



PLANNING CARLISLE'S FUTURE

Key Issues Consultation January – March 2011

RESPONSES



CARLISLE
CITY COUNCIL



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local development framework



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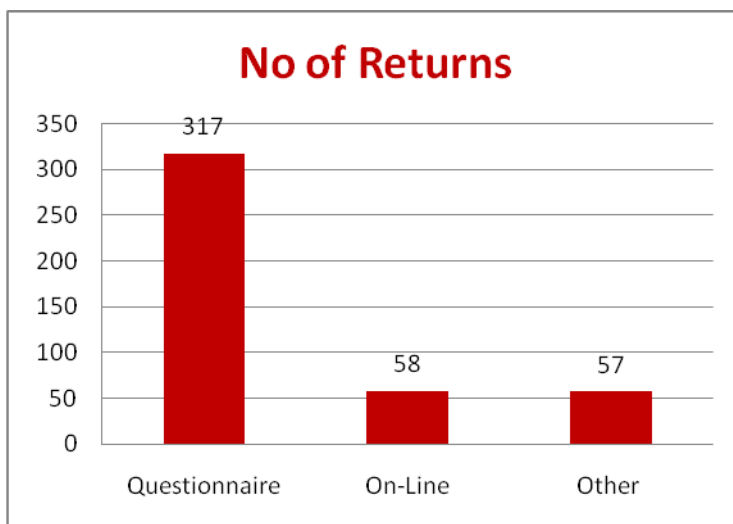
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OVERVIEW OF RESPONSES TO THE KEY ISSUES CONSULTATION

31 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2011

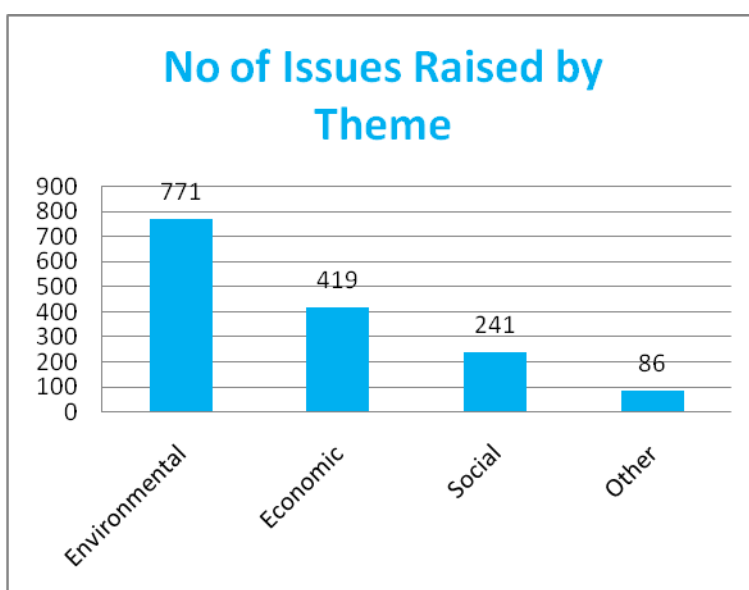
This consultation on the Key Issues Paper was the first stage of the development of The Core Strategy being the principal document in the Carlisle Local Development Framework. This allowed you the opportunity to give us your views on the issues and challenges to be faced and the priorities that need to be tackled by Carlisle City Council through the Planning Process.

We have been pleased with the 432 responses, 317 returned via the questionnaire delivered to all houses and businesses in the District, 58 on-line and 57 by letter, E-mail etc.



This compares to 73 returns when we consulted on the Key Issues for the Local Plan review in 2003.

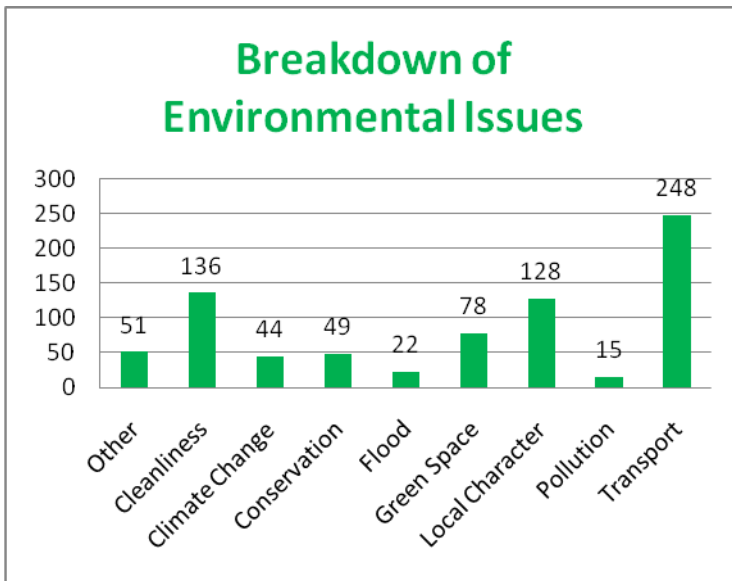
These returns raised 1,517 issues which can be broken down into broad categories:



This compares with 525 issues raised from the 73 returns in 2003.

