



FARNLEY
ESTATES

Scoping Report for Sustainability Appraisal of Farnley Tyas Village Framework Plan

Revised Draft September 2009



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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

- 1.1 The Farnley Tyas Village Framework Plan (VFP) is a development plan which is being produced in close consultation with the Planning Department of Kirklees Council, other Council departments and members of the local community.
- 1.2 A draft plan has been produced on behalf of Farnley Estates Limited and following consultation with the Council's planning officers, the company have decided that they wish to seek formal status for this plan as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) as part of the Kirklees Local Development Framework (LDF). In order to gain this formal status, it is necessary to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Plan and its proposals. This is a requirement of Section 39 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- 1.3 The approach adopted in undertaking this SA is based on guidance set out in "Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks" (ODPM 2005) and "A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environment Assessment Directive" (September 2005). This English statutory requirement and guidance is a derivative of the EC's "Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive" for the assessment of certain plans and programmes. The specific statutory requirements became part of English Law on the 20th July 2004 in the "Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004." The main aim of the SEA Directive is "to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans with a view to promoting sustainable development". In addition, the UK Sustainable Development Strategy "Securing the Future 2005" forms a core background document.
- 1.4 Farnley Tyas is a small village located in the southern part of Kirklees Metropolitan District in the Parish of Kirkburton. The village of Kirkburton is 3.0kms to the east and the village of Honley 3kms to the west. Both of these settlements provide a range of local services. Huddersfield is one of the Principal towns of West Yorkshire and the main service and employment centre in Kirklees District. The town centre of Huddersfield is 5.5kms to the north of Farnley Tyas.
- 1.5 The village of Farnley Tyas is essentially an estate village which lies at the heart of a rural agricultural estate comprising some 600 hectares of farmland and woodland. Natural England define this area as forming part of the Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe. The landscape of the Estate is generally lower and softer than the South Pennine uplands to the west and south. The Estate lies in close proximity to the urban influences of the settlements in the Holme Valley, to the West, along the A629 (Huddersfield to Sheffield Road) and the north-south valley system of the Fenay Beck and its tributaries to the east and the southern suburbs of Huddersfield to the north.
- 1.6 The Village sits at circa 250m AOD above its surrounding farmland and woodland (see plans and photo at Appendix 1). The Village is largely linear in nature and currently lacks a strong focus. A church, primary school (C of E) and a pub at present comprise the main community facilities. There are no shops and the great majority of residents of working age currently work outside the village.
- 1.7 Dairy farming was for many years the main agricultural operation supporting the Estate but static/falling milk prices together with foreign competition and the limited size of these dairy units compared to some other English farms led to the eventual closure of all of the Estate's dairying operations and a programme of farm, and rural diversification of the Estate was commenced. This has, to date, involved some rearing and fattening of beef cattle, new crop production and the introduction of rural recreation facilities. The last four dairy farms were all centred in the village and all had ceased dairy production by 2003. In addition to the adverse economic impacts on milk production it would have been necessary to considerably upgrade/replace milking parlour, dairies and fodder storage buildings to meet the requirements of farm assurance and pollution legislation. Given this combination of adverse economic circumstances

it no longer made sense to provide the capital inputs to upgrade these buildings. An Estate Strategy has been produced (September 2006) to lead and co-ordinate the farm and rural diversification programme in the short, medium and long term. The VFP is being produced in the full context of this Estate Strategy and one of the key aspects of the VFP is to create long term viable uses for these four farmyard areas which form such a significant part of the village structure (see plan photograph of Village at Appendix 2).

- 1.8 The village currently has a population of approximately 375 and the Kirklees LDF emerging Core Strategy identifies the village as being in level 6 of their settlement hierarchy in terms of scale, service provision and sustainable development context. The Kirklees planning authority have challenged the Estate to create a more sustainable settlement which is then able to accommodate change, particularly in the redundant farmyards, in the form of some new residential development, via conversion and new build, together with support facilities. Meeting this challenge is the main aim of the VFP.
- 1.9 The UK Sustainable Development Strategy aims to “enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life for future generations.” Four priorities are set – sustainable consumption and production; climate change; natural resource protection; and sustainable communities. This SA focuses on the social, economic and environmental considerations towards achieving sustainable development.
- 1.10 The Council planning officers have advised that in order to achieve formal SPD status for the VFP, it is necessary to meet the provisions of the SEA Directive. This SA process and the final SA document have been designed to meet the statutory requirements. The English Government guidance advises that the following five stage process should be followed:-
- Stage A:- Setting the context objectives, baseline and deciding on the scope.
 - Stage B:- Developing and refining options and assessing effects.
 - Stage C:- Preparing the Environmental Report/Sustainability Appraisal.
 - Stage D:- Consultation on the Draft Plan and the Sustainability Report.
 - Stage E:- Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the plan.
- 1.11 As part of the preparation of this SA we are reviewing the national strategy and guidance referred to at paragraph 1.3 above and we have examined the SA of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and the SA for the Core Strategy (CS) of the Kirklees Local Development Framework (LDF). The Kirklees LDF will eventually comprise a suite of Development Plan Documents (DPD’s). The two main DPD’s will be the Core Strategy and the Development and Open Space DPD. Both of these documents are in production and the draft policies and objectives for the emerging CS are of direct relevance to the preparation of the VFP. However until these DPD’s are finally adopted, the Kirklees Unitary Development Plan (UDP) policies form the relevant locally adopted policy context for the preparation of the VFP.
- 1.12 The SA for this Village Plan (VFP) will be based around a series of questions which assist the carrying out of the SA methodology so that this conforms with national guidance on this process:-
- What are the objectives of the VFP?
 - What is the policy context?
 - What are the key sustainability objectives to be considered?
 - What is the current background context against which the VFP proposals need to be assessed?
 - What will be the situation without the VFP development and community proposals? (the ‘business as usual option’)
 - What will be the situation with the VFP proposals?
 - How can the various impacts of the proposals be mitigated or enhanced?
 - How should the sustainability impacts be monitored?

