



**W**hat is your vision for Great Aycliffe? How do you want to see it develop over the next 20 years? What aspirations do you have for future generations? This is the chance for you to have your say, do not miss this opportunity! This is why we need a Neighbourhood Plan.

# GREAT AYCLIFFE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Read on  
for your chance  
to WIN  
**£100!**





# GREAT AYCLIFFE

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



### What can the Neighbourhood Plan achieve?

The Neighbourhood Plan can influence land and business use. It is a planning document which will make it easier for developers to bring business and developments to the town and make Aycliffe Greater.



### The Questionnaire

This questionnaire is available online at [www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk) on the Neighbourhood Plan page if you or other members of your household would like to complete the form electronically.

### What do we need to know?

#### *What's good about Aycliffe?*

Once we know this we can protect it from changing e.g. do you like the open green spaces, parks or general environment? If so we can protect these from development.

#### *What needs to change?*

What are your issues, what needs to improve? Would you like to see more facilities, better choice of housing, more jobs? Once we know this we can look at putting planning policies in place that can help this happen.



You do not have to complete the whole questionnaire. Each page has a different heading. If that topic isn't important to you then don't fill it in.

**DO** fill in any page which you feel should be dealt with in the Neighbourhood Plan.

**Your views are very important to this process.**

**All completed questionnaires will be entered into a prize draw the first prize being £100 a second prize of £50 and a runner up prize of £25.**





# Environment

The Neighbourhood Plan can influence the protection and creation of open space, nature reserves and allotments, sports pitches, play areas, parks and gardens and the planting of trees. It can also support the promotion of renewable energy projects, such as solar energy.



## 1 Is the environment important to you?

Extremely important ☐ Important ☐ Not Important ☐ Very Unimportant ☐

If you feel this isn't an issue for you, please move on to the next topic.

## 2 Should the Neighbourhood Plan protect our green spaces or allow development e.g. housing, community or parking facilities on these green spaces?

Green spaces	Keep (tick)	Why?	Development state all or part	What development?
Baliol Green				
Travellers Green				
Lee Green				
Kemble Green				
Clarence Green				
Rufus Green				
Trevor Green				
Maling Green				
Fenhall Green				
Atkinson Gardens (Aycliffe Village)				
Other:				

Unnamed greens: Please specify name of road or postcode e.g. Heild Close. Central Avenue, Old Elmfield School site etc

Un-named green spaces	Keep (tick)	Why?	Development state all or part	What development?

## 3 Would you like to see future housing development include green spaces in keeping with the rest of the town?

Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree ☐

## 4 In addition to green spaces we also need to know what other things are important to you:

	Important	Why?
More allotments		
Renewable energy		
Solar panels		
Planting of trees		
Other:		

# Housing

The Neighbourhood Plan can't say NO to housing but what we can do is influence the design and type of the housing we require. Over 2000 homes are planned to be built in Great Aycliffe over the next 20 years.



5 Do you think it is important we have a say around the type of housing Great Aycliffe requires?

Extremely important ☐ Important ☐ Not Important ☐ Very Unimportant ☐

If you feel it is not important please move onto the next topic.

To fully understand your future housing needs can you please answer the following:

6 Do you think your home meets your personal needs, now and in the future?

	Yes	No
Currently		
For the next 5 years		
For the next 10 years		

7 If you are planning on moving can you tell us when you are likely to move, what type of housing you may require and also how many bedrooms?

Housing type	Number of bedrooms			Where in Aycliffe?
	Now	5 years	10 years	
Starter homes (Low Cost)				
Shared ownership – you buy half you rent half				
Bungalows, please tick which 1) Privately owned or; 2) Social Housing e.g. livin 3) Private rental				
Homes for families with younger children (Mid-range) please tick which 1) Privately owned or; 2) Social Housing e.g. livin 3) Private rental				
Larger family homes, please tick which 1) Privately owned or; 2) Social Housing e.g. livin 3) Private rental				
Single person flat / apartment. Please tick which 1) Privately owned or; 2) Social housing 3) Private rental				
Homes for the retired / mature residents				
Sheltered housing for the elderly				
Sheltered housing for the disabled				
Live in / work units				



## Housing continued . . .

8 Thinking about future housing development, what do you think is important?

	Important	Why?
Design of the house		
Ensuring open green spaces are included in the design		
Renewable energy/solar panels		
Other:		

**9** Are there any areas of land which you think could be suitable for housing development?  
Please try and be as specific as possible to help us locate it on a plan.