The 'other' includes issues raised that may not be relevant to the Core Strategy for example difficulties with the access to documents on the web which will be taken on board for our next consultation.

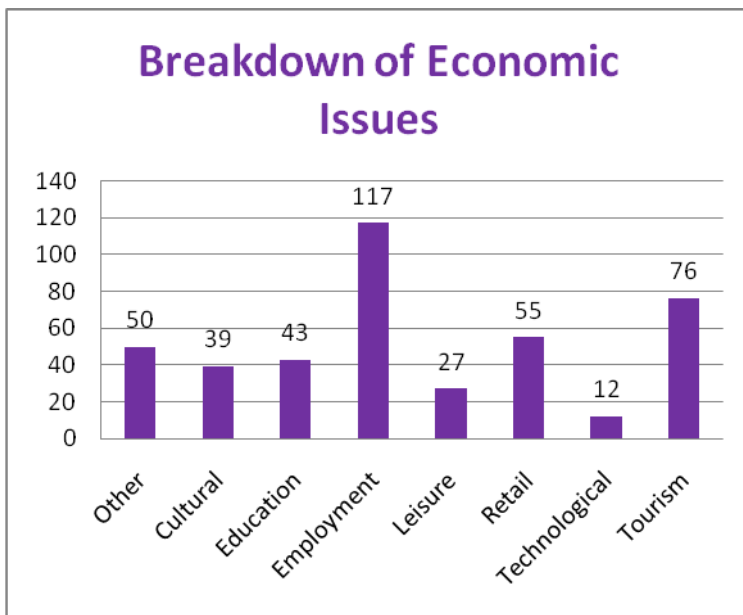
Environmental Issues accounted for over half of the overall responses and can be further broken down:



Transport was the main issue in this category and but covers all forms being road (including parking), rail, air, cyclists, pedestrians and public transport. Comments range from general condition to the development of new major transport links.

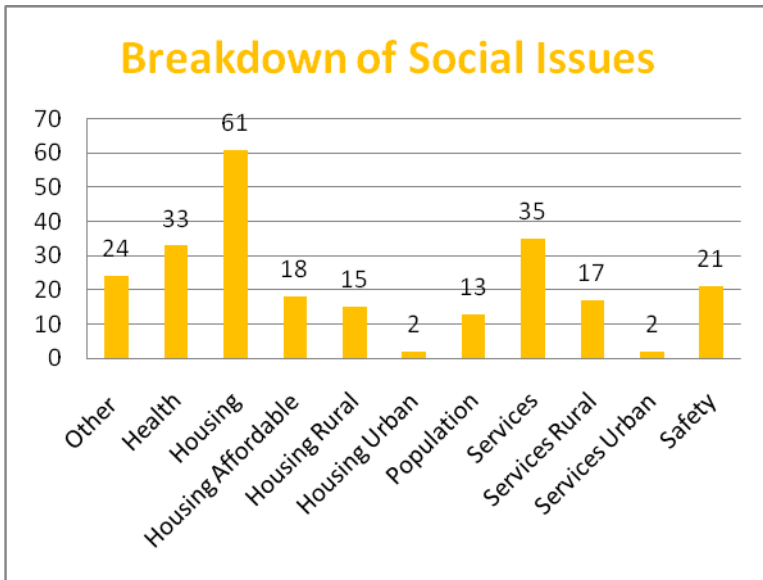
The second major issue is with the cleanliness and local character (including dereliction) within the district.

The breakdown for the Economic Issues again can be further broken down as follows:



Employment accounted for just over a quarter of the responses mainly focussing on the need to attract more jobs to the District. There was some overlap with tourism which is a major source of employment within the District. Together they accounted for nearly half of the comments made.

While Social Issues only accounted for around 16% of the overall responses, a wide range of topics was commented on and can be broken down as follows:



Housing was the greatest issue (accounting for around 40% of all the comments made about Social Issues) and they ranged from specifics such as affordability to the more general about existing and new provision.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW

The Planning Policy Team are now working through all the representations made to identify the Key Issues and formulating 'Options' to these Issues. Some however are not directly within the City Council's responsibility for example those relating to Highways, Policing and Health, but we will work with the appropriate authority to ensure they are aware of those issues raised and through discussions identify if, as the planning authority, we need to make any additional provisions.

It is intended that we will be consulting you again in September on the 'Issues and Options' Document.

