



# Neighbourhood Planning Drafting your vision and objectives

Creating a vision and the objectives underpinning it can provide a clear direction for your Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). The vision should be an overarching statement (consider it a postcard from the future), which is supported by objectives to deliver that vision, through planning policies.

## We have our evidence base...what now?

The vision statement may cover what the area will look like, what facilities will be provided and what it will be like to live in.

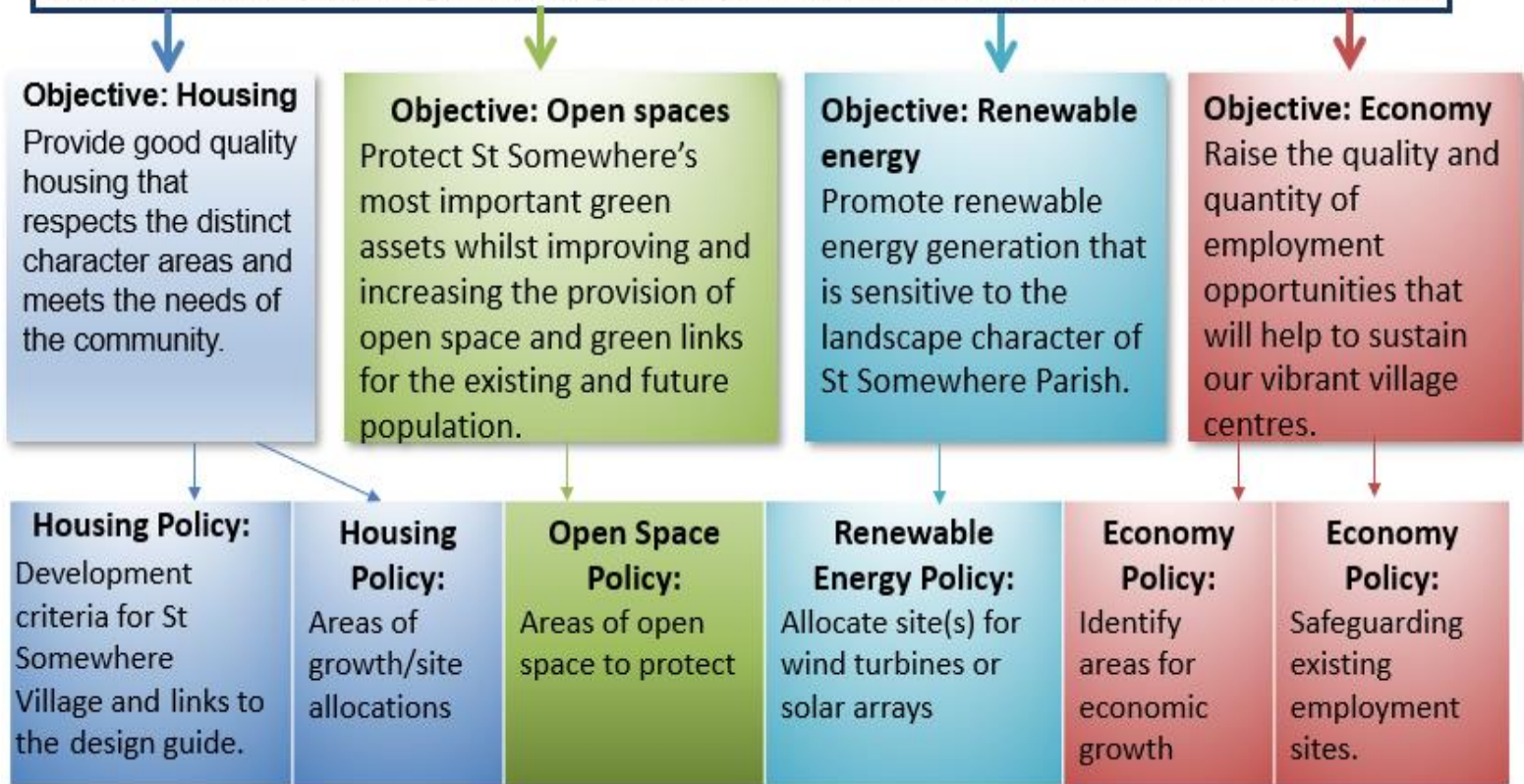
The objectives will be more specific and will set out what you want to achieve in order to help make the vision a reality. For each element of the vision there may be one or more objectives, depending on the different priorities the community have highlighted.

In turn, this will inform the development of a detailed planning policy.

**Remember: the policies must be in general conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework and the Cornwall Local Plan.**

### St Somewhere Neighbourhood Plan Vision:

*'Retain and enhance St Somewhere's unique rural and coastal settlements, through appropriate development and by ensuring that existing and proposed infrastructure reflects the community's needs.'*





### The following steps may help to inform the development of your vision and objectives:

- Gather together relevant information, including community aspirations, this work could be separated into theme groups.
- Review existing plans and strategies - it will be important to gather any information from existing plans, strategies or studies that has a bearing on your area. It is important to try and understand what implications these plans have for the community. These could include:
  - Previous community led plans developed in the area (e.g. parish plans, village design statements);
  - Cornwall Council's planning documents (Cornwall Local Plan, town framework documents and representations on those documents made by your parish/town council or other local community groups);
  - Cornwall Council Local Transport Plan;
  - Housing Strategy, Housing Needs Assessments, Empty Property Strategy.
- Discussions with stakeholders - these initial discussions can help to establish contact and identify any other aspirations for the area that have not yet been developed into a plan or strategy. The stakeholders could include: local community organisations; local businesses; local landowners; officers from public agencies and service providers as appropriate (for example: Natural England, Environment Agency and English Heritage).
- Identify strengths and weaknesses - find out what people consider to be the community's strengths and weaknesses. This can be done by engaging with residents and businesses using approaches such as surveys, community events, focus groups or discussions.
- **Check the draft vision and objectives with the local community to ensure it is representative of what they want.**
- The objective recommendations from the theme groups should then be discussed and considered by the NDP Steering Group, to decide how to create a list of policies for the NDP. There may be some contradictions between objectives, which is why it requires a collaborative effort to write effective policies, for example, an housing allocation policy that does not affect an important landscape designation. There is a policy writing guidance note on the toolkit to help you draft your NDP policies.