**10** Any other comments?

# Retail

The Neighbourhood plan can develop planning guidance which encourages the improvement of the shopping provision within Great Aycliffe. National and Local Planning policies require any retailer or investors to look at any town centre location first to see if their needs could be met there. If there are no suitable facilities within the town centre or nearby, then and only then can they look to any sort of out of town provision.



## 11 Do you feel it is important for the Neighbourhood Plan to address Retail?

Extremely important ☐ Important ☐ Not Important ☐ Very Unimportant ☐

If you feel this is not an issue for you please move on to the next topic.

The County Durham Plan states that the County will support appropriate proposals that can improve the evening economy in Newton Aycliffe Town Centre e.g. Bars/Restaurants/Evening Entertainment.

## 12 Do you think this would be successful in Newton Aycliffe? YES/NO

13 Comments: .....

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## 14 Do you use the town centre to shop?

## 15 Do you use your local shopping centre? e.g. Cobblers Hall. Please state which one

	Never, Please say why	Daily	Weekly	Monthly
Do you use the town centre to shop?				
Do you use your local shopping centre? e.g. Cobblers Hall. Please state which one .....				

## 16 What do you shop out of town for? .....

## 17 Which shops do you use? Circle all that apply:

Tesco	Wilkinsons	Boots	Boyes	Argos	Post Office	Heron Foods	Aldi
Savers	Pound Stretchers	Co-op	Sainsbury (Cobblers Shops)	Select	Bon Marche	The Money Shop	Pet Shops
Vets	Cobblers/ Neville Parade	Hairdressers	Travel Agents	Hot Food/ Takeaway	Card Shops	Café	Bike Shop Neville Parade
Shoe Zone	Homeplan DIY	Newsagents	Estate Agents	Tanning Salon	Dry Cleaners	Local/Small Businesses e.g. love thy cupcake	Bookmakers
Florists	Banks	Local Chemist	Opticians	Local Butchers	The Learning Centre	Brighthouse	Other? Please give details

**Retail continued . . .**

18 Were you aware of the range of shops present across the town? YES/NO

19 Do you Shop online? YES/NO

If yes, tell us what you usually shop online for? .....

20 What would encourage you to use the Town Centre more often? Circle all that apply:

Cafes	Events	Arts/craft displays	Fun days	Bars	Restaurants	Different shops	Pop up shops (local businesses)
Click and collect (Buy online but collect in store)			Other? Please give details				

21 Is there anything else you would like to tell us?



# Service & Facilities

We would like to gather your view about the services and facilities that are currently available in Great Aycliffe or could be provided in the future.



- 22 Do you feel it is important for the Neighbourhood Plan to address our services and leisure facilities?  
Extremely important ☐ Important ☐ Not Important ☐ Very Unimportant ☐

- 23 If you feel this isn't an issue for you, please move on to the next topic.

## Education

	Sufficient Y/N	Insufficient? Why?
Pre-School/Nursery		
Primary School		
Secondary School		

	Easy to Access Y/N	Difficult to Access - Why?
Further/Higher Education		
Adult Education		

- 24 Community Facilities:

	Which community facilities do you use? Please tick.	If not, why not, please tell us why, please tell us why not.
Woodham Community Centre		
Agnew Community Centre		
School Aycliffe Community Centre		
Neville Parade Community Centre		
Burnhill Methodist Church		
St Clare's		
Evangelical Church/Horndale		
Aycliffe Village Hall		
Other		

- 25 Do you know what activities go on in these centres? YES/NO

- 26 How would you prefer to find out about what activities are available, please circle your preference?

Facebook / Newton News / Aycliffe Today / Community Centre

Posters in Notice Boards / Town Council Newsletter

- 27 Is there any area of the Town which lacks, or is short, of community facilities? YES/NO

If yes, where? .....



# Service & Facilities continued . . .

## 28 Health Provision:

	Which one?	Are there any barriers to accessing these and why?
Are you currently registered with a Doctor's Surgery?		
Are you currently registered with a Dentist's Surgery?		

29 Do you use any other health service e.g. Pioneering Care Centre? YES/NO

30 If yes, please tell us which one: .....

31 If you have problems accessing any health service, please tell us why?

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## 32 Leisure Facilities:

	Do you use Y/N	If no, say why?
Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre		
Oak Leaf Sports Complex		
Ruff and Tumble		
Planet Leisure		
15 Parks/Play areas, please state which ones		
One Gym		
Aspire Fitness		
Crossfit		
Youth & Community Centre		
Oak Leaf Golf Course		
Woodham Golf Course		
Other, please give details		

33 If you travel out of town to access leisure facilities, please tell us what and where do you travel to?

34 In terms of facilities what are we lacking? .....

35 Is there anything else we need to know? .....

.....