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
<p>Previously developed land and buildings including degraded urban fabric, empty buildings and dereliction</p>	<p>A number of responses recognised the importance of developing previously developed land prior to encroaching onto green field sites. Similar comments were made in respect of utilising vacant and derelict buildings where appropriate before developing new properties. The main benefit highlighted in respect of this approach was potential environmental enhancement.</p> <p>Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encroachment of new development on green field sites ● Derelict land and empty buildings ● empty shops/premises. 	<p>The Government commitment to Brownfield Targets was removed in March 2011. The Core Strategy will devise options for locally devised targets, reflecting current national policy presumption in favour of sustainable brownfield development before greenfield sites. Property owners are responsible for the state of their buildings although the Council's Building Control Service can take action over unsafe buildings. There is a need to identify the location and ownership of all derelict buildings and work in partnership with owners to bring them back into beneficial use.</p>
<p>Botchergate</p>	<p>Botchergate and the southern approach to the City Centre was highlighted as a major concern to a large number of residents.</p> <p>Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dereliction/boarded up/vacant properties ● Poor environmental quality. 	<p>Botchergate has been highlighted through this consultation as an area that the public would like to see benefiting from a degree of regeneration. To achieve this, the Core Strategy needs to facilitate not only economic development, but also physical and environmental improvements and community and private sector involvement.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
Theatre & Culture	<p>A significant number of responses were received in respect of Carlisle's undeveloped/ limited cultural offer. Key issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of professional theatre ● Limited arts/cultural scene with a lack of dedicated venues to support its development. 	<p>There has been a significant level of response concerning the provision of a professional theatre widening the cultural offer. A theatre in Carlisle is generally considered to bring financial, social and cultural benefits to the population and visitors. A theatre can have a considerable impact on the city in which it is located. Theatre goers are likely to use local restaurants and bars, either before or after the performance. They can also bring together people of different social and economic backgrounds and different age groups. They are also places where people can volunteer and be part of the local community. The Core Strategy will provide a policy framework to encourage and enable this type of development to take place. It is acknowledged that private sector investment will be required to deliver these aims. Options will be developed including the identification of a site or an area for development of our cultural offer.</p>
Education	<p>Education was highlighted as a concern. It was recognised that improvements in educational attainment and raising aspirations are important factors in the economic growth and development of Carlisle. Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Low Skill base and levels of education ● Vulnerability of village schools and their importance ● Lack of primary and secondary school provision north of the river. 	<p>We need to work in partnership with education providers in the city to attract high quality jobs, encourage business investment and secure the retention of young people. The future of the University is crucial to encouraging young people to stay in this area, and in attracting students from outside the area. The development of more skills and knowledge amongst the community will make Carlisle a more attractive base for new businesses and industries. Also higher skilled people will have the opportunity to access higher paid jobs, thereby helping to improve their quality of life and stimulate the economy.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
Policing/Anti-social behaviour/public services	The majority of responses relating to this area cannot be addressed by the Core Strategy, however the points raised will be passed onto the relevant bodies e.g. The police authority.	
Environmental cleanliness	A significant proportion of responses made reference to issues of environmental cleanliness. Again these are not issues that can be directly addressed through the Core Strategy. The comments/concerns raised will be directed to the relevant Council department.	The quality of our environment is recognised as an important factor in attracting inward investment and in contributing to the health and wellbeing of the community. The City council will need to work in partnership with land owners in coming up with innovative and imaginative ways of tackling this issue. Whilst littering and graffiti in all its forms is not an issue that the core strategy can address, it is clear that the Council needs to investigate ways to make the public more aware of the scale and effects of street littering. In other areas Councils have used shock tactics such as suspending street cleaning for a day in a bid to make people responsible for their own rubbish. It also visibly demonstrates how much rubbish is dropped on the streets in one day. The responses received to this issue will be forwarded to the Area Maintenance Teams in the Local Environment Directorate.
Housing (including rural/affordable/housing for an aging population/Gypsies and Travellers)	<p>Housing is a broad major issue which needs to be addressed through the Core Strategy; its importance was reflected in the level of response received. Responses were quite varied however key issues were clearly evident.</p> <p>Key issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New housing development is focused on 	This is a complex issue which is linked to people's needs and service provision. The Core strategy will ultimately make clear spatial choices about where new housing development should go in broad terms. It will also provide the policy framework to ensure the necessary social, physical and green infrastructure is in place to ensure that sustainable communities are delivered. The Council is currently undertaking a Housing