2.0 BASELINE INFORMATION AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

- 2.1 The first section of this Scoping Report has identified in summary form the essential context within which the village of Farnley Tyas currently operates. It is essentially a settlement at the heart of a changing rural estate which has a close affinity with its surrounding environment and its rural economy while at the same time having important socio-economic connections with the settlement hierarchy in this southern part of Kirklees District.
- 2.2 The environmental and socio-economic issues facing this village in the future are essentially no different to those faced by many rural settlements in the northern part of England. However the nature and quality of the land and the proximity and strength of socio-economic ties within the settlement hierarchy are key factors which differentiate how the future of individual villages should be planned, which sustainability objectives are important and how these can and should be met.
- 2.3 In this section of the Scoping Report we briefly address the relevant baseline information for the VFP and its SA and the key features of the environmental context.

PHYSICAL EXTENT AND FORM OF THE VILLAGE:-

- 2.4 The plan and aerial photograph at Appendix 2 define the extent of the village and its essentially linear nature. There is a focus in the village but this is defined more by the intersection of local roads, Honley Road from the west, Woodsome Road from the north (connecting with the A629 Huddersfield to Sheffield Road) and Farnley Road from the south. Also the largest of the farmsteads are located in this focal area, Beech Farm and Yew Tree Farm. These local roads carry some through traffic connecting the A616 in the west through to the A629 to the east (see Plan 2 at Appendix 1). The disposition and extent of the farmyard areas and former dairy farm complexes is illustrated on Plan No.7 at Appendix 2. Beech, Yew Tree and Park Farm occupy in excess of 50% of the built up area of the village.
- 2.5 The Golden Cock public house is the only community facility in this focal area. The church and the Church of England primary school are the other key facilities located towards the western end of the village.
- 2.6 The village is predominantly residential in character and there are no integral business uses or shops. The majority of the farm buildings within the four farmyards are unused or underused. Some of these are listed stone buildings, while others are metal or asbestos clad farm buildings.

Most of the housing in the village comprises C18 and C19 stone buildings lying within the designated conservation area, the exception being, the modern housing at Butts Way/Butts Close which was built by the Council.

GREEN BELT:-

- 2.6 The plan at Appendix 3 is an extract of the Kirklees UDP Proposals map which shows the area of designated Green Belt surrounding the village. While the original purposes of the West Yorkshire Green Belt were to retain the separate nature and identify of the five main towns and to prevent urban sprawl these have been extended by the 1995 National guidance in PPG2. The main characteristics of Green Belts is their openness and the purposes include the retention of this openness and safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. Development in the Green Belt is strictly controlled by national, regional and local planning policy (Kirklees UDP policies D8 to D14). This places the emphasis on containing new development within settlement frameworks. Green Belt objectives however seek to encourage positive recreational use and enhanced access and biodiversity.

LANDSCAPE AND TOPOGRAPHY:-

- 2.7 As illustrated on the Ordnance Survey plan extract at Appendix 1 the village is sited on a ridge of

higher land with hillsides sloping downwards away from Farnley Tyas westwards into the Holme Valley, east to the valley of the Fenay Beck and northwards to the smaller valley system of the Lumb and Rushfield Dykes.

- 2.8 The village has a close physical association and affinity with the surrounding countryside.

Strong tree belts abut the village on its western and northern flanks and consequently views of the village from these directions are well screened. More open views are available from the southern and eastern approaches though topography and woodland tend to screen any medium and long distance views.

- 2.9 The UDP plan extract at Appendix 3 also identifies a large area of designated High Landscape Value to the north and west of the village. This type of designation is now under review following national guidance in PPS7 (2004) which requests planning authorities, when preparing their LDF's, to avoid such 'blanket' designations and to produce more detailed landscape character assessments based on guidance produced by Natural England. The Council have not yet completed a landscape character assessment as part of their evidence base for the preparation of the LDF and will shortly be appointing consultants for the remainder of the work required.