# Transport

Transport and access (including issues around public transport, roads, cycling, walking and access for disabled people) can be a key element of a Neighbourhood Plan and can cross over into a number of other areas.



36 Do you feel it is important for the Neighbourhood Plan to address Transport issues?

Extremely important ☐ Important ☐ Not Important ☐ Very Unimportant ☐

If you feel this isn't an issue for you, please move on to the next topic.

37 Please answer the following:

Issue	Yes? Tick	Where?
Reduce speed of vehicles		
Improved bus/train times		
Parking congestion - schools		
Lack of parking - business		
Parking congestion - business		
Cycle paths are they fit for purpose? Can you travel across the town/business park		
Footpaths need to be improved		
Traffic calming measures are needed?		
HGV traffic is a problem		
Disabled access is needed		

38 How do you travel?

	Daily	2-3 times per week	A few times a month	Occasionally
Car				
Bus				
Foot				
Motorbike				
Bicycle				

39 How many cars are in your household? .....

40 Do you have adequate parking at or near your home? YES/NO

41 How could this be improved? .....

42 Is there anything else you wish to let us know about? .....



# Community Infrastructure Levy & Planning

43

When considering planning applications, Durham County Council can require developers to contribute to improvements in the Parish. Which of the following improvements do you think would be of benefit to the Parish? (Please tick all that apply)

- ☐ Affordable housing
- ☐ Recreational facilities
- ☐ Public areas (e.g. Parks and Streets)
- ☐ Improved cycle paths
- ☐ Community facilities  
(e.g. Village/Community Hall Improvements)
- ☐ Subsidised local bus services
- ☐ Road infrastructure
- ☐ Improved flooding prevention



44

Do you think any areas of the Parish need extra attention? (Please give details and locations)

- ☐ Highways/road repairs .....
- ☐ Pavements and dropped kerbs .....
- ☐ Road verges.....
- ☐ Countryside footpaths .....
- ☐ Winter gritting.....
- ☐ Overgrown/neglected trees.....
- ☐ Street lighting.....
- ☐ Sewers.....
- ☐ Neglected properties .....
- ☐ The appearance of the parish .....
- ☐ The approaches into the parish .....
- ☐ Recreation facilities.....
- ☐ Vandalism .....
- ☐ Litter.....
- ☐ Fly- tipping .....
- ☐ Anti-social behaviour .....
- ☐ Crime .....
- ☐ Other.....

# General Comments

45

What are the three best things about living in the Great Aycliffe area?

1.....

2.....

3.....

46

Please rate the following in the Parish, with 1 being very poor and 10 being excellent

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Schools										
Green Spaces										
Leisure Facilities										
Community Facilities										
Housing										
Health Provision										
Retail Opportunities										
As a place to live										
As a place to bring up your children										
As a place to visit										
Employment Opportunities										
Friendly										
Safe										

47

If you had to choose three things to change about your area what would they be and why?

1.....

2.....

3.....

48

What would be your VISION for Great Aycliffe in the future?

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**Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan**

[www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)



# Town Council Services

As part of the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire we are taking this opportunity to ask you about the Town Council and its services. It has been a number of years since the Parish Performance Plan had a full review and this is the right time to do it.

Some of the things coming out of the Neighbourhood Plan consultation may not be able to be addressed by planning policies and where ever possible these things will be included in the Town Council Parish Performance Plan or passed to the most appropriate organisation.

**T1** The Town Council vision is to be **"A quality Council, working in partnership, listening to and speaking up for the community, to bring excellent services to Great Aycliffe"**

do you think this is still a suitable vision for the Town Council to aim to achieve? YES ☐ NO ☐

**T2** If not, why not.....  
.....  
.....

The eight strategic aims to support the vision of the Town Council are:-

1.	To provide good quality governance and management of the Council.
2.	To manage the council's finances and assets in a responsible manner.
3.	To provide accessible, affordable leisure facilities and opportunities.
4.	To provide pre-school education as appropriate in Great Aycliffe.
5.	To contribute to the environmental improvement of Aycliffe by managing and developing parks, play areas and green spaces.
6.	To help and encourage partnership working to improve the services and facilities for the residents of Great Aycliffe.
7.	To encourage the residents of Great Aycliffe to become involved in local democracy.
8.	To research information and make the case for Great Aycliffe.