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
	<p>the urban area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limited residential development in the rural area ● availability of housing land ● meeting current and future housing needs/housing targets ● mismatch between current concentrations of employment land to the north of the City and housing land to the south ● achieving a balanced/mixed housing supply ● Lack of housing to meet specific needs particularly in respect of the aging population ● Lack of affordable housing and first time buyers properties both in the urban and rural areas ● Lack of service provision to support rural residents ● diminishing rural population in more remote settlements ● Ensuring sufficient, suitable land is identified to meet the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller populations within the District. 	<p>Need and Demand Study this will provide us with information on the level, type and location of housing need. This will help us in determining the spatial distribution of housing across the District. The Housing Need and Demand Study that the Council is currently undertaking will identify specific needs for the elderly across the District. The Core Strategy will need to make clear how much housing development is intended to happen where, when and by what means. Rural villages with a good level of local services and amenities have the opportunity to absorb a certain level of housing growth to help sustain their services.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
Rural Economy/ Employment	<p>A number of responses were received in respect of the rural economy and its links with farming and tourism. Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More support needed for new and existing rural business development. ● Strong reliance on agriculture and forestry ● Lack of recognition of the significant contribution the rural area of the District makes to the economy of Carlisle. ● Lack of rural jobs ● Economic future of rural areas is dependent on farming and tourism. 	<p>The Issues and options will explore ways of making provision for locating new economic development within or on the edge of existing settlements where employment, housing and other facilities already exist.</p>
Rural/Urban services & facilities	<p>Various responses made reference to the provision of services and facilities in the urban and rural area, highlighting concerns about service protection in the rural area and limited choice in both the rural and urban area.</p> <p>Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The current hierarchy of service centres may be out of date, how should this be tackled through the Core Strategy. ● Need to ensure that growth areas include the provision of local facilities with good transport links ● Loss of rural services/facilities ● ensuring that services and facilities are accessible to all sectors of society and meet a range of needs 	<p>Services and facilities can only survive if they are supported and accessible to their local population. They are therefore dependant on a balanced community including new people coming in. Forthcoming Neighbourhood Plans will enable Communities to ensure that their neighbourhood develops in line with their aspirations.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●poor infrastructure to support service provision ●Lack of facilities outside the City Centre. 	
Health and wellbeing	<p>Health and wellbeing is a key objective of the Community Plan. A small number of responses received related to ensuring the Core Strategy sufficiently covers this topic area.</p> <p>Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enable growth and development of health facilities within the District ● Recognition of the importance of high quality surroundings and design in people's health and wellbeing ● potential loss of health facilities in more remote locations resulting in inequalities in access to services. ● Proximity of fast food outlets to schools 	<p>It is acknowledged that there is a fundamental relationship between planning and health. The Key Issues Paper and our Sustainable Community Strategy identified health inequalities as an issue. A number of County wide Partnerships already exist with a remit to tackle these issues. The Issues and Options Paper will explore the development of targets to achieve improvements in long-term health and wellbeing through design and delivery of new development.</p>
University	<p>The importance of the development of the university in relation to Carlisle's economic growth was recognised in a variety of responses.</p> <p>Key issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● University has an important role to play in delivering economic growth and the local economic benefits brought about by the presence of a student population. The benefits should be maximised. ● Potential loss of young talent if university fails to expand 	<p>The Council is committed to working with the University of Cumbria to meet economic and social aspirations across the district. The Vision for Carlisle in the Councils Corporate Plan is "Carlisle is Cumbria's Historic dynamic and successful university city creating growth opportunities in a sustainable environment with skilled people and international connections in a stunning location". This will be echoed in the Core Strategy as a strategic objective.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poor Graduate retention ● Potential issues with the choice of courses offered and the local job market to ensure retention of University Graduates. 	
Green spaces/recreation/ leisure	<p>This is a broad topic area and as a result a number of responses received have been included under this heading. Despite the broad heading the leisure facilities - particularly the swimming pool was raised as a significant issue.</p> <p>Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leisure facilities need to be looked at and improved, particularly the Pools. ● Variations in access to green spaces ● Limited allotment provision ● Out of date survey work e.g. pitch assessments/open space audit ● Need for sports facilities in the rural area ● Need a new pool complex for big competitions and an ice rink, which would attract people to the area and would be good for health ● Accessibility to open spaces ● There should be an assessment of current and future need in relation to open space, sport and recreation ● More nature walks and green infrastructure 	<p>A significant consensus of responses wanted greater protection and enhancement of existing green spaces. Various suggestions were made e.g. more involvement of community groups, more tree planting, introduction of new green spaces, better wheelchair access and more planting to encourage wildlife. In order to be effective in planning for green spaces, the Council needs to look at its existing spaces, (public/private), what they are used for and by who, and what condition they are in. The City Council is currently undertaking a Green Infrastructure Strategy which will audit the existing stock of open spaces and facilities and identify shortfalls in quantity and quality. It will produce actions for the future which will inform the options that will feed into the Core Strategy.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
<p>Employment (including low education attainment/low paid employment/limited job opportunities)</p>	<p>Employment is a major topic which needs to be addressed through the Core Strategy. This broad topic heading incorporates a number of employment related factors and therefore accounts for a significant proportion of the consultation responses received.</p> <p>Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Need for more jobs ● Need for a wide range of employment sites in an attractive environment to encourage new business to located within the District ● Too many planning restriction on both urban and rural business development ● Spatial imbalance between employment land and housing land ● Limited choice of employment sites ● Low aspirations ● Low wage economy ● Distribution of employment sites across the District ● Accessibility (to employment sites) 	<p>A significant number of responses were received to this issue, with a general consensus emerging for the need to grow the employment offer in the District. This will necessitate the promotion of change to increase Carlisle's contribution to the region's economy, and increase its status as a place to live, work, invest, study and visit. The challenges of poor performances in education, few graduate jobs, low aspirations, too great a reliance on low productivity sectors, pockets of deprivation and limited access to rural services and jobs etc. have the opportunity to be tackled by the development and growth of key economic and business sectors, scope for additional allocation of land for housing and employment in the site allocations DPD, the development of Carlisle Airport and the securing of the University of Cumbria's future in Carlisle. However, growing the economy is also reliant on providing additional housing, transport infrastructure and opportunities to acquire skills. The Core Strategy will therefore need to provide a strategic policy framework to guide public and private investment and policy decisions affecting future economic development in Carlisle.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
<p>Traffic, Transport and Parking including rural transport and accessibility</p>	<p>Whilst a number of the responses received were not relevant to the content of the core strategy and related to the current state of our roads and footpaths, some issues were raised which are included below.</p> <p>Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of good public transport network ● Problems with accessibility, particularly in the rural area ● Limited options for sustainable transport ● Lack of linkage between bus station and railway station ● Reduce cars in City Centre 	<p>At peak times traffic is perceived to be an issue in the City and some of the surrounding villages because of noise pollution, danger and congestion. the 3rd Local Transport Plan for Cumbria for submission to the government by April 2011. This is a statutory document that sets out how roads, footways, cycle ways, rights of way and bus and train services in Cumbria will be improved and managed. The new Plan will contain a strategy for the next 15 years, the measures and policies to implement the strategy over the five years between 2011 and 2016 and a rolling programme of implementation plans showing where funding will be directed. The Core Strategy will take forward the intentions of LTP3. Rural accessibility depends on the services and facilities available and the travel options for those that live and work in the rural area. More affluent rural groups generally have access to one or more cars. However, less affluent people are likely to feel constrained, especially as in more remote rural areas, with infrequent bus services, residents without access to a car need to carefully plan necessary trips to work/services and facilities. The young, unemployed and the elderly are likely to be the most vulnerable. There are a number of ways that rural accessibility can be improved including car sharing (both informal and managed), bus and community transport initiatives, e.g. the Fell Runner, and the use of internet and telephone shopping and banking.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
<p>Neighbourhoods and community cohesion</p>	<p>The importance of community and neighbourhoods was raised in the consultation. The involvement of communities in developing plans and strategies for their areas is central to the approach that is being taken in developing the LDF.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy will need to address this issue from two directions. Firstly we will need to follow the Government's principles for community engagement in planning, and to this end we have front loaded the process by involving the community at the very first stages of the Plan making process by asking for the views of every householder in the District on the Key Issues paper. We have also had early and effective involvement with key delivery stakeholders. This has offered people and organisations the opportunity to inform plan contact by sharing their knowledge and views with us. In addition the Core Strategy needs to plan for communities. In support of the Big Society the Localism Bill was published in December 2010. The Bill is intended to give communities new rights including allowing communities to prepare their own neighbourhood plans. Part of the work on the development of the Core Strategy has involved talking to rural communities and building a profile of individual and clusters of villages including drawing together key facts about the villages, looking at landscape characteristics of the area and identifying local issues. The profiles will be used to inform the appropriate level of development needed to keep these villages sustainable and support the existing level of services. There is likely to be a need to carry out a similar exercise in the urban area.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
City Centre	<p>A number of responses highlighted various issues relating to the City Centre. Some of these are cross-cutting issues and can be linked to other issues relating to derelict buildings and regeneration. Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No modern garish shop fronts which make all towns identical and would lose Carlisle's attractive charm ● Revitalise City Centre to make it more individual ● The City Centre is fast becoming fragmented with businesses re-locating away from centres ● Mix of old and modern vibrant city that will bring in more tourists and to keep university graduates here instead of leaving the city for a better job ● City Centre historical area plus residential (student accommodation is required). ● Green, fresh, restored, original, old fashioned like Abbey Street and Tullie House area. Plant trees and grass, cobbles and nice old lamp posts. Less modern low quality buildings. Mix old and new. 	<p>Many conflicting issues were raised under this theme ranging from spending too much or too little money on the city centre; the need to 'do nothing' or undertake further major projects; the need for a contemporary approach to the city centre; whilst other wanted no modern buildings. However there was a general consensus that the city centre needed to attract a diverse and complementary mix of uses, and be an attractive, safe and vibrant environment. It is considered that a strong partnership between the city council and the business and retail community can lead to successful and innovative ways of managing the city centre environment and any necessary regeneration. To improve the quality of the public realm will require a variety of measures including quality streetscapes, squares, parks, signage, seating, lighting parking etc.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
Retail	<p>Various issues relating to retail provision across the city was highlighted through this consultation.</p> <p>Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regenerate empty shops ● Shopping confined to north of town - too much central concentration e.g. Parking costs restrict customers - they go to Gretna ● Supermarkets in the west of the city ● Too many supermarkets will suck the heart out of central shopping. We need to support independent retailers in City Centre ● Lack of investment has resulted in shoppers travelling to competing centres to meet their higher shopping needs ● New food store development should be resisted in the north of Carlisle ● Too many fast food outlets ● Core Strategy should protect the existing food stores in Carlisle to maintain its role as a sub-regional shopping centre by encouraging linked shopping trips between these stores and the City Centre. ● Facilitate development of rural shops and post offices. Encourage mobile service provision. ● Increase in expenditure will result in needs for new and enhanced retail and leisure provision within Carlisle, in order to 	<p>The additional issues raised in response to retailing in the city overlap to some extent with comments about the city centre and the need to support the central shopping area, keep shoppers in Carlisle and deal with empty shops. In addition, there was also recognition of the need to facilitate the development of rural shops and post offices, together with encouraging mobile service provision. Carlisle is the largest retailing centre in the County and draws in significant levels of expenditure from surrounding areas. Brampton, Longtown and Dalston are the next largest centres in the District, and Brampton in particular ...It is recognised that smaller local centres and village shops are important facilities, however, in terms of Core Strategy policies and developing spatial options for retail, the Issues and Options paper will concentrate on the role of Carlisle, Brampton, Longtown and Dalston, and their role in a hierarchy of centres, and their continued vitality and viability. The Core Strategy will also need to identify and plan for future retail need.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
	<p>avoid 'leakage' of expenditure to facilities/centres further afield and to ensure that the sub-regional role of the City Centre is maintained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● We need more local independent shops and boutiques● Flexibility must be maintained in the Core Strategy to allow for changing quantitative and qualitative retail requirements, including recognition that the existing retail offer of the City, particularly the north, needs to be nurtured and enhanced to ensure it can continue to meet the needs of Carlisle's residents over a period where the importance of multi-channel retail increases.● Clearly the Core Strategy must be informed by an up-to-date evidence base and our client is keen to ensure that a new Retail Capacity Assessment for the City and District is commissioned. In so doing the Council should: assess the need for floorspace for economic development, including for all town centre uses over the plan period; identify deficiencies in local provision; and assess the capacity of existing centres to accommodate new town development taking into account the role of centres in the hierarchy.	