- 2.10 The former Countryside Agency produced a broad Character Map of England which places Farnley Tyas and its surrounding Estate within the Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe Character Area. This is a broadly based area to the east of the Southern Pennine uplands and extending in a south to north corridor from Sheffield, through Huddersfield to Bradford.

ECOLOGY:-

- 2.11 The old traditional stone built farm buildings within the village could support bats, barn owls and breeding birds and it is likely that ecological surveys will be required before any development proposals relating to these buildings are advanced. The farmyards and other developed areas of the village have limited ecological interest though domestic garden areas will help to support a variety of wildlife.
- 2.12 Areas of ecological significance in the countryside surrounding the village are identified on plan 6 of the Estate Strategy report which is reproduced at Appendix 4.

This plan information was provided by West Yorkshire Ecology. Designated sites and the incidence of bird species are shown on this plan. There are no statutorily protected sites within the Farnley Estate. The Estate contains several areas of Ancient Woodland listed in the Ancient Woodland Inventory. The woodlands closest to the village, School Wood and woodland along Honley Road and Woodsome Road comprise Ancient Replanted Woodland.

FLOOD RISK:-

- 2.13 The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for Kirklees was produced in November 2008. Given its hilltop location the village lies well above flood risk zones associated with the river valleys to the west and east. The only localised flood risks are likely to come from the surcharging of surface water sewers and local becks and excess surface water run off during times of very heavy rainfall. The SFRA does not identify the area of the village and its surroundings as being vulnerable to surface water flooding.

HERITAGE:-

- 2.14 The extent of the Conservation Area and the disposition of the original listed buildings is shown on the aerial map at Appendix 2. The Conservation Area extends into surrounding fields in order to protect the immediate setting of the village. The Kirklees Planning Department will shortly be appraising the Conservation Area including a potential review of the boundaries. We will liaise closely with the Conservation team as our work on the VFP progresses. In 2008 the following buildings were added to the statutory list of buildings of architectural or historic importance:-

- Former dairy, Yew Tree Farm
- 55 The Village, Yew Tree Farm
- Barn at Yew Tree Farm
- Barn at 18 Manor Road
- 65 The Village and adjoining barn at Yew Tree Farm

These listed buildings and other stone vernacular buildings form an important part of the context for any future development. It will also be important to secure long term viable uses for those listed buildings which are either unoccupied or underused.

- 2.15 A survey of buildings in the village by architects and planners involved in the production of the first draft VFP identified key design characteristics to inform and guide any future development. These design guidelines will be further developed as the VFP is redrafted.

TRANSPORT:-

- 2.16 Local transport consultants, Sanderson Associates, carried out an assessment of the transport issues affecting the village (report of March 2005). A detailed survey and recording of existing highway conditions and traffic flows was undertaken. This report forms one of the many considerations which will determine the appropriate future level of development and re-use of redundant agricultural buildings within the village limits.
- 2.17 The change from dairying to other forms of livestock and cropping has resulted in a marked reduction in agricultural traffic within and through the village including the movement of over 200 cows around the village for up to 8 times/day.
- 2.18 Throughout the day a significant proportion of the traffic travelling through the village does not have an origin or end destination in the village. While formal speed counts have yet to be undertaken general observation strongly indicates that many drivers are exceeding the speed limit to the detriment of public safety and the village environment. Part of the VFP proposals is therefore to introduce a comprehensive village wide system of traffic management measures, in consultation with the Council as highway authority and with proposed new speed limits of 20m.p.h. The aim is to achieve this via signage, road markings/colour changes and a new 'village square' constructed in an appropriate material. Speed humps will not be introduced. This approach will greatly enhance the environment of the village.
- 2.19 Accident data, held by Leeds City Council were obtained for the five year period 1999 to 2004 and this identified a total of 14 personal injury accidents of which 12 were slight and two were classed as serious. Around half of these accidents were at Woodsome Bridge close to the junction of Woodsome Road with the A629 some 3kms to the north east of the village.
- 2.20 The Transport Issues Report identified bus routes, speed limit zones (the village lies within a 30mph restricted area) peak hour parking and public footpath entry/exit points within the village. The Community Plan has identified parking outside the school and the Church as a problem and the need for a public car park was identified.

OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:-

- 2.21 The village and its environs have very good air quality. There are no significant noise sources in or near the village and the removal of a lot of farm traffic has further improved the noise environment. Sources of contamination within the village are likely to be very limited and comprise oil/petrol spills from farm vehicles. None of the area in and around the village is known to suffer from land subsidence.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS:-

- 2.22 The population of the village is estimated to be around 400 (at 2006). Apart from agriculture, the public house, the village school and the Estate office (currently situated at bottom of Manor Lane) there are currently no local businesses providing employment. The socio-economic history of the village, summarised in the Community Plan indicates that in the period 1820 to 1840

there were 17 providers of employment in the village employing up to 900 people. By 1904 the number employed had reduced to 400. Cloth manufacture was the main industry after farming.

