

Survey for elected members, parish/town/city councils and neighbourhood planning teams



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HARROGATE DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN: SURVEY FOR ELECTED MEMBERS, PARISH/TOWN/CITY COUNCILS AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TEAMS

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Harrogate District Core Strategy was adopted in February 2009. In 2013 the council decided to carry out an early review of the Core Strategy in order to produce a new set of strategic planning policies. As part of initial work on the Core Strategy Review, the council has been keen to identify and understand the views of Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) elected members, parish councils (including town and city councils and parish meetings), and neighbourhood planning teams at the outset, and use them to help develop the new long-term overarching planning strategies for the district.
- 1.2 From 22 November 2013 to 17 January 2014 the Planning Policy Team invited these bodies and members to respond to a targeted survey asking for their views on some of the key issues to be addressed within the Core Strategy Review, including the council's approach to housing and economic growth. The survey included questions under the following themes: a vision and priorities for the district; the distribution of housing across the district; the current settlement hierarchy (used to inform the distribution of housing); traveller sites; homes for local people (affordable housing); jobs and businesses; infrastructure; travel; the environment and climate change; and neighbourhood planning. In addition, the survey provided an opportunity for respondents to set out views on any additional issues not covered by the questions.
- 1.3 In June 2014 the council withdrew the Harrogate District Sites and Policies Development Plan Document (Sites and Policies DPD) from Examination in light of concerns raised by the Inspector. Following this the council has decided to produce a single Local Plan document to set out strategic and detailed planning policies that will ultimately replace all the current development plan documents for the district. As a result work that has taken place on the Core Strategy Review, including this survey, will now be used in the development of the Harrogate District Local Plan.
- 1.4 This report brings together all the responses to the survey. The report has been updated to record and reflect the decision to produce a single Local Plan rather than a Core Strategy Review. Section 2.0 lists the bodies and members who responded to the survey, while section 3.0 presents their comments. Section 4.0 describes how the information collected in the survey will be used to inform the development of the Local Plan.

2.0 Respondents

2.1 Responses to the survey were received from the following bodies and members:

Anonymous
Arkendale, Coneythorpe and Clareton Parish Council
Azerley Parish Council
Bewerley Parish Council
Boroughbridge Town Council
Burton Leonard Parish Council
Dishforth Parish Council
Goldsborough and Flaxby Parish Council
Great Ouseburn Parish Council
Green Hammerton Parish Council
Grewelthorpe Parish Council (2 responses)
Hunsingore, Walshford and Cattal Parish Council
Kirkby Overblow Parish Council
Kirk Deighton Parish Council
Knaresborough Town Council
Little Ouseburn Grouped Parish Council
Littlethorpe Parish Council
Long Marston Parish Council
Markenfield Hall Parish Meeting
Marton cum Grafton Parish Council
Marton le Moor Parish Council
Melmerby and Middleton Quernhow Parish Council
Moor Monkton Parish Council
North Rigton Parish Council
North Stainley with Sleningford Parish Council
Pateley Bridge Town Council
Ripon City Council
Ripon City Plan Team (neighbourhood planning team)
Scriven Parish Council
Sicklinghall Parish Council
Tockwith with Wilstrop Parish Council
Upper Nidderdale Parish Council

Cllr Margaret Atkinson
Cllr Helen Flynn
Cllr John Fox
Cllr Stanley Lumley
Cllr David Siddans
Cllr Jennifer Travena

3.0 Survey Responses

3.1 The following section is set out under the same thematic headings as the original survey form, with the responses to each question reported in turn. To help with the analysis of responses to each question as a whole, individual responses have been summarised where it has been possible to do this without losing the thrust of the comment, and a tally system has been used to identify the number of respondents making the same or very similar comments. The source of comments in terms of individual respondents is not identified.

Core Strategy Vision and Priorities

(Chapter 2 of the adopted Core Strategy)

Question 1: Think about how you would like the district to be in 2035. Please can you describe below what your vision would be?

General	
Comment	No. of Reps.
Similar to current vision.	1
Forward thinking.	1
More emphasis on the long term rather than quick fixes.	1
Housing and Growth	
Comment	No. of Reps.
Everyone has access to adequate housing (owned and rented).	7
A thriving district with sustainable small villages, good transport and open spaces.	6
Young people and future generations can access housing in the communities where they grew up.	4
A mutually beneficial relationship between the urban and rural parts of the district.	2
A new eco-village settlement.	1
Environment and Communities	
Comment	No. of Reps.
A place of distinctive towns and villages set in protected countryside and AONB.	6
A place that continues to deliver an excellent quality of life.	4
Easy access to jobs, schools and amenities.	4
An area where heritage and environment is valued and protected.	3
A healthy population with access to excellent health and social care, where good care is taken of the elderly and vulnerable.	4
Low crime and anti-social behaviour.	3
Preserve the Green Belt.	2
Visually appealing - plenty of green space, attractive buildings.	2

Maintain the character of the district.	2
A more people friendly area with greater community spirit.	1
Retain Boroughbridge as a thriving market town with its own identity and to act as a hub for surrounding villages.	1
Infrastructure and Economy	
Comment	No. of Reps.
An excellent transport system with good road, bus and rail connections.	10
Adequate employment (or apprenticeships) within easy reach for all (including young people so they will not have to move away).	6
A first class destination for business and leisure tourism, welcoming domestic and overseas visitors.	5
Economically vibrant with a mix of businesses (service, manufacturing, farming).	4
Fewer car journeys, more travel by public transport, walking and cycling.	3
A better understanding that the southern half of the district looks towards the Leeds City Region while the northern and eastern parts look towards York and North Yorkshire.	2
Attractive town centres that remain vital and viable despite changing circumstances.	2
Reinstatement of the new railway through Ripon.	2
No railway reinstatement to Ripon.	1
Financially sound.	1
Excellent communication infrastructure.	1
Goldsborough and Flaxby to retain its rural nature and connection to farming. It is not a place for commercial expansion.	1
Roads and village streets free from potholes, pavements level.	1

Question 2: What do you consider to be the top three economic, social and environmental priorities that the Harrogate District Core Strategy needs to address to achieve your vision?