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
Heritage and Tourism	<p>Carlisle's significance as a historic and tourist centre was recognised by a large proportion of respondents.</p> <p>Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Need to encourage continued growth, development and diversity of tourism opportunities available, especially to families and recognise the contribution tourism makes to the District's economy ● Carlisle should be branded 'ultimate day out in the north of England' focused on shopping centre, Tullie House and the Castle - historic quarter. Need to promote tourism in Carlisle like in York, Cambridge and Chester. ● Carlisle should be branded as a contemporary city as well as a historical city with better facilities, e.g. first class city centre hotels ● If dealt with properly tourism can create jobs ● Ensure the preservation and protection of architectural features of period buildings and protection of old buildings and sympathetic planning and design in conservation areas ● Should include the natural environment as a tourist draw - River Eden, Rockcliffe Marsh, RSBP reserve at Geltsdale, Solway Coast AONB, The Pennines, the Lake District National Park 	<p>The Vision in the Council's Corporate Plan acknowledges Carlisle's role as a Historic City</p> <p>Investment in public realm works will always attract supporters as well as objectors, however recent significant investment aims to establish Carlisle as a must see Tourism destination. Investing in the Historic Core and other heritage areas can attract further investment, boost tourism and have a positive effect on business. Within the district there is a rich variety of historic buildings which add greatly to the area these buildings need to be carefully and responsibly preserved and looked after. Neglect of a building is not a reason for it to be demolished. The Council will actively seek to work with owners to restore such buildings.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus on enhancing the rural tourist based opportunities - a rural heritage centre. ● Link Castle Street with the Castle better. ● Need to try harder to attract people but don't forget the locals residents. 	
Youth	<p>A number of responses made reference to youth issues across the District. These are not issues that can be directly addressed through the Core Strategy. The comments/concerns raised will be directed to the relevant Council department.</p>	
Rivers/Flood risk	<p>Rivers and flood risk are key consideration for Carlisle District; as a result a number of responses were received in respect of this topic in response to the consultation. Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Flood risk and development, the importance of Green Infrastructure and the flood defences need to be recognised in the Core Strategy ● The potential of the 3 rivers in relation to the environment, economy and socially needs to be recognised ● Water resources -potential issues relating to water abstraction and future requirements particularly relating to economic growth. ● River corridors should be protected from development. 	<p>In accordance with PPS 25: Development and Flood Risk, the Council has carried out a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) as part of its evidence base. Flood risk is an issue of considerable concern, and will be a key factor in determining the scale and location of development in the subsequent site allocations DPD. The Core Strategy will need to protect communities from flood risk, and adopt a sequential approach to determine the suitability of land for development in flood risk areas. The Core Strategy will also need to enable the implementation of measures to mitigate flood risk across the district. This will require joint working with other organisations including the Environment Agency, to ensure that any measures taken to mitigate flood risk are effective, viable, attractive and enhance the public realm. It will also need to ensure that any residual risk can be safely managed.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
Climate change/renewable energy	<p>The responses to the climate change and renewable energy issue reflected the importance of this issue. A large number of responses were received in response to the consultation, covering the following Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● the role of trees and woodlands needs special recognition; means of reducing energy consumption should be tackled; encourage self-sufficiency in energy; reduce car use; ● drive for more renewable energy from a variety of sources; ● support for the highlighting of climate change as an issue; ● need to plan for a low carbon future; ● the Environment Agency raised the issue of contaminated land as a priority; ● need for Core Strategy to include a strong cross cutting policy on climate change; ● sustainable building techniques; ● environmentally friendly methods of procurement of goods and services, energy and water use, travel, waste, recycling, construction and design. 	<p>Climate change and renewable energy have emerged as a key cross cutting issue. It is now widely accepted that our activities which lead to greenhouse gas emissions are a key driver of climate change. The current approach to climate change issues tends to be reactive by accommodating adverse effects, e.g. the recently constructed flood defences in the City. (Key issues dealt with elsewhere that relates to the climate change issue include those relating to flood risk). However, the implications in terms of global warming range from impacts on landscape character, biodiversity and nature conservation to the agricultural economy. The Core Strategy will need to take a pro-active approach towards climate change by aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, ensuring new construction includes sustainable building techniques and through the promotion of a range of renewable energy sources. In addition there is a recognition of the need to grow the green economy as this covers a wide range of low carbon business activities.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

