal local value to the existing design policies of the NLP (QOP1 to 6) and this would bear review, feasibly in liaison with officers from NCC to ensure that N1 will be effective in delivering appropriate and good quality design to the benefit of Newbiggin by the Sea.	Comments noted, no amendments required. It is acknowledged that there are some similarities between the policy and the local plan, however these matter were of importance to the town council.
Policy N1	Policy N1(h) requires car parking and cycle storage in accordance with NCC parking standards. Planning policy should not require adherence to separate standards albeit can reasonably require that regard be had to them. In this instance, Policy N1(h) appears to repeat NLP Policy TRA4 which also states that parking should	Comments noted, no amendments required. Parking is an important issue for the local community, which is why this has been specifically included.

¹⁴ NPPF, paragraph 16 f).

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	generally be in accordance with local standards whilst allowing that exceptions may arise. NNP Policy N1(h) could be omitted.	
Pages 14-15	Refer to the green infrastructure and natural environment assets of the town. The evidence which underpins the narrative text of paragraphs 4.9-4.12 should be cited and the legibility and source of Figures 2 and 3 should be reviewed (they are hard to read).	Comments noted, amend to explain that figures 2 and 3 are extracts from the NLP proposals map and that the detailed map can be viewed on the NLP website. The purpose of the figures is to give an overview of the natural environment designations.
Page 15	Of particular importance is the specific justification for Policy N2. This is a policy which appears to be justified on the basis of Natural England and NCC consultation and the HRA, particularly as a result of likely recreational pressures on environmental assets arising from increased human activity on protected habitats. However, this justification is not mentioned in the NNP and in particular in the foregoing paragraphs to the policy. As a consequence, the policy, when read in isolation of the evidence, does not appear justified. This matter should be remedied by including an explanation in the supporting text setting out clearly, with citations to the supporting evidence, why the principle and content of Policy N2 is required.	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Policy N2	The final paragraph of Policy N2 refers to the requirement for legal obligations to deliver the policy requirements. This could be removed as a policy requirement and simply added as supporting text which explains how the policy is expected to be implemented.	Noted, no amendments required. This policy wording was suggested by NCC.
Pages 15-17	Refer to Local Green Space (LGS). Paragraph 4.16 helpfully refers to the background paper although this should be accurately labelled the Local Green Space Background Paper (May 2022). As an observation, the LGS Background Paper (and the Housing Site Assessment) states that comments are invited on its content, but the Regulation 14 NNP Consultation page did not appear to make clear that the Background Paper was also subject to consultation (indicating on the Town Council's website that only the first four documents listed below were available for comment, albeit meeting	Noted, no amendments required. There was an opportunity to provide other comments via the online response form.

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan: Consultation Statement (January 2023)

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	<p>the statutory requirements), whilst the online response form provided no opportunity to comment in detail on the Background Paper:</p> <div data-bbox="443 316 1256 788" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>We need your comments on the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-submission draft Neighbourhood Plan - Newbiggin by the Sea Pre-submission draft plan FINAL • Draft Policies map - Newbiggin NP Policies Map A1 Newbiggin NP Policies Map Inset A1 • Draft Environmental Report - Newbiggin by the Sea ER_final • Appropriate Assessment - Habitats Regulations Assessment <p>The draft plan has been informed by the following evidence documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Needs Assessment - 210414 Newbiggin-by-the-Sea HNA final report (revised) • Housing site assessment background paper - Newbiggin by the Sea housing site assessment background paper FINAL • Local green space background paper - LGS background paper FINAL </div>	
Page 16	This is a matter that should be reviewed for the clarity of process. The methodology of the LGS Background Paper appears reasonable and the principle of the LGS is consistent with national policy and guidance. Figure 4 is not terribly clear and its inclusion, as showing protected open space rather than LGS, may be unnecessary. A map showing the individual LGS may be more useful.	Noted, no amendments required. The purpose of figure 4 is to illustrate the extent of protected open space in the parish.
Policy N3	Policy N3 is consequently couched appropriately in the terms of national policy, albeit the second sentence of the final paragraph would have more appropriate regard to national policy if worded along the following lines: "Management of any development within these local green spaces should be consistent with national policy on Green Belts. <i>Inappropriate</i> development of the land will not be permitted other than where very special circumstances can be demonstrated. Very special circumstances will not exist unless the potential harm to the local green space by reason of inappropriateness and other harm is clearly outweighed by other considerations".	Comments noted, amend as suggested