Economic priorities

Comment	No. of Reps.
Improved transport infrastructure.	13
Maintain high levels of employment and increase high value jobs.	8
Vibrant tourism, a top tourist destination.	8
Encourage/support/financial incentives for small (and start-up) businesses.	8
Improved public transport links, including in rural areas.	5
Attract inward investment (from small or large employers).	5
Ensure job opportunities for young people.	4
Supporting rural businesses.	4
A thriving business and commercial centre.	3

Ensure there is a good quality workforce.	3
Develop more training opportunities and promote excellence.	3
Improve broadband provision.	3
Realistic business rates.	2
Increase competitiveness (e.g. reduce business rates).	2
Support town centres.	2
Future development near to the A1(M).	2
Better parking at railway stations.	1
Facilitate a balanced retail presence within Boroughbridge town centre.	1
More public money for rural areas.	1
Reduce reliance on business tourism and conference activity.	1
Develop a broader high-skill employment base within the district.	1
Growth should be based on service sector supply industry (clean businesses, IT, commercial, agriculture, R+D, tourism).	1
Better road access to villages - improvements to A59 junctions.	1
Cycle lanes on A59.	1
Ensure future development does not overlap residential.	1
Expansion does not require creating sites away from town hubs.	1
Industrial development has never been vital for the district and it is not necessary for future prosperity.	1
A greater role for Parish Councillors.	1
Vacant commercial properties converted to housing.	1
Road maintenance.	1
More efficient public services.	1
Marston Business Park: priority to be given to rural communities - no noxious/noisy neighbours.	1

Social priorities

Comment	No. of Reps.
Sustainable housing growth delivering adequate housing for all.	13
Access for all to high quality health and social care (including in rural areas), recognising changing demographics.	12
Improve public transport links.	12
Invest more in good education facilities for all ages and in accessible locations.	9
Good social care for the elderly and the vulnerable close to where they currently live.	8
Affordable housing on a reasonable scale that meets the need of people with local connections.	6
Play areas, recreation and sport facilities for all, especially children and young people.	5

Promoting strong/self-sufficient communities.	3
Infrastructure to support housing and employment.	2
Provision of high quality affordable nursery and play group places.	2
Improve broadband provision.	2
Provide central community facilities.	1
Protection of community facilities.	1
Housing provided in rural areas to allow locals to live where they grew up.	1
Housing provided in areas where employment opportunities exist.	1
Housing provided in the settlements where evidence says they are actually needed.	1
More semi-detached housing.	1
The council should build Social Housing.	1
Support for families facing challenges.	1
Present standards should be maintained.	1
The council should have better links with charity and third sector organisations.	1
Cultural investment.	1
Small and diverse building schemes - facilitate the integration of new residents into existing communities.	1
Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime.	1
Recognise the specific needs of the elderly and young in rural areas.	1

Environmental priorities

Comment	No. of Reps.
Protect our high quality landscapes (including AONB) from threats including urban sprawl.	14
Greater recycling levels/better recycling facilities close to where people live.	12
Pollution control and reduced emissions from transport.	9
Encourage reduction in the use of the private car.	5
Maximise the use of renewable/low carbon energy and move to a low carbon economy.	5
Insist on high levels of thermal insulation in new homes (e.g. zero carbon homes).	4
Protection of Green Belt.	4
Reduce household and commercial waste.	3
Improve bio-diversity and invest in nature conservation.	3
Protect green space (including The Stray).	2
Protect the historic environment/heritage assets.	2
Increased energy efficiency in public and private sector buildings.	2
Stop landfilling waste.	2
Invest in less polluting transport e.g. railways, buses, walking, cycling.	2

Traffic removed from Ripon City Centre.	2
Avoid siting inappropriate industrial development in rural areas e.g. Allerton Waste Recovery Park.	2
Greater transport integration.	1
Restrict HGVs and commercial traffic through town centres.	1
Ensure new buildings in villages are in line with Village Design Statements and are sympathetic to conservation areas.	1
More allotments.	1
Greater levels of tree planting.	1
Policies that allow the reuse of disused/derelict properties to alternative uses in smaller villages to protect visual amenity.	1
Verge and hedgerow management to encourage wildlife.	1
Invest in climate change resilience.	1
Discourage tree felling/protect woodland.	1
Greater use of natural drainage within developments.	1
Protect countryside from wind turbines.	1
Reduce risk of fly-tipping by not charging for taking domestic rubbish to waste sites.	1

Housing Distribution

(Policy SG1 of the adopted Core Strategy)

Question 3: How do you think the council should broadly distribute growth across the main settlements and in the villages and countryside up to 2035?