2.23 A household questionnaire survey was organised by the Community Group with the assistance of Yorkshire Rural Community Council and Farnley Estates Ltd requested the inclusion of specific questions. The survey was carried out in summer 2006 and covered 160 households in and around the village. A total of 95 questionnaires were returned. As the format of the questionnaire allowed for the flexibility of different members of a household to respond, this resulted in 214 individual responses.

This survey, reported in the July 2008 Community Plan provides a rich source of local social data and views which will continue to be utilised in redrafting the VFP. A comparison of the draft VFP and the Community Plan has been produced and this identifies common coverage, differences and aspirations. This comparison will form an appendix to the final VFP. Farnley Estates have also consulted with the village community on the Estate Strategy, the draft VFP and farming and other changes in the village. A quarterly Estate newsletter is circulated to all households. Detailed feedback has been obtained from a number of workshops held in the village. Further consultation is planned on the SA and the redraft of the VFP.

2.24 Key findings from the Community questionnaire survey included the following:-

- The school, the Church, The Golden Cock PH, the Bowling Club were considered very important or important by 83% to 98% of respondents.
- 59% of the community have been residents for 10 years and 36% for more than 20 years.
- A majority of residents would like to see a community centre established.
- Households were asked how many new build houses, other than the conversion of stone farm buildings they would like to see. A total of 48% said no new houses should be built while other respondents ranged from 5 to 20 new dwellings. Some respondents did identify the need for affordable housing.
- 81% of respondents would like to see recycling facilities.
- 53% felt overhead cables should be buried underground.
- A majority of respondents would like to see more buildings listed and trees around the village protected.
- The Estate were requested to protect woodlands, improve footpaths and dry stone walling and protect their historic buildings
- Various questions were asked about the adequacy of and improvements to public transport to and from the village. The bus service was regarded as important/very important by most households and various improvements were suggested.
- Concern was expressed regarding traffic speeds through the village.

2.25 All households have to travel to neighbouring villages Honley, Almondbury or Kirkburton for shops and most services, or to the retail park and superstore on the A629 at Waterloo or to Huddersfield or Holmfirth town centres. Some support for a local shop and or post office was expressed and there was general support for a farm shop in the village.

2.26 The LDF Core Strategy Options Consultation (Feb – April 2009) refers at Section 5 to a settlement hierarchy within the District and table 1 identifies service provision in each settlement. Farnley Tyas is in the sixth tier of this settlement hierarchy along with several other villages and has no identified retail outlets.

2.27 A total of 30 dwellings are owned by the Estate and rented out, predominantly at rents which fall within the defined affordable threshold. Housing provision in the village ranges in size from small 1 bed cottages to large houses. The housing density range within the village is varied.

2.28 Access to open countryside, footpaths and bridleways is very good and this provides villages with a variety of active and passive recreation opportunities. The village has its own two hectare recreation ground at the south western end of the settlement, a separate bowling green and

club and a churchyard. Woodsome Golf Course is located close to the village. Kirklees Council produced their comprehensive Open Space Study in October 2008. This assesses the quantity, quality and connectivity of open spaces in the District. There are no identified green corridors in the Farnley Tyas locality nor are there identified gaps in the open space network. There are no existing or proposed priority links. The Estate are implementing a programme of improving and extending footpaths and bridleways in the Estate areas surrounding the village.

3.0 RELEVANT POLICIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMMES

3.1 The VFP is being prepared in the context of a wide range of national policy guidance related to planning, the environment and rural affairs and the Local Development Plan. The components of the Local Development Plan comprise the adopted UDP (March 1999), the approved RSS for Yorkshire and the Humber (May 2008) and the emerging LDF. This national, regional and local policy guidance has been reviewed as part of the baseline assessment for the SA and the development of the VFP as an SPD. The following table (Table 2) provides an overview of this policy context and the implications for the production of the VFP as an SPD.

TABLE 2

Relevant Plan or Programme	Key Objectives/Policy Themes or Relevance	Implications for the SPD
"Securing the Future" UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)	The overall objective of sustainable development is to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life for future generations.	The general quality of life in Farnley Tyas is high but the village lacks overall sustainability in terms of local services and facilities, affordable housing and local employment. The village as the focus for a diversified rural estate is a key factor to be developed.
The Rural White Paper "Our Countryside the Future – A fair deal for Rural England" (November 2000)	The White Paper sets the strategic vision of creating and maintaining a living, working, protected and vibrant countryside.	The Village is at the heart of a rural estate undergoing diversification and has an important ongoing role to play in enhancing the success of the enterprise.
"The Rural Strategy DEFRA (2004)	The Government's three priorities for rural England are stated:- 1 Economic and Social Regeneration – supporting enterprise. 2 Social justice for all – tackling rural social exclusion and providing fair access to services and opportunities. 3 Enhancing the value of our countryside.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A vibrant village community with some new business initiatives and support for the rural enterprise is important. • Provision for affordable housing and easier non-car borne access to services. • The Estate is developing its Countryside Stewardship role and seeking to enhance the environment surrounding and within the village.

