

9. Education

Students from Newcastle University Social Science Dept. will work in the school.

The proposed timetable is:

- January 2017 briefing
- 4–5 week programmes with year 8 students
- Presentation by end of March
- Report to WFP committee in May

In addition, volunteer students from Newcastle University Planning Dept are permitted to work up to 4hrs and could:

- set up an area map network
- Draw on other data, e.g. water supplies, to compare Wooler with other local areas
- assist with the design and presentation of the WNP

Nicky Black and PH D student Stuart Nicholson will also assist.

The involvement of the University may mean that paid consultants are not required.

The University will cover the participants' expenses.

10. Core Strategy Report

LP reported that the Working Group (LP, PH & SW) had reviewed the National Policy Framework and the Northumberland Development Plan to identify first the matters which are covered adequately, and which the WNP need not cover.

The Working Group also identified the matters the WNP needs to focus on because they have been covered in insufficient detail in the national and Northumberland documents.

The Group stressed the importance of safeguarding all that the community values while developing an action plan for what the community wants Wooler to be in 15 years' time.

The Core Strategy Report covers most of our concerns, including:

- support for micro and small businesses, and new and expanding businesses
- effective broadband throughout the whole area
- land for commercial development
- 14 new housing units p.a., at least 15% affordable

WNP could/should:

1. shape the housing development to retain young people, to enable people needing support and young people leaving home to stay in the area, and to attract people from out of the area
2. make the landscape the key point
3. focus on Wooler town centre, which the CSR calls a "service centre", having attractive 'entrance ways'
4. include water flows, which are complex
5. be specific about:
6. road transport
7. the needs of residents without their own transport
8. a review of the footpath and cycle path network.
9. consider how to enhance community wellbeing, for example by improving and/or increasing the leisure facilities
10. include the limitation of large renewable energy projects

LP will circulate the Working Group report.

LP

11. Preparation for the next meeting

Attendees are asked to look at the surveys and the Working Group report, and to group the topics together into 3 key areas. ALL

The meeting will work on the policies on which all the community will be consulted.

12. Next meeting: Monday 5 December, 1900 at the Cheviot Centre