

WERRINGTON AREA FORUM

Community Communication and Engagement Strategy

1. Introduction

Neighbourhood Planning forms part of the Government's Localism Act 2011. It delegates the right of communities to draw up plans within a designated planning area. All future planning applications will have to comply with the Neighbourhood Plan policies. Community engagement is necessary and important for several reasons. Being a requirement of planning legislation, it is essential in developing consensus, creating community support, finding out what people think, drawing on resident's skills and knowledge and produces a more realistic and deliverable plan and policies. At the end of the process, there will be a referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan where the electorate in the Neighbourhood Plan area will have an opportunity to vote yes or no to the plan. It is important that the right plan is delivered.

A community engagement strategy will guide the Area Forum to engage the community, interested people and organisations in the development of the plan. The community engagement strategy also provides clarity to consultees on how they can expect to be involved in the plan making process.

2. Key Principles

Werrington Area Forum will:

- let people know why we are engaging and use appropriate methods of engagement.
- be clear about what can be influenced and what can't
- use honest, accurate and unbiased information
- listen and respond to individuals and communities
- Include as many people in the process
- undertake fair and impartial engagement
- create a record of engagement activities to provide an overview of what consultation has and will be undertaken
- share feedback and information openly with the community, whilst respecting confidentiality
- use what we have learnt from contact with local people to better understand and engage with the community.

3. Methods

Werrington Area Forum will use the follow methods to inform and consult with their resident's and consultees:

INFORMATION:	CONSULTATION	INVOLVEMENT
Spotlight Posters, postcards, leaflet fliers, and banners Stalls at community events Drop In events. Website updates. Email, webpage news, Facebook messages Library noticeboard/resources Open meetings	Questionnaires/surveys. Online surveys Face to face interviews Discussion and focus groups Written consultations Drop in Consultation events Public Forum meetings Library noticeboard Online information	Workshops Public Forum meetings Schools/youth group workshops Local Business contacts Ward Councillors Community engagement

4. When will Consultation and Involvement take place?

Werrington Area Forum will inform, consult and involve their results and consultees at the following stages:

- Establishing a Designated Area and Gain Community Support for an Area Forum
- Identifying the issues and Engagement with stakeholders
- Scoping and developing vision and objectives

- Developing the Neighbourhood Plan and evidence building
- Drafting and consulting the Neighbourhood plan
- Pre submission Consultation plan

5. Who will be involved in our Community Engagement?

There are many groups, organisations and individuals that represent different interests in the neighbourhood. Werrington Area Forum will:

- Ensure that all parts of the community are consulted depend upon the subject matter of each consultation activity.
- Endeavour to identify and engage with those 'hard to reach groups' - people who do not know about what's happening, are not confident or able to get involved, may not wish or have the time to be involved or may be happy with the decisions being made.

6. Recording our engagement

Werrington Area Forum will

- record the results of the community engagement activities and will report back to the community on these
- review all engagement and consultation responses and will act on suggestions where possible.
- aim to keep those who have responded informed of subsequent progress.
- summarise the comments and evidence received from questionnaires, workshops and other forms of engagement on our website and as part of the plan evidence
- monitor the success of our community engagement methods, make a note of issues and concerns and where appropriate and identify areas for improvement for future activities.

7. Legislative Requirements

7.1 Pre Submission Consultation

Before submitting the Werrington Neighbourhood Plan to Peterborough City Council, Werrington Area Forum will be required undertake a Pre Submission Consultation and will:

- Publicise the plan it intends to submit it to those who live, work or carry out business in the area explaining where and what the plan is all about and how people can comment on the draft plan for a minimum of six weeks.
- Consult with any statutory bodies like Historic England, the Environment Agency, neighbouring parishes, and other stakeholders including landowners and developers who will be directly affected by the proposals set out in the plan
- Send a copy of the plan to Peterborough City Council
- All representations made during this six week period will be recorded together with a schedule of changes proposed in response to these comments.

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7.2 Submission

The Werrington Neighbourhood Plan will then be submitted to Peterborough City Council who will hold a further six week consultation period where the community and other stakeholders will be given a further opportunity to comment on the plan. Representations made at this stage will be submitted direct to the Neighbourhood Plan examiner for consideration alongside the submitted plan.

Together with the Neighbourhood Plan, Werrington Area Forum will need to submit a Basic Conditions statement and a Consultation Statement. The Consultation Statement will contain:

- Details of who was consulted about the plan (throughout the whole plan making process)
- Explain how they were consulted (throughout the whole plan making process)
- A summary of the main issues and concerns raised at each stage of the plan making process
- An explanation as to how these issues and concerns were considered and or addressed