

# GANP Vision and Themes

**“To make Great Aycliffe a vibrant community** the Neighbourhood Plan will seek to enhance the natural environment, support and encourage high quality housing, local jobs and improved retail and leisure facilities in a healthy, green and attractive town”

## Theme 1

### Environment

To maintain and enhance the environment for the community the Plan will:

- Protect and enhance Great Aycliffe’s most important ‘green spaces’
- Future housing developments to include substantial open green space to provide a village feel
- Part development of some green spaces to alleviate parking issues
- To retain and protect the green and leafy character of our area

## Theme 4

### Aycliffe Village

To protect Aycliffe Village from urban sprawl the Plan will:

- Develop a settlement boundary around Aycliffe Village to maintain the village status yet leaving sufficient space for future growth
- Utilise brownfield sites for future developments
- Enhance the natural environment

## Theme 2

### Housing

All future developments will meet the needs of residents, be well designed and aim to:

- Ensure that developments include a suitable mix of housing to meet local needs and provide a range of dwelling sizes to help foster a balanced community with homes in all sections of the market
- Provide adequate parking according to house type
- Be of the highest quality design
- Support the redevelopment of brownfield sites to housing where appropriate with due regard to ensuring the availability of employment for local people
- Provide appropriate public and private spaces around buildings in line with Garden City criteria
- Be energy efficient using energy saving technologies (BREEAM excellence level)
- Be flood resilient

## Theme 5

### Sustainability and climate change

The Plan will encourage moves towards a low carbon economy which includes local food production, high standards of energy conservation and the use of renewable energy through:

- Encourage development of renewable energy generation that is sensitive to the landscape of Great Aycliffe
- No further action Make land provision for allotments to support the expanding population

## Theme 3

### Retail, leisure and economy

The plan aims to improve the retail and leisure offer in Great Aycliffe by:

- Relaxing the change of use policies to make it easier to set up a business
- Supporting the long term plans of the Town Centre
- Considering additional provision for retail floor space to support the expanding population and long term housing growth
- Large scale housing developments to include an allocation for a pub and/or restaurant and a local retail facility
- Supporting the evening economy in and around the Town centre

The plan will help businesses create jobs by:

- ensuring that existing employment sites are kept for employment use, where there is an identified need
- Encouraging sustainable travel and accessibility to Aycliffe Business Park
- Supporting Aycliffe Business Park “Shaping the Future project” relating to access and signage

## Theme 6

### Transport and access

- Encouraging pedestrian and cyclist safety
- Join up cycle routes across the Parish
- Ensuring that the design and layout of new development prioritises the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and users of public transport over ease of access by the motorist
- Requiring new development to provide for an appropriate level of cycle and car parking