Section/ policy	Health check comment	Response/ proposed change
Policy N3	All landowners of LGS should be notified of the proposed designation and given opportunity to explicitly comment on the proposals. ¹⁵	Noted, no amendments required. Landowners were notified in advance of the consultation on the draft plan.
Pages 17 – 20	Relate to the historic environment and helpfully makes reference to the Conservation Area Character Appraisal which informs the NNP and Policy N4. The Appraisal dates from 2008 and therefore it would be prudent if the NNP could include commentary on the extent to which the findings of the Appraisal remain relevant to the town in 2022; any notable changes should be included. On the premise that the Appraisal remains sufficiently up to date, the content of Policy N4 is generally reasonable. However, criterion N4(d) refers to ‘significant views’. For the justification and effective implementation of the policy it is necessary to define what ‘significant views’ are and where they can be found, without which developers, stakeholders and decision makers may have differing concepts as to what a significant view is and how it may be affected by a development proposal. The Character Appraisal does not define significant views albeit does include commentary on the value of certain views throughout the town. If justified, it may be clearer to simply refer to the Character Appraisal rather than imply that other views to the three cited in the policy are in existence but are not defined. As a suggestion for consideration, criterion N4(d) could state: “The impact on significant views that are important to the character and appearance of the area <i>as referenced in the Conservation Area Character Appraisal</i> , including: i. In the historic core of strong linear terraces; ii. In the suburban extension of trees and gardens; and iii. Extensive and dramatic views from the Church Point area around the bay and rows of historic terraces.”	Comments noted, amend supporting text to refer to changes since the conservation character appraisal was prepared. The policy does refer to the views highlighted in the appraisal, but does not suggest that these are the only important views. Amend policies map to highlight the main views and refer to this within the policy as suggested.
Policy N4	The final paragraph of Policy N4 does not have sufficient regard to national policy. Given the existing provisions of the NPPF and NLP Policy ENV7, which relates to heritage assets, there is no necessity for further policy content in NNP Policy N4 and this paragraph could be reasonably omitted without detriment to the objectives of	Comments noted, amend as suggested (this issue was also highlighted by Historic England).

¹⁵ PPG Reference ID: 37-019-20140306.

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	the NNP. As worded, the paragraph seeks to control harm arising from development to any aspect of the conservation area that contributes to its significance. However, it is the conservation area as a whole which constitutes a designated heritage asset and against which both legislation and national policy are applied; in this context, Policy N4 constitutes an unjustified level of additional control which does not accord with national policy or legislation.	
Section 5 - Sustainable, thriving and healthy community		
Pages 21-22	Relate to housing provision, culminating in Policy N5 which allocates three sites for housing development. Helpfully, the NNP is supported in evidence by the Housing Needs Assessment (HNA 2021) which concludes that a housing target figure of between 424 and 521 dwellings is required (2021-2036), exceeding the established development plan figure of 350. This will feasibly deliver up to 52 affordable homes, albeit this remains short of the NCC Strategic Housing Market Assessment indication of 60 affordable homes for the area. The HNA concludes that smaller and larger homes are required to meet the needs of younger adults and larger families and that affordable homes for sale should be provided. The Town Council are advised to agree the figures if practical with NCC.	Noted, no amendments required. NCC was involved in the preparation of the HNA and raised no objection to the proposals within the draft plan.
Table 1	NNP Table 1 sets out the housing delivery range for the NNP (between 429 and 488 homes to 2036). Allowing for previous housing delivery between 2016-21, extant permissions and pending applications, the NNP provides for three allocations to deliver between 144-173 new homes.	Noted, no amendments required.
Housing Site Assessment Background Paper	The methodology for site allocation is set out in the Housing Site Assessment Background Paper which is open for consultation alongside the NNP (see comments at paragraph 23 above). Whilst the Background Paper indicates that the Northumberland Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment was used for parish data, it is not clear how potential sites were sought as part of the NNP production process (for example, was there a 'call for sites'?) and how the Town Council itself endeavoured to identify sites. This should be explained in the Background Paper.	Comments noted, amend to include greater explanation within the background paper.
Housing Site Assessment	The Background Paper indicates that an initial filtering of potential sites discounted 4 land parcels. However, the reasoning for these should be provided in more detail.	Comments noted, amend to include greater explanation within the background paper.