Core Topic	Key Issue Summary	Response
<p>Vision for Carlisle</p>	<p>The potential for Carlisle District to grow was highlighted with a number of suggestions for how this could be achieved. However, a number of respondents wanted Carlisle to remain the same.</p> <p>Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Accurate population forecasts and predictions based on verifiable facts should be used - no out dated information, to help enable long term economic development and sufficient land for residential development to meet these needs ● need to increase the population of Carlisle and drive economic growth ● We have potential due to natural geographic, heritage and transport assets ● Support economic recovery to the south of the city to address the present north-south imbalance ● Need development in west Carlisle and in rural areas to support rural services and schools ● Development which strengthens Carlisle's role as a regional centre for business, commerce, shopping, leisure, culture and tourism, respect and enhancement of Carlisle's historic character and development to facilitate expansion of the city to the south and west 	<p>The Government's overall objectives for planning as set out in PPS 1 - Delivering Sustainable Development identifies sustainable development as the core principle underpinning the planning system; that planning should ensure a better quality of life for everyone, both now and for future generations. The particular challenges facing Carlisle include the need to improve economic performance and raise earnings, deliver sufficient homes to meet needs, improve accessibility etc. The Core Strategy needs to deliver the spatial aspects of the Sustainable Community Strategy 'A Community Plan for Carlisle and District 2011-2016'. This sets out a vision for the future, with an intent to grow the economy to provide positive and progressive employment opportunities for local people, and that the community are able to contribute fully and support Carlisle's growth. As such there will need to be a certain level of growth and change to meet these aspirations.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