	Harrogate (inc Pannal)	Knarborough (inc Scriven)	Ripon	Boroughbridge (inc Langthorpe)	Masham	Pateley Bridge (inc Bridgehousegate)	Villages and Countryside (group B and C)	New settlement/large expanded village (200+ dwellings)	Number of Respondents
A	-	-	-	3.5%	-	-	-	-	1
B	50%	15%	14%	3.5%	2%	3%	21.5%	0%	1
C	-	-	20%	-	-	-	-	-	1
D (current)	48%	14%	8%	3.5%	2%	3%	21.5%	0%	2
E	48%	20%	12%	7%	2%	3%	8%	0%	1
F	40%	10%	15%	4%	3%	5%	23%	-	1
G	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
H	50%	18%	10%	5%	3%	4%	10%	-	1
I	48%	14%	8%	3.5%	2%	3%	11.5%	10%	1
J	35%	10%	5%	5%	2%	3%	10%	30%	1

K	30%	15%	15%	5%	5%	5%	25%	0%	1
L (110%)	5%	5%	5%	3%	2%	3%	10%	77%	1
M	50%	14%	10%	4%	2%	3%	17%	0%	1
N	5%	5%	5%	5%	2%	3%	20%	55%	1
O	25%	12%	8%	5%	2%	3%	45%	0%	1
P	48%	12%	10%	3.5%	2%	3%	21.5%	0%	1
Q	50%	17%	10%	3.5%	2%	3%	14.5%	0%	1
R	30%	9%	8%	3.5%	3%	2.5%	19%	25%	1
S	-	-	10%	7%	-	-	16.5%	-	1
T	48%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
U	30%	15%	10%	5%	5%	5%	30%	0%	1
V (111%)	40%	14.5%	15%	6%	8%	6%	21.5%	0%	1
W	48%	14%	10%	8%	2%	3%	5%	10%	1
X	50%	18%	11%	5%	2%	3%	11%	0%	1
Y (89%)	48%	14%	14%	5%	4%	4%	0%	0%	1
Z	48%	16%	11%	5%	2%	3%	15%	0%	1

Please set out a brief explanation for your suggested approach below:

A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To build an additional 600 homes over 22 years seems realistic.
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ripon and Knaresborough have employment, good transport links and are still relatively rural. Villages have little employment and poor transport.
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To produce growth in towns and villages, increased population and infrastructure is needed. Affordable homes need to be located in towns and cities close to amenities and transport.
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change to the current approach. Current distribution about right although 1-2% given to villages smaller than Group C, applications considered on a case by case basis.
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand housing growth around existing transport hubs, particularly railway stations. Increase business development in Knaresborough - easy access to A1. Provide sufficient retail, education and health facilities to serve the new housing.
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not to concentrate too much on Harrogate and Knaresborough. Keep the villages as villages.
G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There's no reason why existing townships should not be expanded with a higher percentage. The distribution should be decided by committee. We should plan for a new eco-settlement. There should also be more affordable housing in rural areas (esp. Class C villages and below). The distribution is unimportant if you are planning for community needs. Class C villages need to be able to grow to sustain the community and retain younger people (either through starter homes or retirement homes). There is no provision for rural housing outside B and C villages. Housing should be spread across rural areas rather than in a small number of urbanised villages.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough information known at present to make a judgement. • Houses should be built where they are needed, not on a percentage basis.
H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many villages lack the facilities necessary for increased populations. Poor public transport means cars are needed and young people are stranded or have to rely on parents.
I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new settlement or a series near the A1(M) and Harrogate bypass would protect small villages and their conservation areas. A stand-alone scheme could be better planned. Prescribing 21% to villages without evidence of clear need could be considered social engineering.
J	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new settlement will reduce the pressure on already congested roads, provide an opportunity to build a whole area of sustainable energy efficient properties, relieve the pressure on current urban areas.
K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fair balance across the district.
L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group A settlements will have extended beyond their limits by 2024. • The answer is a new town in a sustainable location (close to infrastructure) capable of growing to take 5000, 10 000, 15 000 homes.
M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop brownfield sites, ex-army locations, and airfields. Leave green fields alone.
N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We cannot keep using infill sites and extending the towns, the infrastructure can't cope. A new settlement is needed.
O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instead of large developments on the edge of grid-locked towns, developments of 20-30 homes in our villages would help support services in these settlements.
P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the possibility of a new rail link or other improved communication, there is an opportunity to re-invigorate Ripon so its share should be slightly increased.
Q	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less new housing in the countryside due to poor employment opportunities and poor (and reducing) public transport. Housing in the countryside should predominantly be affordable housing rather than market housing.
R	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If new or expanded settlements are used, all urban areas should get a pro rata reduction in their percentages. A new town would give opportunity to use energy from waste, sewage and other more sustainable approaches. Homes, jobs and green space could all be located close together.
S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ripon and Boroughbridge are close to the A1(M) so could accommodate more development. It is critical that small developments in settlements smaller than Group C are approved if there is local support.
T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The primary roads in Harrogate are in the north and east yet the council continue to concentrate growth to the west where the roads are less adequate.
U	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are aware of strong demand for housing in Masham. The response sheet is unfair as there is no option to show we want more development in uncategorised villages.
V	-
W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level of homes required cannot be accommodated without a detrimental effect on existing settlements unless a new settlement is developed.
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With an aging population and a desire to reduce travel, there should be less development in rural areas with little public transport or facilities.
Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ripon and Boroughbridge need investment and have space. Rural villages do not have the infrastructure to support more people.