<p>Report of the Rural Advocate (Commission for Rural Communities) 2007 and the Annual "State of the Countryside 2008" report of the Commission.</p>	<p>These reports follow a number of key indicator themes/objectives of direct relevance:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for rural housing including affordable. • Need for improved services and transport. • Rural employment creation. • Farm business diversification. • Recreation development and Countryside Stewardship. • Sustainability and cohesion of existing communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing to support local need and affordable provision. • Incorporate transport and service improvement initiatives. • Potential for new business/job creation. • Underway and to be developed. • Underway and to be developed. • The core purpose for the VFP.
<p>"Living Working Countryside – The Taylor Review of Rural Economy and Affordable Housing July 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of sufficient affordable housing in rural communities. • Creation of more local jobs and businesses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope for new business/job creation. • Need for further affordable housing provision.
<p>Planning Policy Statement 1 Delivering Sustainable Development February 2005</p>	<p>Over-arching objectives are to create good design, sustainable development and quality planning outcomes.</p>	<p>Seek to achieve all these as the core drivers in the VFP.</p>

<p>Supplement to PPS1:- Planning and Climate Change (December 2007)</p>	<p>The planning system needs to support the delivery of the programme for reducing carbon emissions from existing and new buildings. Key objectives for the planning system and spatial planning include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In providing for homes, jobs, services and infrastructure needed by communities and in renewing/shaping the places where they live and work to secure high energy efficiency and reductions in emissions. • Deliver sustainable transport and secure fullest possible use of alternative modes to the private car. • Build resilience to climate change into new development including sustainable drainage. • Conserve and enhance biodiversity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility studies are ongoing for a local energy generation source using woodchip from estate and local woodlands to provide heat and potentially power to all existing/new village houses. • Development of a Community Travel Plan as part of the implementation of the SPD with a commitment to introducing sustainable travel initiatives. • Provide for sustainable urban drainage systems to attenuate surface water run off to the greenfield or less than the existing rate of run off. • Ongoing stewardship and management of woodlands, agricultural land and footpaths in the Estate areas around the village and particularly in the proposed 'Green Girdle' in the VFP.
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<p>PPS3 – Housing (November 2006) Deals with all aspects of the provision of new housing through the planning system, including quantitative and qualitative aspects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government objectives are to provide all households with good quality accommodation and a 'step-change' in housing delivery to meet need and demand in a community where people want to live. • The provision of affordable and market housing – addressing the requirements of each community. • To create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas, both urban and rural. • Achieving high quality, well designed housing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide housing to support local need and affordable provision and to create a viable and sustainable rural community at Farnley Tyas. • Development of redundant farmyard areas to meet housing need/demand. • Incorporate sustainable layout and design features. • Incorporate design guidelines into SPD.
<p>PPS7 – Sustainable Development in rural areas.</p>	<p>Relevant Government policy objectives include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas by promoting:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) thriving, inclusive and sustainable communities (ii) good quality sustainable development that respects and enhances local distinctiveness • To promote more sustainable patterns of development • To focus development in or next to exciting towns and villages • To promote sustainable diverse and adaptable agricultural sectors 	<p>Via the SPD to create a vibrant and sustainable village community.</p> <p>Incorporate sustainable design guidelines into the VFP</p> <p>Focusing development with the village</p> <p>Re-use proposals for redundant farmyards and buildings</p> <p>Linkages between Estate Strategy and SPD – with Estates Strategy forming a key context.</p>

<p>PPS9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation</p>	<p>The key policy objectives can be summarized as conserving and enhancing biodiversity as an integral part of development and where possible restoring diversity and improving habitats.</p>	<p>To take full account of the role and value of biodiversity in the planning of future developments and in creating environmental enhancements both within the village and via its interface with the wider countryside estate.</p>
<p>PPG13 – Transport (2001)</p>	<p>The key policy objective is to reduce the number and length of car journeys by promoting:-</p> <p>a) more sustainable patterns of development and;</p> <p>b) the use of alternative travel modes.</p>	<p>Incorporate transport measures in the VFP and clear guidelines/objectives for a Community Travel Plan.</p>
<p>PPG15 – Planning and the Historic Environment</p>	<p>Effective protection of the historic environment while making provision for development and the upkeep of conservation areas and listed buildings.</p>	<p>Incorporating guidelines in development within the Conservation Area and for securing the future long term viable use of listed and other buildings which make up a key part of the village's character.</p> <p>Liaison with the Council's Conservation team regarding their work on the Farnley Tyas Conservation Area.</p>
<p>PPG17 – Planning for Open Space, Outdoor Sport and Recreation (2002)</p>	<p>Seeks to maintain an adequate supply of open space and recreational facilities. Government objectives include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting a rural renewal – countryside recreation opportunities and open spaces within and adjoining settlements contribute to quality of life and well being and sustainable development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporation of POS and recreation proposals including the 'Green Girdle' footpath/ access improvements.