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	<p>should be supported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More progressive planning to encourage inward investment - simplify the planning process where appropriate ● Ensure Carlisle is the focus of transport and communication as it is at the cross road of train and road links for the North West ● Resist inappropriate development both in the City and rural areas ● Ensure any new housing is traditional in style and appropriate for the size of the settlement ● New building should be within village boundaries and not outside ● Conservation areas and significant buildings should be maintained as they are now 	
Infrastructure	<p>Variety of issues however one issue came out to be highlighted most frequently: Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● need investment in communication/broadband access (especially for rural areas) 	<p>An infrastructure delivery plan will need to be prepared alongside the Core Strategy. It will need to detail the infrastructure identified by the Council and other service providers as being needed to support the delivery of the Core Strategy. It is likely that infrastructure requirements will need to be categorised into critical, necessary and preferred, and cover areas such as transport, green infrastructure, social infrastructure and utility services. In relation to broadband it is recognised that increasing the take up and effective use of broadband is both a District and County wide issue. All local communities would benefit from fast broadband access to enable continued growth</p>

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		<p>of ICT and internet based business, the home based business sector and to provide greater opportunities for everyday life to be better connected. The Core Strategy could, through policy, set out the framework within which the Council will seek to work with infrastructure providers to identify and deliver any necessary infrastructure to support the proposed level of growth in the District.</p>
<p>Environment/Biodiversity/Designations</p>	<p>A number of issues were highlighted relating to the rich environment of the District and its protection. Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emphasis should be given to the protection of all areas of ancient woodland and to ancient/veteran trees; also to habitat protection for priority species ● Conserve the green spaces and create more green spaces i.e. nature reserves ● Accessibility to open spaces ● Limit development on green space ● Carlisle has a unique location in that it is able to offer quick and easy access to unparalleled countryside, environment and natural habitats ● Woods provide a range of social, economic and environmental benefits and woodland has been shown to contribute to 10 of the 20 quality of life indicators for the UK. ● High quality landscape should be 	<p>The District is exceptionally rich in wildlife and landscapes. Throughout the District there are many sites which support important habitats for a variety of species, and many of these sites are designated under the European Habitats Directive as sites of European importance, e.g. the River Eden and the Solway Coast. Likewise some of the District's countryside is covered by AONB status (Solway Coast and North Pennines), and the need to preserve and enhance the quality and setting of the AONBs will be addressed by the Core Strategy. There are many other attractive landscapes in the District, and these combine to form a network of natural habitats. Biodiversity is a key factor in the achievement of sustainability and as such will be addressed by policy in the Core Strategy. Biodiversity and landscape can be affected by a wide range of development proposals and a strong policy framework will ensure that both are protected and enhanced. When drawing up this policy framework we will take account of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan, the England Biodiversity Strategy and the County</p>