Z	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of existing conurbations preferable in order to retain the rural character. • Developments like the recent re-use of Whixley hospital should be sought elsewhere but with more facilities included e.g. shop.
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Question 4: When considering the location of large scale housing development (200+ dwellings), what do you think are the three most important factors to determine the suitability of a site?

Comment	No. of Reprs.
Adequate transport infrastructure allowing good access. If congestion will increase there should be opportunities to reduce this impact.	26
Access to adequate services (schools, healthcare, retail etc.).	16
Proximity to good public transport links.	13
Proximity to sources of employment.	8
The impact on non-transport amenities and facilities (inc. amount of parking).	6
Ability to minimise the effect on surrounding areas and not overwhelm local housing.	6
Level of flood risk (river and surface water).	6
Whether the land is brownfield or green field - use more brownfield.	6
Landscape impact.	3
Proximity to existing settlements with transport and services.	2
Availability of utilities infrastructure.	2
Develop community, leisure and recreation facilities to support increased population.	2
Environmental risks and impacts.	2
Local employment.	2
There is no requirement for large scale developments in the district.	2
Impact on heritage assets.	1
Whether there are opportunities for making use of renewable/low carbon energy.	1
Air pollution.	1
Extend existing settlements rather than building on the Green Belt.	1
Should not adjoin an existing settlement.	1
Large extensions to existing villages should not happen; they will only act as commuting areas. Instead a wholly new settlement should be considered.	1
A good mix of affordable and private housing.	1
The existing housing mix and type.	1
Local need.	1
Local acceptance.	1

Question 5: Do you have any suggestions of broad locations within the district that the council should consider for large scale housing growth (e.g. extensions to existing villages or towns or new settlements)?

Comment	No. of Reprs.
Near the A1(M).	3
Ripon MOD site.	2
New settlement close to A1, possibly near to the Allerton Park recycling centre to make use of heat and energy produced.	2
Convert the Poplars Estate from light industry to housing and relocate businesses (Boroughbridge).	1
North of Ripon.	1
Both sides of the A61 to the east/north of Ripon.	1
Both sides of the A1 north of Ripon.	1
Dishforth airfield.	1
Brownfield sites in towns close to jobs.	1
To the south of Boroughbridge.	1
Adjoining large centres of population e.g. Harrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon so commuting for work, leisure and services can be reduced.	1
Off the Harrogate bypass, perhaps near Calcutt, Follifoot, Walton Copp, Kirkby Overblow, Flaxby, Goldsborough.	1
The north and east of Harrogate.	1
Green Hammerton, Kirk Hammerton, Whixley, Allerton Park (all close to A1 and the urban centres of Harrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon).	1
New settlement between Knaresborough and York, close to A1(M) and the rail line.	1
Villages to the north and north-east of Harrogate.	1
Question is too vague. A raft of further information is needed to answer properly.	1
East of A1(M), close to railway, perhaps in the vicinity of Cattal.	1
Expand Ripon and Boroughbridge.	1
There is no need for a new settlement. In-fill development can be used to grow villages. Although most should only take small growth, others can sustain reasonable extensions, so long as they are made up of small scale developments. 5 extra houses over 30 villages will remove the need for a large 150 home site.	1
No other development than that proposed for the rural area in the draft Sites and Policies DPD.	1

Settlement Hierarchy

(Policy SG2 of the adopted Core Strategy)

Question 6: What are your views on the current level of growth in group A, B, C and 'Other' settlements and villages (e.g. too much, too little, about right)?

	Comment	No. of Reps.
Group A	About right.	12
	Too little.	4
	Too much.	4
	Impact surveys required to assess the implications for traffic in Harrogate and Knaresborough.	1
	No more development without significantly improved infrastructure.	1
	Harrogate and Knaresborough have traffic and air quality problems.	1
	Adequate in Harrogate but scope for further expansion of Ripon, Knaresborough and Boroughbridge.	1
	Transport, schools etc. in larger settlements can cope with development.	1
Group B	About right.	12
	Too much.	2
	Level of development should not be intrusive, should not spoil the existing nature and character of settlements.	2
	Too little.	1
	Far too little.	1
	Too much for some villages such as Green Hammerton.	1
	Not enough focus on brownfield sites such as Glasshouses Mill.	1
	Often badly planned.	1
Group C	Too little.	7
	About right.	6
	Too much.	6
	Level of development should not be intrusive, should not spoil the existing nature and character of settlements.	2
	Affordable housing needs to fit with the local environment better.	1
	Need a greater number of small developments.	1
	Need to have expansion for local families including market housing.	1
	Growth should be confined to existing built up area and brownfield	1

	sites.	
	Villages need to be maintained as villages and development restricted.	1
	Development must be in line with Conservation Area status, development limits, Village Design Statements.	1
	Grewelthorpe should be group B.	1
Other	About right.	6
	Too little.	4
	Too much.	1
	Change is needed to allow small developments and infilling in settlements below Group C.	1
	Caution is required but certain areas have potential for development.	1
	Uncategorised settlements e.g. Mickley, Winksley, Galphay need small scale development to keep them sustainable.	1
	Level of development should not be intrusive, should not spoil the existing nature and character of settlements.	1
	New settlement required.	1

Question 7: What factors/criteria do you think the council should use to determine the settlement hierarchy for the district? Do you have any suggestions for a completely new approach?

