

Media release

North Tawton to unveil its Neighbourhood Plan

The conclusion of nearly four year's work by the town's Neighbourhood Plan Group will be unveiled to residents of North Tawton at an event on Saturday, 10th December in the Town Hall. The Neighbourhood Plan which is in draft form will be printed and made available to all households in the town next year, but as a first stage, the policies on conservation and development of the town which are at the heart of it will be given an airing. Comments from members of the public are invited.

Two years ago a questionnaire went to every household in the town asking for views on what was important to North Tawton residents – what aspects of town life they valued, what they wanted to preserve, what would make life better and what were any areas of concern. A massive 40% response has kept the group busy compiling the results and formulating proposals to address the issues people raised.

When complete, following an examination process, North Tawton's Neighbourhood Plan will be adopted by West Devon and become part of their development plan.

At that stage, it must be referred to when future planning and development proposals are being considered by West Devon Borough Council in conjunction with any other agencies. It has a life span of twenty years and will be valid until 2034.

Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Group Jean Trehwitt said

“This has been a really important process and we have consulted local people all along the way. We hope everyone is going to be pleased with the policies that have emerged – on the building of new houses, for example, and on retaining the commercial heart of the town, on thorny issues such as transport and parking – and on how we preserve our lovely natural environment in a properly sustainable way.’

‘We are hoping for a good turnout on Saturday 10th at the Town Hall. We'll be there from 10.00 until 12 noon – and will offer some festive refreshments to those who come along!’