

Vision and Objectives



This section includes the vision which is a statement of ambition setting out what changes and development the policies within the revised Local Plan should seek to achieve in the area by 2039. It also includes Strategic Objectives which are the starting point for the Local Plan to achieve the vision as set out. Also in this section are Local Objectives which are an integrated response to local conditions in the Plan Area.



Vision and Objectives

Vision

Preferred Vision

The preferred Vision for the Local Plan 2018-2039 is a statement of ambition setting out what changes and developments the policies within the revised Local Plan should seek to achieve in the area by 2039. The preferred Vision reads:

Preferred Vision for 2039

In 2039, sustainable growth in the Richmondshire Plan Area's towns and villages supports the quality of life, health and wellbeing of communities and addresses their need for homes, work and leisure, through high quality and well-designed new development and the provision of services. This growth has also complemented neighbouring areas, by supporting communities in the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the regeneration strategy in the Tees Valley.

The towns of Richmond, Catterick Garrison and Leyburn continue to play distinct roles as centres for local communities and surrounding villages, offering a wide range of facilities and services. Their growth has led to improvements in links to and from surrounding villages and other centres.

Significant private and military developments will have been delivered, guided by the Catterick Garrison Masterplan. This will have transformed Hipswell, Scotton, Colburn and the main military sites into a sustainable and attractive living environment with a unique identity shared by local and military communities, resulting in a vibrant and renewed town centre, high quality housing and employment opportunities, accessible green corridors rich in biodiversity, a range of community spaces and improved infrastructure. Richmond and Leyburn continue to be important historic and tourist centres serving extensive rural areas. The two centres retain their distinctive character and sense of place whilst also offering a wide range of housing and employment opportunities. Similarly, reflecting their role and offer, the villages and countryside beyond continue to retain their high quality setting and character whilst providing local people with a range of housing and employment opportunities.

It will have a diverse, competitive and successful economy which has embraced improved digital infrastructure and opportunities offered by the upgraded A1 (M) and A66 as well as wider local and national infrastructure improvements. This has enabled more people to live and work locally, with commuting to and from the plan area reduced. The area has maintained its strong rural identity, with a rich variety of environmental and historical assets and has achieved a net gain in biodiversity. Local measures have helped the area respond, mitigate and adapt to climate change, ensuring the impact of development is minimised. Opportunities for renewable and low carbon energy provision and development have been pursued, creating and supporting more sustainable and resilient communities.

Justification

The preferred Vision for 2039 imagines a future for the Plan Area which reflects its local characteristics, the challenges it faces and its potential for change. Realising the preferred Vision is a role that needs to be shared by the Council, local communities, infrastructure providers and investors. The Local Plan complements other plans and strategies for the area by guiding development choices through the decisions of the Council as a Local Planning Authority.

The preferred Vision for the Local Plan is considered to be ambitious but realistic and justified by evidence. It has evolved from the Vision of the current Local Plan Core Strategy 2012-2028 and has been amended where necessary to reflect the changing local context, characteristics, challenges and ambitions until 2039.

Suggestions made at the Issues and Options consultation have also been considered and incorporated into the preferred Vision where relevant.

Alternatives Considered

There are no appropriate alternatives to consider as the Vision is an expression of all proposed policies and strategies that are in the Preferred Options Local Plan to address the Key Strategic Issues and Opportunities identified.



QUESTIONS

Do you agree with the preferred Vision proposed?

Do you have any comments to make on the preferred Vision?

Strategic Objectives

Preferred Strategic Objectives

In order for the Vision to be achieved a range of objectives need to be set. The starting point for this is to establish the main objectives for the Local Plan which are known as Strategic Objectives. The preferred Strategic Objectives read:

Strategic Objectives

1. **Overall change in Richmondshire should enable sustainable growth reflecting the needs of the area**, taking into account the great concern to protect its high quality natural and historic environment. This should ensure consistency in its relationships with its neighbours with similar or different objectives.
2. **A managed approach to growth ensuring an appropriate level of housing and employment provision which will meet local social and economic needs.** This will help to reduce commuting out of the Plan Area, provide support for the economy, support local social and community needs and provide for the identified need for affordable and accessible housing.
3. **Development and provision of services will be concentrated in locations which reflect a defined sustainable settlement hierarchy.** The strategy will seek to support the towns of Richmond, Catterick Garrison and Leyburn in continuing to play distinct roles as centres for local communities and surrounding villages, offering a wide range of housing and employment opportunities as well as facilities and services. The sustainable growth of these settlements will seek to encourage improvements to their accessibility from surrounding areas, and improved public transport links to other centres.
4. **Development in Richmond and Catterick Garrison will promote their complementary roles and provision of facilities.** It will recognise their close relationship in terms of provision of services and impact of development in one on the other.
5. **Rural sustainability will be supported, by**
 - a. Safeguarding local quality of life, environmental values and characteristics
 - b. Encouraging a more diverse, competitive and successful economy, with access to economic opportunities and increased self-sufficiency within the rural economy, in ways which should allow people to live and work locally
 - c. Meeting locally generated needs for both market and affordable housing, and supporting the social needs of communities
 - d. Promoting its rural identity, including supporting the role of market towns and tourism
 - e. Supporting communities to provide for their own needs

Strategic Objectives

- F. **Priority will be given to protecting and enhancing the rich variety of environmental assets.** This will include ensuring there is a net gain for biodiversity as a result of new development.
- G. **Priority will be given to conserving and enhancing the wide variety of heritage assets.** This will include sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and ensuring new development makes a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.
- H. **Development in the Plan Area will mitigate and adapt to climate change,** reducing carbon emissions and supporting opportunities for renewable and low carbon energy provision and development.