Comment	No. of Reps.
Present system is OK.	5
Develop criteria in consultation with Parish/Town/City Councils and the community; whether they want development.	3
Based on access to employment opportunities, transport and social care facilities.	3
The amount of infill and brownfield land that can be used first.	3
The effect of development on infrastructure including the current transport infrastructure - and the willingness of the County Council and others to make improvements.	3
Focus growth on a new expandable eco-town.	2
The groups are too arbitrary. Some small (Class C and lower) villages with few facilities are within walking distance of others with many facilities, both should be allowed some growth.	1
Capacity of existing infrastructure.	1
Consider demand for market and affordable housing in different areas.	1
Flood risk.	1
Level of public transport.	1
Focus growth in Group A and B settlements.	1
The area is a desirable place to live, don't spoil it. If it isn't bust don't fix it.	1

A new approach is needed. Should be less focus on services available today and more focus on how communities can thrive in the future - this will help prevent places from withering away.	1
If categories remain, Burton Leonard Parish Council request to be moved to Group C as the village does not meet the criteria for Group B in terms of public transport.	1
Pateley Bridge is Group B and currently includes Bridgehousegate even though this is in Bewerley Parish and Bewerley is a group C settlement. The hierarchy rules are not working here, 75 houses at Bridgehousegate does not follow the current rules of only small developments in Group C. Bridghousegate is separated from Pateley by a river. More detailed attention needs to be given to individual areas.	1
This needs looking at; having a shop does not make a village well supported.	1
Criteria is flawed. Instead new housing should be set across the district as a percentage of existing settlement size, with a cap of 10%.	1

Traveller Sites

(Policy C2 of the adopted Core Strategy)

Question 8: Policy C2 of the current Core Strategy sets out criteria for the identification of new sites for travellers; what are your views on these criteria? Do you have anything to add?

	Comment	No. of Reps.
To identify additional sites that are well related to Category A and B settlements.	Agree.	10
	Disagree.	2
	Don't understand the statement.	1
	Putting them close to settlements creates large scale objections. Do they want to be close to these settlements? If not, work with them to find sites that meet their needs.	1
	What does 'well related' mean?	1
Not be located where there would be a detrimental impact on highway safety or the flow of traffic.	Agree.	12
	Disagree.	1
	This is always a source of heated debate.	1
	Very important.	1
Be of an appropriate size to be able to provide acceptable living conditions and provide for the number of pitches required, access	Agree.	10
	This is very vague.	1
	Size should be judged in relation to the local environment.	1

roads, amenity blocks, children's play areas and space for commercial vehicles.	Need to specify how many pitched per site.	1
Not materially harm the natural, archaeological and historic environment including landscape character.	Agree.	13
	A more detailed definition of harm is needed.	1
	Very important.	1
Not materially harm residential amenity.	Agree.	12
	Very important.	1
	This is a loaded question.	1
<i>Your suggestions for any new criteria (and other comments).</i>	Genuine travellers do not stay in one place. Will travellers come and go as their name suggests?	2
	Add to existing sites rather than identifying new ones.	2
	No further sites should be identified.	1
	The scale should not have a detrimental effect on nearby settlements.	1
	Why? Are new sites really required?	1
	Travellers choose this life to avoid paying taxes inc. Council Tax.	1
	Consider the travellers' needs e.g. fields for houses.	1
	Keep sites to a minimum.	1
	Don't create a concentration in one area.	1
	Are these sites temporary?	1
	We don't want anymore.	1
	Use old industrial sites.	1
	Already a site near Tockwith - no need to expand. New sites should be in larger centres where there can be greater integration.	1
	Criteria must be the same as they would be for non-travellers.	1

Homes for Local People

(Policy HLP3 of the adopted Core Strategy)

Question 9: What are your views on allowing some market housing on rural exceptions sites as a way of bringing forward more affordable housing?

Comment	No. of Reps.
Agree so long as it really does deliver more affordable housing. Suspicious that the market element will increase and ultimately the need for affordable will not be addressed.	6
Agree	5
Mixing market and affordable will make more successful communities.	4
Should not be allowed.	3
Affordable housing not really desirable in rural areas where public transport and employment are limited.	3
Encourages green field development and will no longer be 'rural exception'.	2
Each proposal should be considered on its own merits but there should be no reduction in standards.	2
It would just be a way for developers to secure permission and profit by saying they are proving affordable homes.	1
The council should lease sites to housing associations so they can build affordable homes.	1
Support so long as decisions are made with agreements of Parish Councils.	1
Affordable housing must be integrated with existing developments.	1
Need to ensure social housing is included in development plans.	1
Yes on a very small scale.	1
It is essential that we help the next generation onto the property ladder.	1
Need accommodation for elderly residents to enable them to move to smaller property in their communities. This would release larger properties for families.	1
Affordable housing in rural locations must be given to people with local connections.	1
Affordable housing is much needed so young people can remain in the village where they were born.	1
Restrict second home buying.	1
Unless owned by a Housing Association, affordable housing soon comes onto the market as 'standard housing' with the first owners keen to cash in. In this way the program will not be solved.	1
Small open market houses should be allowed in rural areas. By virtue of their size, these houses will be affordable.	1
What is the definition of affordable?	1
The Green Belt should not be sacrificed for badly designed affordable housing.	1

Jobs and Business

(Chapter 5 of the adopted Core Strategy)

Question 10: The following table sets out the current Core Strategy priorities for supporting the Harrogate district economy (Policy JB1). What are your views on these priorities up to 2035? Are they still relevant? Is there anything missing?

