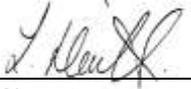


Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan
Review of Revised Vision, Objectives
and Policy Options Consultation
Feedback
July 2016

Title	Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan Review of Revised Vision, Objectives and Policy Options Consultation Feedback	
Date	July 2016	
Project Code		
Client	Ponteland neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	
Prepared by	Laura Hewitt	Signature 
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INTRODUCTION

The Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (PNPSG) engaged consultants People and Places to review the feedback obtained via online and paper based surveys to the Revised Vision, Objectives and Policy Options Consultation, which took place between 1st April and 15th May 2016.

In total 633 surveys were submitted, providing responses on the proposed vision, objectives and policy options for the emerging Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan. The survey was in a simple yes/no format, with the opportunity to provide additional comments if desired. People and Places have provided a spreadsheet of the raw data and a written Executive Summary.

Capita have been commissioned to review the People and Places' analysis of the consultation feedback and provide a short written statement that will address how it should be reflected in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan. Capita would make it clear that the vision, objectives and policy options presented to the public for this consultation were prepared prior to its involvement in the project. Please note, public support would not necessarily mean that the vision, objectives and policy options are sound in planning terms or substantiate their suitability for inclusion in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

COMMENT ON FEEDBACK WITH REGARDS TO THE DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

On a quantitative basis, the feedback is very positive. Of approximately 50 questions asked, all but three received over 90% support from respondents, two of which still seeing over 85% support. This illustrates that whilst the vision, objectives and policy options are still in draft and subject to amendment, the Ponteland Parish public appear satisfied with the general themes and policy directions the Neighbourhood Plan intends to pursue.

There was only question that saw a relatively low agreement rate, which was regarding the policy option to positively encourage new hotel accommodation in Ponteland. Only 49% of respondents agreed that this was a suitable way of supporting sustainable economic growth, leisure and tourism in the Parish. Robust evidence would be required to support this policy, to ascertain if hotel accommodation is required in the Parish and would be deliverable. Should this evidence not exist, this relatively unpopular policy option should not be carried forward into the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, at least not in its current form.

A selection of comments was made by respondents alongside their yes/no answers. Many of the comments related to Green Belt protection and the transition from a three-tier school system to a two-tier system; both key areas of interest in the Parish at the moment, but beyond the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan. Most comments otherwise were generally in line with the aspirations of the Neighbourhood Plan. Regarding Objective 8 on Older People, whilst respondents agreed that the needs of older people should be met, many comments

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expressed concern that this should not result in too many homes and facilities for older people at the expense of those for younger people and should not result in an imbalance of too many older people to younger people. This stresses the need for the Draft Neighbourhood Plan to consider the needs of all current and future members of the community.