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	<p>preserved and protected</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Impact on the landscape of the intensification of agricultural methods ● Ancient woodland should be given strong, and preferably absolute protection. ● The number of SSSIs in Carlisle should be noted, noting that all SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites are SSSIs. Mention should also be made of the numerous County Wildlife Sites, ancient woodland, the 11 Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) and the National Nature Reserve at Walton Moss. 	<p>Biodiversity Action Plan. However, the Core Strategy will not identify individual sites and landscapes, rather it will set out strategic objectives for cross cutting topics likely to affect biodiversity and landscape, such as sustainable development, climate change and green infrastructure.</p>
<p>Demographics including planning for an aging population</p>	<p>There are various suggestions as to how the population of Carlisle will grow and at what rate over this plan period. Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Economic strategy for Carlisle - Growing Carlisle - states that the underlying theme is that Carlisle's economy needs to make a fundamental shift to avoid facing decline in real terms. Its population needs to grow to support this economic shift and give Carlisle the critical mass it needs to function as a sub-regional centre. ● Carlisle needs to facilitate long term economic development and a sufficient level of land for residential development to meet the needs of this increase in population potentially to 114,470 	<p>The demographics of the District are important as they will help us to justify the housing target that is chosen for the District. PPS 3 states that when local planning authorities are planning for a mix of housing they will need to have particular regard to current and future demographic trends and profiles. The recession from 2008 onwards and the associated job losses in both the public and private sector, and the fall in the completion rates of new houses have caused a hopefully temporary blip in the local economy. The Core Strategy is however looking ahead to 2030. The intention is to be ambitious and confident about Carlisle's prospects, taking account of the fact that 29% of Carlisle's population lives in the rural area, and accordingly the Core Strategy will need to acknowledge that growth is needed to make the District's economy stronger and to support the range and choice of services and facilities</p>

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	<p>(POPGROUP forecasting, Cumbria Intelligence Observatory) over approximately the next 20 years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carlisle must attract people in the middle aged working group population as currently population numbers principally comprise young and older persons• Reference is made to the fact that there is a growing 'older' population which will have an affect on service provision.• Growth in the number of older people will be much more marked in rural areas and will have a significant affect on service provision• As the population increases and ages, measures are needed to help elderly keep safe, fit and in touch (evening bus services needed). Eventually more burial and cremation sites needed also.• Improved public transport and more support is needed as people are living longer.	<p>expected.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

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<p>Airport</p>	<p>A number of comments related to the development of Carlisle Airport. Key issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Support the development of the airport for business, tourism and manufacturers to bring investment to the area ● Develop the airport so that local people do not have to travel to Glasgow, Manchester or Newcastle airports to fly ● Favourable towards development that enhances the airport infrastructure or is in someway related to airport development. I would caution the prospect of permitting general industrial development that is not required to be at the airport as it is damaging to the environment and potentially crowds out genuine airside development. ● Carlisle Airport fully supports an objective of economic growth in and around Carlisle to provide both employment opportunities and associated economic, social and other benefits for Carlisle and the region. ● View that Carlisle Airport is a key employment site in the Carlisle locality and offers strategic employment generation opportunities for both Carlisle and Cumbria. 	<p>Carlisle Airport lies between Carlisle and Brampton and extends to approx. 176 hectares of land. It currently has three runway strips and is lightly used for domestic and pleasure flights and training. The Local Plan identifies 21 hectares of employment land at the airport as a strategic employment site. Previous planning applications to develop the airport have attracted considerable public interest, with the majority in favour of development. Public support for redevelopment expressed a wish to see regeneration of the airport, introduction of passenger services, enhanced business links to other services and markets, inward investment and jobs etc. The owners of the airport have stated a commitment to investing in the airport including the provision of passenger terminal facilities. The airport is subject to a current planning application 10/1116 for the erection of a distribution centre, gatehouse, canteen/welfare facilities, landscaping, new access, parking etc. The outcome of this application is as yet undecided. The core strategy will recognise the importance of the airport as an asset to the district and the wider area.</p>

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Viaduct Estate Road/Caldewgate	<p>Some specific parts of the City were highlighted as requiring urgent attention. Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●The main areas requiring urgent attention are: Viaduct area; Bus Station close to Railway Station ●A complete transformation of Caldewgate is needed - eliminate dereliction. 	<p>It is acknowledged that there are a number of key areas within the City that require regeneration, both through environmental improvements and economic enhancements. There are many acknowledged drivers for regeneration including tourism, culture and the arts, development of the retail sector, spatial planning, formation of public/private partnerships, adequate housing supply etc. For successful regeneration we need to take an integrated approach which joins up economic, social, physical and environmental drivers, rather than just relying on one or two key drivers. The Core Strategy will need to have the right policy framework to enable and stimulate growth and change and encourage inward investment.</p>
Core Strategy General	<p>General comments on the development of Carlisle's Core Strategy and specifically the Key Issues Paper were received. Key Issues picked up as a result of consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Question- Is the evidence in the text to support the issues identified? ● The question was asked and the answer was that the LDF was designed to be flexible. That is to be applauded. It should take account/advantage of changing/emerging opportunities and embrace them. ● It was commented that the document would appear to be strong on facts but is considered suitably selective on choice of 	<p>The core strategy is still at an early stage of preparation. The Key Issues paper was the very first step on the way and it is hoped that by encouraging grass roots participation right from the start we will iron out any weaknesses and omissions along the way. As work progresses we will develop a deliver strategy which will show how the objectives will be delivered, whether through actions taken by the Council as a planning authority, or through actions taken by other parts of the Council or other bodies e.g. the Environment Agency.</p>

Key Issues Summary and Officer Responses

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	<p>issues and devoid of strategies to deal with the problems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The City seems to be looking tired. It will be difficult to address this without the help of the people, businesses and Planners. 20 years is more than adequate to rectify the situation - we just need to start now. We have a fantastic City as a foundation to work from, with parks rivers and the best surrounding countryside assets in the Country. We just need to capitalise on them.	