“I love Wells but I am concerned about its future. I feel detached from the political process and the neighbourhood plan gives me a chance to have a say.”

John Chettoe, Wells Neighbourhood Plan
“Planning has tended to exclude, rather than to include, people and communities.

Planning policy itself has become so elaborate and forbidding – the preserve of specialists, rather than people in communities.

We are allowing people and communities back into planning.”

Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Neighbourhood Planning
Means:

The POWER to make planning policy or grant planning permission

Local development plan

- Neighbourhood Plan
- Local Plan
Who’s doing it?
A growing movement

April 2013
A growing movement

March 2014
A growing movement

February 2016
“We have spent a year engaging with residents in a whole range of ways, everything from attending school parents’ evenings, to translating the information into Polish. We wanted everyone to have an input”

Cllr Matthew Brown, cabinet member for community engagement, Preston on Fishwick & St Matthews
The four basic conditions that a neighbourhood plan must conform with are:

1. Be appropriate, having regard to national policies and advice
2. Be in general conformity with strategic policies of the development plan
3. Contribute to sustainable development
4. Be compatible with EU obligations

The basic conditions in full can be found at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/schedule/9/enacted
"Do you want [local planning authority] to use the neighbourhood plan for [neighbourhood area] to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"
1,800 communities are neighbourhood planning across 72% of all council areas.

400 draft neighbourhood plans

150+ successful referendums

Avg Yes vote (88%) Avg No vote (12%)
Content and Analysis
Size doesn’t matter

Number of policies per plan passed referendum
The Power of Neighbourhood Planning

Neighbourhood planning policies can cover a broad spectrum of issues:

• Choose where new **housing** should go and what it should look like
• Encourage new **employment** uses
• Protect and enhance the **High Street**
• Decide how **community infrastructure levy** money is spent
• Protect and enhance **green spaces**
• Define and secure local **heritage**
• In the small coastal village of Lympstone: £6,389
• In the large village of Broughton Astley: £14,312
• In the Exeter ward of St James: £10,450
• In the deprived urban area of Heathfield Park: £19,500
• In the coastal towns of Lynton & Lynmouth: £27,681
• In the small Norfolk village of Strumpshaw: £4,220

Average: £13,758
What happened next?

- **Catalyst to engagement** - In Exeter St James, the neighbourhood forum has formed a Community Trust to manage aspirational projects identified within its plan. It has already renovated a communal garden space, and intends to work next on allotments and sustainable homes.

- **Changing attitudes** - In Woodcote, the neighbourhood plan helped turn local attitude towards development around from 70% against to 90% in favour, because the community now felt in control of potential development, rather than at its mercy.

- **Catalyst to further work** – In Uppingham, the community is now working on a Town Centre and Business Zone Plan to enhance and shape economic development of the town.

- **Improving relations** – the process of making a neighbourhood planning brings communities together and also improves their working relationship with local authorities.
Support
To simplify and speed up the neighbourhood planning system, to support communities that seek to meet local housing and other development needs through neighbourhood planning.

Consultation open NOW

http://ow.ly/YJRZn
Neighbourhood Planning mobilisation

To raise awareness and take up of neighbourhood planning

- Refreshed Neighbourhood Planning Champions Network
- Roadshows delivered by CPRE / ACRE.
- Capacity building programme for community organisations in deprived areas
- Joint Cabinet Office project working with Community Organisers in deprived areas
- National promotional campaign…
Resources for Communities

£22.5 million, 3 year programme of grants for communities preparing a neighbourhood plan.

- All groups can apply for up to £89,000
- Groups in ‘priority areas’ further £6,000 plus direct support

£6.7 million awarded to communities through support grants

#NeighbourhoodPlanning

1600+ grants to date
Peer Support

http://bit.ly/1gVcMbg

#neighbourhoodplanning
Locality
www.mycommunity.org.uk

Planning Guidance
planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk

decentralisation@communities.gsi.gov.uk

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