Justification

The preferred Strategic Objectives have evolved from those included within the current Local Plan Core Strategy 2012-2028 and have been amended where necessary to reflect the changing local context, characteristics, challenges and ambitions and also to reflect the preferred Vision proposed. Further revisions have been made to take account of relevant comments made through the Issues and Options consultation.

Alternatives Considered

There are no relevant alternatives to consider as the preferred Strategic Objectives have been developed to deliver the Vision and address the Key Strategic Issues and Opportunities identified.



QUESTIONS

**Do you agree with the preferred Strategic Objectives proposed?
Are there any other Strategic Objectives you feel should be included or omitted?**

Local Objectives

Preferred Local Objectives

In order to ensure the delivery of the broader preferred Strategic Objectives an integrated response to local conditions in the Plan Area is required which will support sustainable development, enable people to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life for future generations.

The preferred Local Objectives form the Policy Framework and build upon the Strategic Objectives, providing more detailed and deliverable objectives. The objectives will be tied to specific policies which are designed to ensure they can be achieved through their implementation. The preferred Local Objectives read:

| | Local Objective | Relevant Policies |
|-----|---|---|
| 1. | Thriving and sustainable communities are supported by locating development where it will enable people to access jobs and key services like education, training, healthcare, recreation and other facilities | SP1, SP2, SP3, SD1, SD4, H1, H2, E1, E2, E3, E4, CR1, CR2 |
| 2. | The need for travel is reduced and access to jobs and key services improved by sustainable forms of transport, such as public transport, walking and cycling and an improved road network making travel safer and easier | SP1, SP2, SP3, SD1, SD3, H1, H2, E1, E2, E3, E4 |
| 3. | The dynamic character of rural communities is supported across the whole Plan Area and their social and economic fabric is sustained | SP3, SD1, H5, H6, E1, E2, E5 |
| 4. | Local and Military authorities work together through the joint Masterplan to create strong and well integrated communities as well as sustainable services and facilities, which will benefit the whole district | CRSS, SD1, H1, H2, E1, E2 |
| 5. | Future housing and employment growth is accommodated in line with local and military population growth and is responsive to neighbouring areas | SD1, H1, H2, E1, E2 |
| 6. | High quality housing is provided with an appropriate mix of different sizes, types and tenures which meet the housing needs of local communities | SD1, H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8 |
| 7. | The adverse impact of society on the environment and the implications of climate change are mitigated and adapted to through renewable and low carbon energy provision and development | SD1, CC1, CC2, CC3 |
| 8. | The historic heritage, character and identity of local towns, villages and the wider countryside is protected and enhanced by ensuring that new developments are appropriate in terms of scale and location in the context of settlement form and character | NRSS, CRSS, LWSS, SD1, HE1 |
| 9. | The countryside, landscape character, wildlife diversity, natural resources and habitats are protected and improved, with a net gain in biodiversity achieved | SD1, SD4, NE1, NE2, NE3, NE4, NE5, NE6 |
| 10. | Local economic growth, including through rural diversification and tourism related development, is supported in ways which are compatible with environmental objectives and delivers increased prosperity for the whole community | SP3, SD1, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6 |
| 11. | Vibrant and prosperous towns are supported to function as service centres with a range of good quality jobs, businesses, shops and services | CRSS, LWSS, SD1, E1, E2, E6, E7 |
| 12. | High quality design of new developments helps to create healthy, attractive and safe places in which to live, work and play | SD1, SD2, CC2, CR1, D1 |
| 13. | Effective partnership between public and private organisations and local communities ensures resilient and sustainable infrastructure is provided to deliver the vision for the plan area | SD1, SD3, SD5, NE3, I1, I2, I3 |

Justification

The preferred Local Objectives have evolved from those included within the adopted Local Plan Core Strategy 2012-2028 and have been amended where necessary to reflect the changing local context, characteristics, challenges and ambitions as well as the preferred Vision and Strategic Objectives proposed.

Comments received as part of the Issues and Options consultation have also been considered and incorporated where relevant.

Alternatives Considered

There are no relevant alternatives to consider as the preferred Local Objectives have been developed to deliver the Vision and Strategic Objectives and address the Key Strategic Issues and Opportunities identified.



QUESTIONS

Do you agree with the preferred Local Objectives proposed?

Are there any other Local Objectives you feel should be included or omitted?