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Background Paper	Sites listed in Table 4 (also referenced as Table 6) were subject to an assessment (Part 5 of the Background Paper) leading to the preferred sites included in the NNP. It is to be expected that the sites assessment methodology will have been scrutinised at the Regulation 14 consultation stage and will be subject to further scrutiny upon submission of the NNP to NCC. The Town Council are advised to liaise with NCC on this matter and to review its approach against the helpful Locality advice. ¹⁶	
Housing Site Assessment Background Paper	The Town Council should be prepared to now review and revisit its site assessments and conclusions relating to its methodology following the close of the Regulation 14 consultation and relevant comments received. Nevertheless, Policy N5 is derived from the existing evidence base and is reasonable as presented.	Comments noted, amend following feedback from consultation.
Page 23/ Policy N6	Policy N6 identifies facilities (C1-C10) which have a great importance to the local community and the policy subsequently seeks to ensure that the loss of a building or land providing a community service or facility is fully justified. It is unclear if the provisions of the second part of the policy, which come after the list of facilities of great importance, only apply to those facilities C1-C10 or any facility or service. This should be clarified. If the latter, then a definition of a community facility or service should be provided.	Comments noted, amend to ensure clarity that the second part of the policy refers to those identified facilities and that development proposals which would impact other services and facilities would be assessed against local plan policy INF 2.
Page 23/ Policy N6	There is no explanation within the supporting text as to how and why the items listed at C1-C10 are deemed to be of great importance, nor what the term 'great importance' is intended to mean (rather than simply being important). Paragraph 5.12 states that local residents place a high value on these facilities but the evidence for this statement is not provided. It is therefore recommended that additional supporting text is provided to explain how the list within Policy N6 has been derived (and whether other facilities were considered and discounted) and to clarify the term 'great importance'.	Comments noted, amend to include additional supporting text to explain why C1-C10 have great importance to the local community.
	NLP Policy INF2 provides an established development plan policy relating to community services and facilities and appears to address the latter part of NNP	Comments noted, amend to ensure clarity that the second part of the policy refers to those

¹⁶ <https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/toolkits-and-guidance/assess-allocate-sites-development/>

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	Policy N6. It may therefore be prudent to review the necessity for the latter part of NNP Policy 6 as a consequence.	identified facilities and that development proposals which would impact other services and facilities would be assessed against local plan policy INF 2.
Section 6 – Well-connected		
Page 26.	Policy N7 is a criteria-based policy which relates to sustainable transport and new development. Whilst the criteria are generally reasonable, there appears to be some unnecessary overlap with the provisions of NLP Policies TRA1 and 4 (e.g., electric charging points, parking) and this should be reviewed, feasibly in liaison with NCC officers.	Noted , there will be some minor amendments to the policy in response to NCCs comments.
Policy N7	Policy N7(e) refers to ‘severe impacts’, but the concept of severe is not defined. This would result in a policy that is challenging to implement effectively as arguments on the severity of impacts will ensue. As an alternative, consideration could be given to the following: “Ensure that the cumulative impact on traffic flows on the highway network <i>will be acceptable and that ...</i> ’.	Noted, no amendments required. Criterion ‘e’ reflects the wording within paragraph 111 of the NPPF.
Policy N8	Policy N8 relates to rights of way and, as presented, appears reasonable.	Noted, no amendments required.
Annex 1		
General	Annex 1 reasonably lists ‘community actions’ arising from the preparation of the plan. It may benefit from some further indication as to how and when these may be pursued.	Noted, no amendments required. The introduction to the annex explains that the actions are supported by the town council and that many of them will be delivered by or in conjunction with other bodies and community groups.
Third paragraph	The third paragraph refers to 4 plan objectives but there are only 3.	Comments noted, amend as suggested
Other matters		
	It is advisable for any neighbourhood plan to include a section on monitoring and review to ensure the effective implementation of the plan and in order to deliver the vision and ensure the aims are met.	Noted, no amendments required. This is not an essential requirement.