<p>PPS22 – Renewable Energy (2004)</p>	<p>Key objectives and targets (now incorporated in the Climate Change Act) include the lead target of reducing CO₂ emissions by 60% by 2050. The development of renewable energy (which includes biomass power plants) is seen as making a vital contribution to these aims.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility studies for and the development of a local biomass energy plant to serve existing and proposed dwellings and businesses.
<p>PPS25 – Development and Flood Risk December 2006</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying areas at risk from all sources of flooding. • Preparing Strategic Flood Risk Assessments that contribute to sustainability appraisal of plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of sustainable drainage systems. See Annex F of PPS25 – Managing Surface Water. • Locating new development in areas of low flood risk. • Preparation of an appropriate flood risk assessment.
<p>Environment Agency “Policy and Practice for the Protection of Groundwater”</p>	<p>The protection of groundwaters from polluting activities.</p>	<p>Consultation with the Environment Agency on all development proposals which may impact on groundwater and build in suitable protection/mitigation.</p>
<p>RSS for Yorkshire and the Humber (May 2008)</p>	<p>Key objectives include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support the diversification and strengthening of the rural economy. • Sets the annual housing requirement for the District as a whole. • Encouragement of community based transport schemes. <p>The four strategic themes of the RSS are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic regeneration and growth. • Promoting social inclusion. • Urban and rural renaissance. • Conserving and enhancing natural resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant RSS policies are identified in the draft VFP. • Proposals are to be put forward for a community transport scheme. • The development proposed will make a relatively small but significant contribution to the District’s housing requirement. • A key aim of the VFP is to contribute to the rural renaissance and diversification of the rural economy.

<p>Local Policy Kirklees UDP (March 1999). Remains the adopted Local Development Plan until progressively replaced by the emerging Local Development Framework.</p>	<p>The relevant saved policies to be taken into account are identified below. The Council's Vision Statement has three goals:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A thriving economy. • A flourishing community. • A healthy environment. <p>The policies are:-</p> <p>G4; D2; D3; D4; D10; NE9; BE1; BE2; BE5; BE6; BE9; BE10; BE11; BE12; BE13; BE14; BE15; BE21; BE23; EP7; EP8; EP10; EP11; T1; T2; T10; T14; T16; T17; H1; H8; H10; H12; H18; C2; R6; R13;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of these will be taken into account in the preparation of the final version of the VFP.
<p>Kirklees Supplementary Planning Documents 2 – Affordable Housing (November 2008)</p>	<p>Sets out revised requirements for affordable housing provision which are to be introduced on a phased basis.</p>	<p>Affordable housing proposals will be made in the VFP which will follow the Council's most up to date requirements in terms of the quantum of provision. The provider will be the newly established Community Land Trust.</p>
<p>Kirklees Vision 2012 – produced by Kirklees partnership (This is the Community Strategy)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involving the voluntary and community sector. • Increase the number of affordable homes. • Create a stronger economy which better meets the needs of the Local Community. • Improve health, well being and independence. • Support the development of individuals and Communities. • Developing effective links between employment, transport and land use planning strategies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Already underway • Part of VFP proposals • Seek suitable economic development • Introduce relevant measures in VFP • A key objective of the VFP • An essential part of the proposals to develop a sustainable community

<p>Kirklees Biodiversity Action Plan March 2002</p>	<p>Sets out the priorities for habitats and species within the District with measures to achieve the Conservation of the biodiversity heritage. Identifies priority habitats and species.</p>	<p>Useful context/guidance for protection/enhancement of local biodiversity via the VFP.</p>
<p>Kirklees Transport Vision 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a top class public transport system and providing a real alternative to car use. • Providing a sustainable transport system that encourages healthy citizens, promotes social inclusion and preserves the local environment. 	<p>The VFP is in the form of a development action plan which can help to deliver the transport vision for this part of the District.</p>
<p>Kirklees Local Housing Assessment Report June 2006 and update 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To outline the nature and extent of housing need, reasons for housing need and estimate housing needs for the next five years. • To assist the development of housing policy in the Local Development Framework. • To inform the provision of housing to meet the needs of diverse communities in Kirklees. 	<p>Provides material to inform affordable and other housing provision via the VFP.</p>
<p>Kirklees Local Development Framework Core Strategy Options March 2009</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides four basic options for the strategic location of new development within the District • To promote growth in Sustainable locations and where Sustainability can be improved. 	<p>Sets Farnley Tyas Village within a settlement hierarchy, viability and constraints/opportunities context. The VFP seeks to address all these issues and the enhancement of Sustainability.</p>