	Comment	No. of Reps.
Maintaining and enhancing the competitiveness of Harrogate's conference and business tourism sector.	Agree.	11
	Very important (this brings big benefits to the district).	5
	Harrogate will struggle in light of strong competition.	2
	Better transport links will be required.	2
	Too much emphasis on Harrogate.	1
	Already adequate investment in the conference centre.	1
Developing sustainable holiday tourism throughout the district and enhance it as a year round activity.	Agree.	17
	Very important.	2
	Tourism will become more important.	1
	Not required in Azerley Parish, enough provision already.	1
	Need to attract a greater variety of shops.	1
Market town renaissance in Knaresborough, Ripon, Boroughbridge, Masham and Pateley Bridge.	Agree.	17
	The character of the towns must be safeguarded.	1
	Should be encouraged as a matter of urgency.	1
	Very important.	1
	Increase year round tourism in these towns.	1
	Help needed to keep rural petrol stations open.	1
	Boroughbridge is vibrant whereas Knaresborough is suffering - need to consider why.	1
Supporting the development of digital and food clusters within the district.	Don't know/don't understand.	9
	Agree.	7
	Believe this is an EU directive best left to mainland Europe. Need to concentrate on diversity and self-sufficiency.	1
	Any land allocated for these sectors should be in	1

	addition to the usual level of employment land.	
	Don't agree.	1
Supporting the rural and agricultural economy and its diversification.	Agree.	16
	Very important.	4
	Not intrusive diversification/inappropriate development.	2
	Should be encouraged as a matter of urgency.	1
Developing mutually beneficial cross boundary links within the Leeds City Region.	Agree.	12
	We should also work with other authorities e.g. York and those in North Yorkshire.	5
	Very important.	2
	Not sure of the value of this.	2
	Why just Leeds?	1
	Benefits need to be spread across the district - not just Harrogate and Knaresborough.	1
	Yes but don't want integrated financial system, Harrogate will get less than its fair share.	1
<i>Your suggestions for any new priorities.</i>	Improve transport infrastructure and public transport.	4
	Increase the broad range of digital/IT/media industries in the district.	1
	We need to maintain our position.	1
	Priority should be given to light industry, especially high tech.	1
	Consider re-locating businesses to more sustainable sites.	1
	Harrogate is in danger of becoming a dormitory town for surrounding cities. This should be addressed to reduce unsustainable commuting.	1
	Green Technology.	1
	Need more start-up units.	1

Question 11: What in your view are the types of businesses that we should be planning for up to 2035?

Comment	No. of Reps.
Digital/IT industries.	10
Science, engineering, technology.	7
Start-ups and small businesses.	6

Tourism.	6
A wide range.	4
Business/financial services.	4
Must follow economic trends and be flexible in response to emerging technologies and business opportunities.	3
Higher skilled jobs.	3
Local energy production.	3
Retail expansion.	3
Agriculture and agricultural support businesses.	3
Service industries.	2
Local food producers.	2
Research and development.	2
Leisure activities.	2
Support for the High Streets of small towns.	1
Manufacturing.	1
Conference trade.	1
Greater home working.	1
Retirement villages.	1

Question 12: what do you think are the three most important factors that should determine the suitability of a site for employment use?

Comment	No. of Reps.
Good access and transport links.	23
Good public transport connections.	14
Excellent broadband, IT infrastructure.	9
Close to residential areas (within walking or cycling distance).	8
Not cause adverse impact on housing/not conflict with residential amenity.	7
In areas where employment is needed/where the right skills exist.	5
Whether the land is brownfield or greenfield.	5
Visual impact.	4
Not located in populated areas.	1
Whether employment sites already exist locally.	1
Minimal service costs/good cost to value relationship.	1
Available existing premises should be used first.	1
Environmental impact.	1
Accessibility of childcare.	1
Changing demographic.	1

Question 13: Do you have any suggestions of broad locations within the district that the council should consider for large scale employment sites (e.g. multi user sites of at least 10 hectares)?

Comment	No. of Reps.
Close to the A1(M).	5
Close to existing industrial areas.	4
Between Knaresborough and York, close to A1(M), A59 and the rail line (possibly Flaxby).	4
Any disused industrial or commercial sites.	2
To the west of the A1(M).	1
A1(M)/A168 corridor south of Boroughbridge.	1
Tockwith Aerodrome - good links to Harrogate, Wetherby, Knaresborough, Ripon, York.	1
Old airfields and/or barracks.	1
Goldsborough and Flaxby parish is <u>not</u> a place for commercial expansion.	1
Topcliffe near Boroughbridge.	1

Infrastructure

(Policies TRA2, EQ1, C1, of the adopted Core Strategy)

Question 14: Taking into consideration your vision for what the district should be like in 2035, what do you think are the most important infrastructure projects that the Core Strategy should seek to work with others to deliver?

