The Key Issues

Using your evidence base and responses from the consultation, what have you identified as the key issues for your neighbourhood? Once you have identified the issues and proposed a way of dealing with it, we can consider the wording of a policy that will achieve this – your LPA may be able to help with the drafting of actual policy.

Use the section headings (you may not need all of them) below to think about some key issues and add in any other relevant areas. Using the table format at the bottom of this section, set out the problem, proposal and justification for each issue that you want to address. It is likely that you will need to complete more than one table for each section to address a wide variety of policies The following are the key issues originally identified;

* **The proposed cyber hub**
* **Transport Infrastructure**
* **Green spaces and corridors**
* **Play and community facilities**
* **Sustainability**
* **Affordable housing**

Are these still relevant and if so can we add detail to the headlines? Here are questions we might ask about these issues and some secondary areas we might want to consider.

Housing including affordable housing

* What types of housing will be required in the future
* how much new housing is required?
* Where should new development be built?
* Which sites would you like to see protected from development?
* Do you want to have a say on how new housing should look?
* Are there residents within your community that are finding it hard to find a suitable home?
* Do you need to develop new tourist accommodation or student accommodation, perhaps additional supported housing for older residents is key.
* Consider the current settlement boundary – is this still the best boundary, does it need to be reviewed to allow for additional growth?

Sustainability

* How can you ensure that development in your community is sustainable?
* This section should have regard to the social, economic (including the viability of development) and environmental implications of development (including the consequences of not developing).

Infrastructure

* Is there a requirement for new infrastructure, or a need to safeguard existing infrastructure.
* Are there sufficient school places nearby?
* Are the roads sufficient to support any planned expansion in housing?
* Should the town or village centre be protected
* should there be restrictions on shops or pubs being converted to residential, on the development of edge of town retail etc.

Facilities, Amenities and Services

* What should be protected?
* This can include shops, leisure facilities, green spaces and parks, transport links, play parks, sports fields, pubs, doctors’ surgery etc.
* Is there a village hall or should there be one?
* Is there enough car parking?
* What local facilities are missing – what new facilities could your community support?
* How would these be funded and where would they go?
* How do you know that there is sufficient demand for such a facility?

Commercial Development

* Is there a need to develop additional land for employment uses, if so what kind of development should be encouraged and where should this development go?
* Are there local businesses or industries that might need space to expand?
* What steps can you take to encourage new businesses to set up or to ensure the survival of existing ones?
* Do many of your residents work from home?

Renewable Energy

* Have you considered a community energy policy?
* What forms of renewable energy might be appropriate in your local area?
* If there are to be large scale renewable projects in your area, where would you like them to be sited?

Use of CIL

* Communities with a Neighbourhood Plan benefit from an increased share of the Community Infrastructure Levy (where adopted).
* This can be used to fund community projects and the way in which this money is spent can be consulted upon and included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Landscape (inc. Open Spaces)

* The natural environment is fundamental to many rural areas and an understanding of the surrounding landscape, including any national or local designations is important. This can often be achieved without the need for a complex and lengthy Landscape Character Assessment, particularly in areas where large scale development is unlikely.
* There may also be green spaces or recreation areas that you would like to protect and this can be done by allocating these sites as ‘designated green spaces’ in your NDP.

Heritage

* The historic fabric of an area is key to its character.
* There may be elements that you want to ensure are protected.
* Listed buildings and those within conservation areas already have significant planning protection but you may want to consider any other ways of protecting important areas of historical or cultural importance.

Allocation of Sites

* Preferred sites for development can be set out in your plan, along with the type of development that you would like to see on that site. The process to allocate sites can be quite involved.
* Further guidance on this process is available here: <http://mycommunity.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/NP-Site-Assessment-Toolkit-Final-version.pdf>.
* You can restrict development to inside your settlement boundary (and amend this boundary if appropriate); development