<p>Manual for Streets DCLG 2007</p>	<p>Sets enhanced standards for highway layouts in residential areas which seek to improve the pedestrian and built environment.</p>	<p>The VFP will set the design context for access into the proposed new development sites.</p>
<p>Farnley Estate Strategy 2006</p>	<p>This report provides a strategy for the rural diversification of the whole Farnley Estate and for improved Countryside recreation and stewardship.</p>	<p>Sets an important part of the context for the development of the VFP.</p>
<p>Farnley Tyas Conservation Area Assessment (in production)</p>	<p>Examines potential extensions to the existing village Conservation Area and assesses the character and importance of its component parts.</p>	<p>Will produce relevant policy guidance for the four development sites.</p>
<p>Farnley Tyas Community Plan July 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport improvements. • Environmental safeguards and improvements. • Close working with Farnley Estate Ltd. • Safeguarding community facilities and assets. 	<p>See report comparing the two plans and the ability to implement key community objectives in the VFP.</p>

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES

4.1 Based on surveys, technical and other assessment work, and an extensive community consultation exercise, including a community consultation questionnaire process carried out by the Farnley Tyas Community Group – (See separate paper comparing the VFP with the Community Plan) the following are the key sustainability objectives which need to be considered:-

Environment

- Enhance biodiversity and green infrastructure.
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Landscape and village setting.
- Maintain/enhance townscape character.
- Retain listed buildings in long-term viable use.
- Minimise waste and promote recycling/composting.

Socio-economic

- Community infrastructure enhancements.
- Promote community health and wellbeing.
- Provision of decent, well designed and affordable homes.
- Transport and traffic management initiatives to minimise traffic and car usage.
- Promotion of access to the rights of way network.
- Employment and the village economy.
- Provision of new housing which is well designed and appropriate in scale and numbers. and can contribute to a sustainable community.
- Ensure the efficient and economic use of land.

4.2 These sustainability objectives are set within the context of the overall aims of the VFP which can be summarised as follows:-

- (i) To create a vibrant and more sustainable community at the heart of a rejuvenated and diversified rural estate business and farming enterprise.
- (ii) To carry out phased development of the farmyards within the village, as they become redundant, by the conversion of existing stone buildings and new building primarily but not exclusively for residential use.
- (iii) The creation of a model sustainable village which is in a stronger position to support existing and new community facilities and services.

5.0 THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK AND AN OUTLINE OF THE SA REPORT

- 5.1 The SA framework is central to the SA process and provides the way in which sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared (paragraph 3.2.13 of SA National Guidance – November 2005).
- 5.2 The SA framework consists of the sustainability objectives which can in many cases be expressed in the form of targets. They form an assessment yardstick against which the social, environmental and economic effects of the plan can be tested. Sustainability objectives are not the same as the plan objectives though there can be significant overlap between them. The sustainability objectives provide a means of checking whether the VFP objectives are the best ones for achieving a sustainable outcome (Appendix 9 of SA National Guidance). The number of objectives should be manageable and their content clear and capable of monitoring and assessment in the most straightforward way. The SA objectives selected and stated in Section 4 will be reviewed with the statutory and other consultees. The following schedule commencing at page 23 is the proposed sustainability framework.

AN OUTLINE OF THE SA REPORT:-

- 5.3 The SA report for the Farnley VFP is being prepared within the context of a hierarchy of plans and programmes which extend through national, regional, local and community prepared documents.
- 5.4 The Farnley VFP SA report will include the following main sections:-
- A review of the context, scope and objectives for the VFP.
 - A statement of the key sustainability objectives for the VFP.
 - A context matrix stating the relevance of a wide range of national, regional and local plans and programmes and their guiding implications for preparation/implementation of the VFP.
 - An explanation of the iterative and integrated approach adopted to the preparation of the VFP and the importance of the SA to improving the sustainability performance of the VFP.

THE PROPOSED SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

MAIN SA OBJECTIVE	KEY INDICATORS	ASSESSMENT INDICATOR OR MEASURE
<p>1. Enhance biodiversity and green infrastructure</p>	<p>Maintain and improve biodiversity in village greenspaces.</p> <p>Establish 'green girdle' of managed open spaces around the village.</p> <p>Seek to retain and enhance existing village greenspaces to increase biodiversity interest.</p> <p>Aim to promote green corridors linking greenspaces via habitat expansion and connectivity and to promote wildlife migration.</p>	<p>Incorporate plan for 'green girdle' in VFP.</p> <p>Establish 'green girdle' in defined quadrants in years 1 to 3 of implementation programme for VFP (NB some work already progressed).</p> <p>Institute management plan for village greenspaces and 'green girdle' in year 1 of implementation programme.</p> <p>Expand, protect and enhance habitat types near to village and link to wider Estate Management of green corridors.</p>

