



A quick guide to Neighbourhood Plans

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan, or Neighbourhood Development Plan is mainly about land use and it can help your community to influence the future look of the area in which you live and/or work.

It can

- Develop a shared vision for the future development of your community
- Enable a community to choose where new homes, shops, offices and any other developments should be built
- Help you identify and protect green spaces important to your community
- Let you influence the look of new buildings and landscaping for developments

It cannot stop development.

What might go in it?

- The development of all sorts of housing and bringing vacant or derelict housing back into use
- Somewhere for businesses to set up or expand their premises
- Transport and access issues - roads, cycling, walking, accessible options, etc
- The development of schools, places of worship, health, leisure and entertainment facilities
- Community and youth centres and village halls
- The restriction of certain types of development and change of use, for example to avoid too much of one type of use
- The aesthetic design of buildings
- Protection and creation of open space, nature reserves, allotments, sports pitches, play areas, parks and gardens and the planting of trees
- Protection of important building and historic assets such as archaeological remains
- Promotion of renewable energy projects, such as solar energy and wind turbines

The Plan is a planning document. It forms part of the Planning Authority's Local Plan and becomes part of the planning process. This means that for the life of the Plan your policies affect decisions about planning in the area your plan covers

Production of the Plan

It is the Parish or Town Council who produce the plan but other members of the community can help. Volunteers are able to bring their experience and skills to the process, ensuring the final version meets expectations.



Steps to produce a plan;

1. Getting started
2. Identifying the issues – full community consultation
3. Develop a vision and objectives
4. Generate options
5. Draft your Neighbourhood Plan
6. Consultation and submission
7. Independent examination
8. Referendum and adoption

Further information can be gained through other documents on the East Suffolk Council website, or the Locality website – www.locality.org.uk

Further information?

For help with planning queries please contact planning@eastsuffolk.gov.uk.

For help with setting up the committee and public consultation please contact communities@eastsuffolk.gov.uk.