Comment	No. of Reps.
Improved rail links with other commercial centres (including electrification, increasing capacity, new station at Knaresborough East, Starbeck level crossing).	13
Roads improvements to alleviate congestion (possibly to include new road building).	14
Better broadband speeds.	7
Investment in non-car transport including public transport and cycling as an alternative.	5
Improved access to healthcare.	5
Improvement to flood risk management (inc. surface water and sewage drainage).	4
Road maintenance (including in rural areas).	4
Park and Ride (bus and rail).	3
School expansion where necessary.	4
Gas and electricity supply.	2
New higher frequency local rail service between Pannal and Knaresborough.	2
Renewable/low carbon energy.	2

Town centre community facilities.	1
Local facilities in villages.	1
Flood protection.	1
Supporting schools in villages by allowing more development.	1
Cultural infrastructure.	1
Recycling and two weekly bin collections are an issue.	1
Waste reduction and recycling.	1
Locating jobs and the workforce close to each other.	1
Housing.	1
Develop a Harrogate District University.	1
Sewage systems.	1
Reinstatement of the Northallerton to Harrogate railway.	1
Hospital services.	1

Travel

(Policy TRA1 of the adopted Core Strategy)

Question 15: What do you think are the top three priorities for the Core Strategy up to 2035 in order to reduce the need to travel, increase accessibility to key services and facilities and to promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport?

Comment	No. of Reps.
Improved public transport links (especially buses).	19
A strategy to improve cycling infrastructure: routes (inc. on A59), parking, safety.	16
High speed broadband across the district to enable working and accessing services from home.	12
Locate housing growth close to employment areas and/or locate new employment areas close to housing.	6
Ensure bus services are competitively priced.	5
Park and ride schemes inc. at rail stations and Ripley.	5
More stations and trains on Harrogate to York rail line.	3
More car and cycle parking at railway stations; create safe walking routes to stations.	3
Reinstatement of the railway through Ripon.	2
Measures to encourage the use of electric vehicles inc. charging points.	2
Maintain services in existing locations.	2
More jobs in the Harrogate/Knaresborough area to reduce commuting.	2
Improve pavements.	2

Ensure development is linked to key bus and rail routes, and the local transport plan.	2
Supporting the aging population in rural locations.	1
More peripatetic service delivery.	1
Build pedestrian footbridges to reduce disruption to traffic flow.	1
Reduce rural speed limits on roads with particular hazards.	1
More car parking (free).	1
Support central Government transport initiatives.	1
Reduce traffic congestion.	1
Moving services out of Harrogate.	1
Cars etc. are getting greener so it is not important to reduce travel, commuting is here to stay.	1
Local support centres - to act as village distribution points, meeting places etc.	1
Cheaper rail service.	1

Environment and Climate Change

(Chapter 7 of the adopted Core Strategy)

Question 16: Core Strategy Policy EQ1 seeks to minimise the use of energy, resources, travel, flood risk and waste, set minimum standards of sustainable construction and design and encourage proposals for renewable energy providing their impact is minimised. Do you have any views on this approach or any new ideas for meeting the requirements of NPPF up to 2035?

Comment	No. of Reps.
Agree with current approach.	6
New homes that use much less energy (e.g. zero emission homes, super insulation).	6
Strict controls over wind/solar farms on land.	4
Avoid building in flood prone areas.	3
Support solar investment/incorporate in all new housing.	3
Hydro power should be considered.	3
The approach needs adequate resources for coordination and to enable enforcement.	2
Solar panels are having a detrimental visual effect (esp. in AONB).	2
Ensure water courses are free from obstructions e.g. dredge rivers, cut back trees, clear dikes etc.	2
Improvements to recycling system including local recycle points.	2
Turn street lights off at night; turn off lights in council offices.	2
All new homes should recycle water and make use of soak-aways.	2

Employ more sustainable construction methods.	1
Increase use of ground source heating.	1
More use of wave and tidal power from seas and rivers.	1
More wind farms.	1
Wind turbines are inefficient and blight the landscape.	1
Be more realistic.	1
Allerton Waste Recovery Park does not fit with these objectives.	1
Encourage more micro generation of energy.	1

Question 17: The current Core Strategy identifies local priority measures to protect and enhance the natural and built environment (Policy EQ2) such as reviewing the council's local Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, carrying out appraisals of the district's Conservation Areas and ensuring that new development incorporates high quality locally distinctive design. The majority of these measures have been/are being addressed. Do you have any suggestions for local priority measures to protect and enhance the natural and built environment up to 2035?

Comment	No. of Reps.
Continue the current approach.	4
The approach needs adequate resources for coordination and to enable enforcement.	2
Protect the countryside and green areas within towns.	1
Prioritise brownfield development over green field sites.	1
Limit the ability for any landowner to erect wind turbines. Concentrate and centralise these.	1
These areas have to be protected but should not just be 'chocolate box' towns and villages. There should be controlled growth. I'd like to see some flair 'a la Grand Designs'.	1
Support agricultural practices that enhance the landscape and promote nature conservation.	1
Protect Conservation Areas in more imaginative ways.	1
Stricter controls on Conservation Areas.	1
A Conservation Area should be established for Bewerley.	1
Take more notice of residents living in areas proposed for development.	1
Reduce green field development by using former commercial and industrial sites for housing.	1
Protect non-designated heritage assets, especially in town centres.	1
Encourage new developments to be built using local materials.	1
Work to bring all SSSIs and SINCs into public ownership.	1
Control activities at Tockwith airfield and bring them in line with the natural and built environment.	1
New developments should include open green space, tree planting and allotments.	1

The planners must listen to Parish level councils.	1
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Neighbourhood Planning

Question 18: Does your local community intend to produce a Neighbourhood Plan in the next five years?

