



Planning Focus is a quarterly update on Craven District Council's local development plan & planning policy work

Feedback on Community Engagement Events



During June and July we ran a series of drop-in events designed to engage communities in a discussion about a new local plan.

In total, over 1000 people attended 20 events in 16 different towns and villages throughout the plan area.



Discussion & Feedback

Our discussions centred around some key questions about planning future housing and business development over the next 15 years, including where it should be located, how much is required and which sites are preferable. People provided their feedback at a Discussion Table, on a Post-It Wall and on Feedback Forms, after browsing a display of background information.

Feedback will be posted on our website

We've transcribed all of the feedback received via the Discussion Table, Post-It Wall and Feedback Forms; and we've summarised all other

feedback received in written statements and letters. These transcriptions and summaries will be posted on our website in due course, so that everyone can see what's been said.



We know that 181 Feedback Forms and letters have been received, but we haven't yet been able to count the exact number of Post-It notes generated by the Discussion Table and Post-It Wall.



There must be several hundred Post-It notes from the events and each one provides us with feedback.

Next we'll be going through all of the feedback in detail and it's likely that some common threads and key areas of agreement or disagreement will emerge. Where different people's ideas, suggestions, criticisms and points of view begin to coalesce, the right way forward to a new local plan will become clearer.

Already, from our discussions at the events themselves, we know that concerns, priorities and preferred approaches are different from place to place, which confirms to us that positive community engagement and

participation is essential to the creation of a successful local plan.

What Next?

By the end of this year, or early in the New Year, we're hoping to have put together a first draft of the new local plan, which will be the subject of further informal engagement starting, ideally, before the end of January 2014. This first draft will be as close as possible to a complete plan and will include a spatial strategy, local housing target, site allocations for housing and business development, a proposals map and related strategic policies (all in draft and up for discussion, of course!).

A draft plan may be ready for discussion early next year

We'll make as much progress as possible on other essential parts of the plan (i.e. those parts that may be important to you, but aren't mentioned above) and present them in as much detail as possible. If necessary, we'll provide an initial outline for discussion and details of additional work to be done.

Positive & Negative

We hope those of you that attended an event found it worthwhile, or even enjoyable. Hopefully, you'll agree that meeting each other and discussing things together on an informal basis is a good thing to do and is perhaps something we should do more often. Some of our discussions may have been set against a backdrop of local tension and dissatisfaction, and some of you

continued...

Community Engagement Events (cont.)

may have left an event thinking that it wasn't at all worthwhile or enjoyable. However, being able to have such face-to-face discussions is an achievement in itself. The next achievement, for us, will be to use all of the feedback we've received, including the negative, in a positive and constructive way.

Thank you to everyone that attended and participated—including members of town councils, parish councils and parish meetings—for devoting time and effort to the events; and thank you to those people running the venues, all of which were a pleasure to visit.



Local Plan of Action

Our 6-month update of the local plan timetable, which was due out in June, had to be put on hold whilst we worked on the Community Engagement Events. We'll get to it as soon as we can, but, in the meantime, this edition of Planning Focus—and the events themselves—will have given you an idea of the progress we're making and what will be happening over the next 4 months.

The last [Local Plan of Action](#) update is available at www.cravendc.gov.uk/LocalDevelopmentPlanTimetable.

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Site Checklists: Part Two

We've now completed the detailed Part Two checks for all SHLAA (Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment) sites that passed the broad checks in Part One. Initial checklists have been sent to landowners/agents to give them an opportunity to provide their own input for consideration. The checklists are a work in progress and in many cases we may still need input from statutory bodies like the highway authority and utility companies.

If you are a landowner/agent with a site in the SHLAA and have not yet received your checklist, please get in touch by emailing the team at ldf@cravendc.gov.uk. You can read more about the checklists and SHLAA on the [Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment webpage](#) at www.cravendc.gov.uk/SHLAA.

Thank you to all landowners and agents for their patience whilst we applied the Part Two checks, which was another job we had to put on hold during the Community Engagement Events.

Website Updates

Over the coming weeks, we hope to update and reorganise many of our web pages to make them more informative and user-friendly.

Keep an eye on the SHLAA page, for example; and let us know if you have a problem with any aspect of our web pages, so we can make the necessary improvements during the current revamp.

Event Stat's

20

no. of events

16

no. of locations

1000+

no. of attendees

146

no. of hours events were open

200+

no. of people joining our
planning policy contacts list

44

no. of Discussion Table sheets
produced

600+

Estimated no. of Post-It notes
used

181

no. of feedback forms & letters
received

109

highest attendance at an event
(Hellifield)

20

lowest attendance at an event
(Cowling)

3759

no. of times the slideshow
played



If you would like to have this information in a way that's better for you, please telephone **01756 700600**.