**T3** Do you feel these are still appropriate to meet the aims and aspirations of the residents of Great Aycliffe? YES ☐ NO ☐

**T4** If not, why not.....  
.....  
.....

**T5** Please rate the following Town Council Services and facilities:

	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Don't Know
Fun in the Park					
Parks and Play Areas					
Pre-Schools					
Allotments					
Cemeteries					
Environmental Areas					
Oak Leaf Sports Complex					
Civic Events					
Oak Leaf Golf Course					
Senior Citizens' Excursions					

# Town Council Services continued . . .

As you are aware all local government organisations are being affected by the Central Government cuts to funding. This is making the continued delivery of services in many areas difficult although, this is not an immediate problem for the Town Council. However, it is important in the longer term that we ask what is important to the residents to be able to plan our work load, service delivery and future spending plans to respond to the priorities of the residents of Great Aycliffe.

Cost of Front Line Services	2012/13 £	2014/15 £
Environment, Works and Street Equipment	345,550	305,000
Parks, Sports Pitches and Play Areas	330,500	218,950
Oak Leaf Sports Complex	313,550	211,000
Community & Special Events	143,050	134,050
Oak Leaf Golf Course and Driving Range	87,250	40,600
Cemeteries	59,200	52,200
Pre Schools	40,200	32,150
Allotments	11,300	9,700
<b>Cost of Running Front Line Services</b>	<b>1,330,600</b>	<b>1,003,650</b>

T6

Make **three choices**, from the list below, ranking them in order of preference for which you see as the most important areas for **continued service delivery**.

Parks and play areas		Grass cutting and flower beds on Town Council owned land	
Public seating, bus shelters and Litter bins		Fun in the Parks	
Pre-school provision		Senior Citizens' Excursions	
Oak Leaf Sports Complex		Civic Events	
Oak Leaf Golf Complex		Environmental Areas	
Allotments			

The Town Council portion of your Council Tax bill (for a Band A property) is only £139.45 per year.

T7

Do you think the Town Council provide value for money for their services? YES ☐ NO ☐

T8

Are you satisfied with the work of the Town Council? YES ☐ NO ☐

If not, why not? .....

.....

T9

Is there anything else you wish to tell us about? .....

.....

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# About You

It would help us to analyse your answers if you tell us a little about yourself

## How many years have you lived in Great Aycliffe?

Up to 2 ☐ 2-5 ☐ 6-10 ☐ 11-20 ☐ 21-35 ☐ 36-50 ☐ 51-70 ☐ 70+ ☐

## Which age group do you fall in to?

Under 11 ☐ 11-17 ☐ 18-29 ☐ 30-44 ☐ 45-59 ☐ 60-70 ☐ Over 70 ☐

## Which best describes your household?

Single ☐ Couple ☐ Family ☐ Friends ☐ Retired ☐ Other ☐

Do you or anyone in your household work in Aycliffe? YES/NO

Do you have any school age children? YES/NO

If YES – please give age(s)

## Where were you born?

Aycliffe ☐ Co Durham ☐ Elsewhere in UK ☐ Not in the UK ☐

In order to help us understand the make-up of the people of Great Aycliffe please tell us to which of these groups do you consider you belong - please tick as appropriate

### White

British ☐  
Irish ☐  
Any other White background ☐

### Black/Black British

Caribbean ☐  
African ☐  
Any other Black background ☐

### Mixed Asian

White and Black Caribbean ☐ Indian ☐  
White and Black African ☐ Pakistani ☐  
White and Asian ☐  
Any other mixed background ☐ Any other Asian background ☐

Chinese and Any Other Ethnic Groups ☐

**PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR  
PRIZE DRAW OPPORTUNITY**

# Prize Draw

If you wish to take part in a prize draw for **completed questionnaires**, please provide your name, address and contact number below. This information will only be used for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Please return your form in the enclosed Freepost envelope by  
**FRIDAY 10th OCTOBER 2014**

**1st Prize £100**

**2nd Prize £50**

**3rd Prize £25**

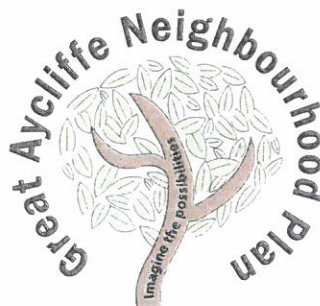
Name (please print).....

Address.....

.....

Post Code (**this is essential**) .....

Telephone.....



**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO  
ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT  
GREAT AYCLIFFE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**