Comments from Parish/Town/City Councils	No. of Reps.
Yes.	6
Yes; presently in draft form (n.b. Moor Monkton PC - HBC not aware of any Neighbourhood Plan work on going).	1
Yes; possibly in conjunction with neighbouring parishes.	1
No.	5
Interested in doing one; Harrogate Borough Council need to offer more support.	2
This is something that is being considered.	1
Maybe.	1
Unlikely.	1
No - the parish is too small to gain any benefit.	1
Unlikely, a plan from such a small village is not appropriate and would be at the mercy of large neighbours.	1
Unlikely, additional costs and happy with proposals in draft DPD.	1
Keen but costs were prohibitive.	1

Comments from District Councillors	No. of Reps.
No.	3
Unlikely.	1
Interested in doing one; Harrogate Borough Council needs to offer more support.	1
Yes.	0

Views on Any Other Aspect of the Core Strategy

Question 19: Do you have any other comments on the policies within the Core Strategy and any suggestions for new policy areas?

Comment	No. of Reps.
Need to recognise that town centres are changing, there needs to be more flexibility in order to respond positively to this change so they remain as thriving meeting places.	2
The current point system for affordable housing does not take into account local families, especially grown up children who can't afford to stay in their village.	2
Give greater consideration to the views of Parish Councils.	1
Need to recognise the transport available to support communities when providing housing.	1
Villages along the A59 should be given equal consideration to major settlements in relation to highway improvements.	1
Need to include areas such as Ripon when considering retail, leisure and other commercial development.	1
Consider infrastructure such as transport, waste, water and community facilities in areas outside Harrogate.	1
This question is not a good way of consulting. Better to have face to face meetings.	1
What are the benefits of amalgamation into the Leeds City Region?	1
25 years will be far too long before reviewing the plan.	1
Matters in rural areas should be taken as serious as those in urban areas.	1
Current CS prevents development in settlements below Class C due to lack of transport, shops etc. Existing residents accept this so it should not rule out all development. If small developments are supported by the community they should be given the go ahead.	1
There should be additional policies to protect historic and sensitive areas in Knaresborough such as Waterside and Abbey Road.	1
Planning decisions made by the planning department are inconsistent. They quote policy numbers but appear to be selective about the policies they apply. Decisions are not explained to communities.	1
Confidence in the system is lacking.	1
The current strategy is flawed - it is proposing a large development in our community even though it is against policies in the strategy. We have consistently asked for the development limit to be relaxed to allow small scale rounding off and infill that would be more in keeping with the village.	1
We question the 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' enshrined in NPPF where applications can be refused at parish and district level but approved	1

by appeal at national level.	
Our recent experience shows that it may be difficult to make many Core Strategy policies stick. For example a developer should provide 50% affordable but will bring forward several factors to reduce this quota.	1
The way that the survey is written suggests that a decision regarding continuing with the current A, B, C approach (with no housing in C and below) has already been made.	1
We'd like to see a visible Police presence in villages, ideally a return to Police houses in the community.	1
The current document promotes better access to community facilities including public open space and sport, however, Boroughbridge Leisure Centre is no longer run by the council so we now have to drive to Ripon or Harrogate to access council run play schemes.	1
Reduce Council Tax to a level similar to urban authorities such as Leeds.	1
Concern about cumulative impact of Harrogate's Council's development around Kirk Deighton and Leeds City Council's nearby development on the roads around the village.	1
Land around Kirk Deighton is very attractive to developers because of its position close to Wetherby and the A1(M). Preventing coalescence and maintaining an independent settlement is important for residents. This protection needs adopting into policy. We would like to see the area between the A168 and the A1(M) protected as a Green Wedge, along with a 'mini green belt' type designation around the village. These areas are displayed on an accompanying map.	1
This survey contains a big sweep of questions and the phrasing of questions is too broad.	1
With regard to present infrastructure (roads, schools, hospitals), Harrogate is full. Without addressing these major issues, no large scale development can be considered.	1

4.0 Next Steps

- 4.1 The results of this survey work will be used in the early stages of developing a new Local Plan that, once adopted, will replace the Harrogate District Core Strategy (2009) and the saved policies of the Harrogate District Local Plan (2001, Selective Alteration 2004). The new Local Plan will include an overarching approach to development and conservation in the Harrogate district up to 2035 as well as detailed policies and allocations of land for particular uses. In terms of the overarching approach, the document will set the level of housing growth and the amount of new land required for employment uses. It will include a strategy for accommodating necessary growth whilst protecting the district's high quality urban and rural environments.
- 4.2 Specifically, the responses within each theme will be used to inform the development of policies relating to the issues identified. In the short term responses will be used to develop initial draft objectives for the Local Plan alongside a vision for the future of the district, and

to identify a wide range of strategies to accommodate growth that will be investigated further. The initial draft objectives, vision, and options for accommodating growth will all be the subject of a district-wide public consultation during 2015.

5.0 Further Information

- 5.1 For further information regarding the development of the Local Plan please visit the planning policy pages on the council's website:
<http://www.harrogate.gov.uk/plan/Pages/planning-policy.aspx> Additional information can also be requested by contacting the planning policy team at the following address:
planningpolicy@harrogate.gov.uk or by telephoning 01423 500600.