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	<p>It may be helpful to develop indicators to measure the success of the NNP in applying the policies and in securing its objectives. A tabular approach could be developed to assist, perhaps drawing on the Aims within Section 3, for example:</p> <table><tr><th>NNP Policy</th><th>Vision/ Aims</th><th>Indicators</th></tr><tr><td>Policy N1</td><td>To protect and enhance the area ...</td><td>Proportion of new schemes permitted/refused which have used the criteria of N1</td></tr><tr><td>Etc.</td><td>Etc.</td><td>Etc.</td></tr></table>	NNP Policy	Vision/ Aims	Indicators	Policy N1	To protect and enhance the area ...	Proportion of new schemes permitted/refused which have used the criteria of N1	Etc.	Etc.	Etc.	Noted, no amendments required. This is not an essential requirement.																
NNP Policy	Vision/ Aims	Indicators																									
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Etc.	Etc.	Etc.																									
	<p>The Locality advice on monitoring is relevant and also includes a suggested table to assist at Figure 7, page 24 of their guide:</p> <p>A spreadsheet could be created to record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• how much each policy is being used;• issues that are being addressed effectively and consistently;• issues not being addressed adequately by each policy <table><tr><td colspan="5">April</td></tr><tr><td>Policy</td><td>Usage</td><td>Issues Addressed</td><td>Issues not addressed satisfactorily</td><td>Comments</td></tr><tr><td>Policy 1</td><td>2</td><td>Affordable provision within the development</td><td>Housing mix does not meet aspirations</td><td>Policy too vague on housing mix.</td></tr><tr><td>Policy 2</td><td>3</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Figure 7: Possible spreadsheet to monitor effectiveness of policies.</p>	April					Policy	Usage	Issues Addressed	Issues not addressed satisfactorily	Comments	Policy 1	2	Affordable provision within the development	Housing mix does not meet aspirations	Policy too vague on housing mix.	Policy 2	3									Noted, no amendments required. This is not an essential requirement.
April																											
Policy	Usage	Issues Addressed	Issues not addressed satisfactorily	Comments																							
Policy 1	2	Affordable provision within the development	Housing mix does not meet aspirations	Policy too vague on housing mix.																							
Policy 2	3																										
	Effective monitoring of the way in which the NNP is used will ensure that either the plan is known to be successful or that aspects may benefit from actions to review. NCC Officers may be able to advise further.	Noted, no amendments required. This is not an essential requirement.																									
General	The main focus of this report has been on undertaking an assessment of the NNP, and in particular its policies, in its current draft form. Prior to the submission of the plan to NCC, the NNP should be updated to accommodate necessary amendments. A thorough proof-read and sense check should be made of the plan and its supporting documents (including the Basic Conditions Statement, Consultation	Comments noted, amend as suggested																									

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	Statement) prior to the subsequent submission stage. The NNP itself should also be proof-read by an independent person to check for typographical and presentational errors.	
	A list of all evidence sources for the NNP should be compiled. These should be made available on the NNP website and a summary could be provided within the NNP. A succinct glossary may be a helpful addition.	Noted, no amendments required. The relevant evidence will be referenced within the plan itself, it is not considered necessary to have a separate list on the neighbourhood plan website. Also, it is not considered necessary to have a glossary – where explanation of a term is needed is provided within the relevant section of the plan.
	Finally, it is recognised that the above comments will involve amendments to the NNP and its evidence. However, the time and effort that has clearly been put into the NNP to date is noteworthy. If it can be amended with regard to the above suggestions, then it will have an increased likelihood of ultimately being submitted for a successful examination.	