

# Harrogate District Local Plan

The consultation for the new Publication Draft version of this plan closes on **Friday 9 March 2018 at 16.30**. Full details of how to make comments are shown at [https://www.harrogate.gov.uk/info/20101/planning\\_policy\\_and\\_the\\_local\\_plan/550/harrogate\\_district\\_local\\_plan\\_emerging](https://www.harrogate.gov.uk/info/20101/planning_policy_and_the_local_plan/550/harrogate_district_local_plan_emerging)

Whixley Parish Council has already made comments on previous versions of the plan; some have been noted in this new version of plan. The Parish Council will be commenting once more and will hold an extraordinary meeting before 9 March to decide how to respond this time.

Residents of Whixley Parish are encouraged to make their views known to Harrogate Borough Council. It would be most helpful if any resident commenting can send a copy to Whixley Parish Council by email to:  
[whixleyparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:whixleyparishcouncil@outlook.com)

Harrogate Borough Council offers two main ways to send comments, either online or via downloading a form in either Word or PDF format. For ease of copying to your Parish Council electronically, it is recommended that you choose the Word option. Then you can type directly in to the form and attach the completed form to an email to [planningpolicy@harrogate.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@harrogate.gov.uk) and [whixleyparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:whixleyparishcouncil@outlook.com)

**It is important to remember that this is a long term plan and allocates land for houses, employment etc. up to 2035. What will our children and grandchildren need?**

The one proposal of the latest version of the Plan perhaps ‘closest to home’ for most of us is for a new settlement to the south and south east of Whixley. The main differences from the previous versions of the Plan are that (1) the location described is now larger, and (2) there is a background paper accompanying the Plan which explains why the Council has chosen this option rather than others it considered.

The Publication Draft of the Local Plan and its background papers are very lengthy documents and we give below some points regarding the new settlement proposal:

- The relevant Policies are set out in the **Growth Strategy (GS2)** and in **Policy DM4**; these propose only a “broad location” for a new settlement at Green Hammerton/Cattal.
- The boundary and other matters would be decided through further consultation, as a separate Development Plan Document (DPD). However it is indicated that the new settlement should provide for at least 3,000 dwellings, 5 ha of employment, relocation of the nursery, and on-site education, health, retail and community facilities.
- At DM4, para 10.2: “it is expected that at least 1,000 dwellings will be delivered by 2034/35 .... In the longer term a greater number of dwellings may be appropriate in this broad location”.
- At para 10.23: North Yorkshire County Council requires 2 primary schools to be provided, one in an early phase of development.
- In the Monitoring Framework, it indicates a target adoption date for the DPD by 2020.
- And the Housing Trajectory indicates the earliest start for new dwellings being built in the new settlement as 2024/25, and thereafter at about 100 dwellings per year.
- Hence reaching just over 1,000 by 2034/35.

Harrogate Planners have informed the Parish Council that:

- “The council intend to hold an informal consultation on the New Settlement DPD in September 2018. Further information on the key milestones for producing the DPD can be found in the recently updated Local Development Scheme, which can be found on the council's website:

[https://www.harrogate.gov.uk/downloads/download/91/local\\_development\\_scheme\\_documents](https://www.harrogate.gov.uk/downloads/download/91/local_development_scheme_documents)

- The New Settlement DPD will be prepared in consultation with key stakeholders and the local community. Further information is set out in the Local Plan in policy DM4: Green Hammerton/Cattal Broad Location for Growth and its associated justification. However, the exact nature of this consultation has not yet been finalised.”

The indicative timescale for the progress for the Local Plan itself shows an Examination in Public in winter 2018. The time to comment on the proposal *in principle* for a new settlement in the broad location of Green Hammerton/Cattal is now. The Borough Council will consider all comments made and decide whether to amend the Plan in any way before submitting it to the Secretary of State. Then the Examination in Public will be scheduled.

Previously Whixley Parish Council has commented that the Flaxby site (subject of a current planning application) would be a more suitable location for a new settlement of this magnitude. The main reasons cited were that the Flaxby site would be very close to the emerging new Business Park (locating new residents near to jobs), and that new commercial trade would be likely to benefit Harrogate rather than York. A new or reinstated rail station would benefit both those working at the new business park and new residents.

The key reasons that the Borough Council now propose the broad location for the new settlement to be at Green Hammerton/Cattal are (summarised by us from Page 68 of the New Settlement Background Paper):

- Two operational rail stations
- Access to A59 for bus services
- Greater scope to deliver funding for infrastructure and wider planning obligations
- Large area of land with scope to optimise for ‘quality’ development
- Proximity to existing local services to assist in early phases of development

The Parish Council would like to take your comments into account, and to enable us to consider them in good time before the extraordinary meeting, could you please copy them to us by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Thank you

Katy Brown

Clerk to Whixley Parish Council

12 February 2018