<p>2. Climate change adaptation and mitigation</p>	<p>A. Establish new sustainable energy generation source to supply existing and proposed village housing with heat, or heat and power.</p> <p>B. Insulation of new homes to high standard.</p> <p>C. Planning of greenspaces and core agricultural economy of the Estate should take full account of future impacts of Climate Change to influence species choice, management regimes and future use.</p> <p>D. Greater flood risk from surface water run off.</p>	<p>Progress existing biomass district heating/CHP scheme from current stage 2 Feasibility Study to selection of preferred development option and investment partner within 6 months of VFP adoption.</p> <p>Submit planning application for biomass boiler and associated infrastructure within 6 months of VFP adoption.</p> <p>Implement biomass scheme and residential connections over years 1 to 5 of VFP implementation programme.</p> <p>Examine feasibility of alternative source of sustainable energy for village housing in the event that the biomass project does not progress. Complete study with clear and positive way forward within 6 months of plan adoption.</p> <p>Insulate new dwellings to at least Code level 4 of Code for Sustainable Homes.</p> <p>Take account of climate change in reviews of Estate Strategy, woodland management and access management.</p> <p>Develop a flood management strategy in relation to surface water run-off and the use of sustainable drainage techniques.</p>
<p>3. Landscape and village setting</p>	<p>Retain/enhance where possible current village interface with countryside.</p> <p>Establish 'green girdle' around village.</p>	<p>Implement 'green girdle' in defined quadrants in years 1 to 3 of VFP implementation programme.</p>

<p>4. Maintain/enhance townscape character of village</p>	<p>Work with local authority planning and conservation teams on an improvement/management plan for the Conservation Area.</p>	<p>Incorporate key framework for Conservation Area management in VFP.</p> <p>Agree Conservation Area management plan and programme of actions and responsibilities within 6 months of VFP adoption.</p> <p>Implement management plan progressively over years 1 to 10 of plan.</p> <p>Implement 'village square' proposal by year 3 of plan.</p>
<p>Retain listed buildings in long term viable use</p>	<p>Agree suitable long term uses with planning authority as part of re-utilisation of four main farmyard areas.</p>	<p>Estate to institute temporary maintenance plan for all listed buildings in its ownership for agreement with Council within 6 months of plan adoption.</p> <p>Long term re-use proposals to be advanced as part of planning and listed building applications over the full 15 year plan period.</p>
<p>Waste minimisation and promote recycling/composting</p>	<p>Establish village –wide recycling and composting projects</p>	<p>Select sites for village composting and waste recycling as part of VFP formulation.</p> <p>Implement waste recycling and composting schemes in year 1 of the plan programme.</p>
<p>Community Infrastructure Enhancements</p>	<p>Examine feasibility of enhancements (e.g. community hall provision) with village community</p>	<p>Agree feasibility study with Council, and village community within 6 months of VFP adoption.</p>
<p>Promote community health and wellbeing</p>	<p>Encouraging healthy lifestyles and developing a safer and more cohesive community.</p>	<p>Provision of 'green girle' in defined quadrants in years 1 to 3 of plan with enhanced public access.</p> <p>Improve footpath, bridleway and cycle access; network connections to rest of Estate – part of ongoing programme of implementation of Estate Strategy.</p> <p>Implement full traffic management scheme in village to enhance road safety and pedestrian and living environments – Years to 1 to 3 of VFP period.</p> <p>Work with Community Plan to implement agreed community cohesion initiatives.</p>

<p>Provision of decent, well designed and affordable homes.</p>	<p>Provide for a mix of housing within the village including affordable housing.</p>	<p>Agree level and delivery mechanisms for affordable housing provision in VFP prior to adoption.</p> <p>Maintain existing proportion of affordable lettings of Estate owned properties.</p>
<p>Transport and Traffic Management initiatives to minimise traffic through village and car useage by village households</p>	<p>Prepare Travel Plan and traffic management proposals.</p>	<p>Prepare Community Travel Plan framework and incorporate in VFP prior to adoption.</p> <p>Complete Village Travel Plan within 6 months of adoption.</p> <p>Implement Travel Plan proposals in years 1 to 3 of plan period.</p> <p>Design and agree traffic management scheme within 6 months of VFP adoption.</p> <p>Implement traffic management scheme years 1 and 2 of plan period.</p> <p>Encourage home working initiatives.</p>
<p>Employment and the village economy</p>	<p>Consider business and job creation initiatives consistent with size of village and other VFP SA objectives.</p>	<p>Encourage home working initiatives.</p> <p>Prepare feasibility study for a limited number of business units either as live/work units or separate workspace provision.</p>
<p>Consider the provision of new well designed housing appropriate in scale and numbers and which can contribute to the creation of a sustainable community.</p>	<p>The level of new home provision to be determined by a range of factors including i) environmental capacity now and within the plan period ii) cross-subsidising achievement of a more sustainable future community iii) housing needs of the Farnley Tyas locality.</p>	<p>Establish proposed capacity range for new housing in VFP prior to adoption.</p> <p>Planning applications for four individual farmyards in village to make an agreed contribution to capacity range upper limit in VFP across years 1 to 15 of the plan period.</p>

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at www.farnleyestates.co.uk

For more information please contact:

Paul Sykes
Farnley Estates
Farnley House
Manor Road
Farnley Tyas
Huddersfield
HD4 6UL

01484 667744
paulsykes@farnleyestates.co.uk

Clive Brook
Dacres Planning
9 York Place
Leeds
LS1 2DS

0113 204 2247
cab@dacres.co.uk