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You may be aware that the Government has established, through the Localism Act of 2011, regulations which enable *communities to produce their own neighbourhood plan.*

The object of this is to give local people **a major statutory say** in helping to shape development in the areas in which they live. This will empower communities to shape the development and growth of a local area through the production of a neighbourhood development plan.

While the current planning system provides opportunities for communities to get involved in development decisions that affect them, in practice they have often found it difficult to have a meaningful say. It is hoped that the introduction of neighbourhood planning will **put power back into the hands of local residents, businesses and parish councils.** Local residents will be able to have much more say in what developments are appropriate for their area.

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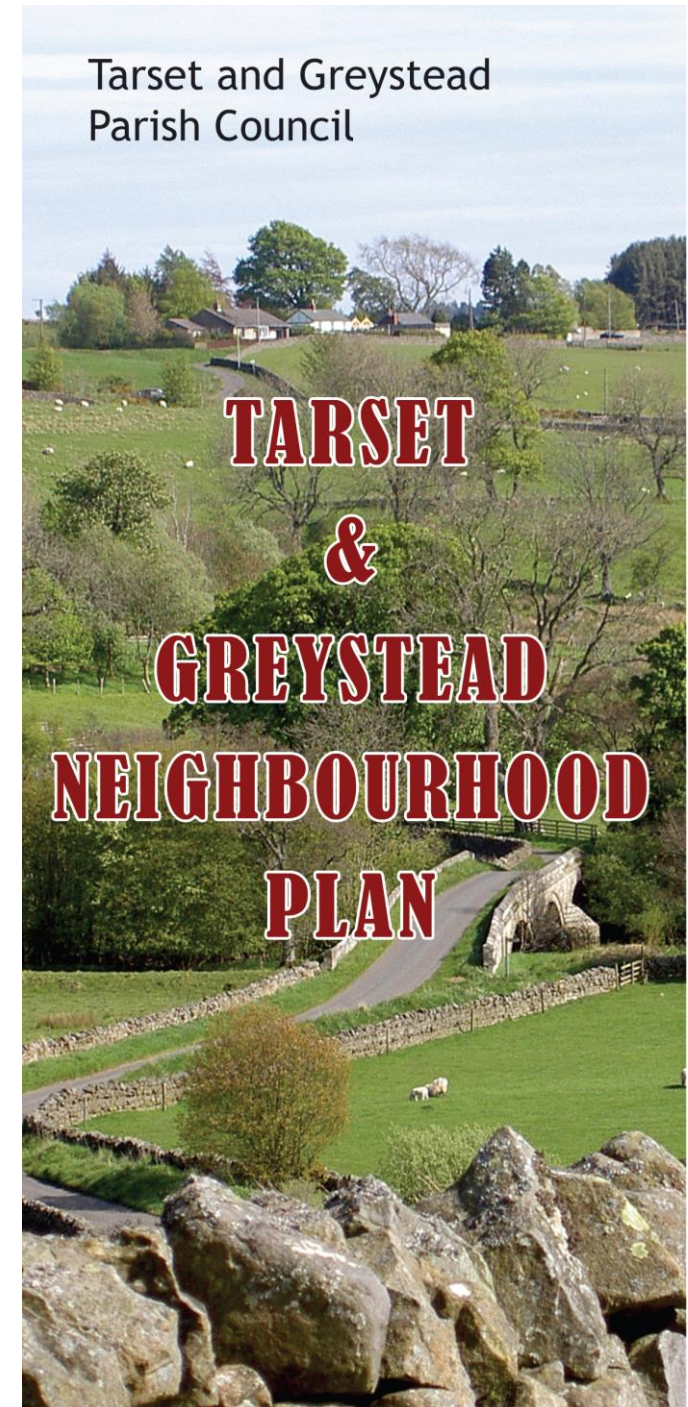
Tarset and Greystead Parish council is the lead body in this process and has established a

Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group.

This group has delegated authority from the Parish Council for all plan-making functions.

They will guide and agree the content of the plan and all associated evidence as far as the publication of the draft plan for community consultation and independent examination.

A local referendum will ensure that the community has the final say on whether the plan comes into force in the area



During the production of the draft plan the most crucial aspect will be to gather evidence, information and opinion from the local community about what your views are with regard to the future development of the Parish. The contributions from local residents will be used to produce a sound neighbourhood plan that defines the priorities identified by the community but also having regard to all other relevant plans and policies. The local community through this plan will be able to influence and decide amongst other matters:-

- What development is appropriate
- Where you want new homes, or businesses to be built
- What those buildings should look like
- Planning permission for new buildings that you want to see go ahead
- The future of where you live

During the next few months the Steering Group will be engaging the community across the Parish in an attempt to gather as much information as possible to add to that already collected from the meetings arranged by the National Park.

All residents will be asked to consider what planning priorities they think should appear in the Neighbourhood Plan with a view to how they would like to see the community develop over the next twenty years.

Many changes have taken place over the last twenty years but the local community has often had little influence on these.

With the community's help the Steering Group has the opportunity to shape future development in the Parish with the production of a plan that really does reflect the wishes of the residents.

We look forward to your help and contributions to this exciting opportunity.

The members of the
**Neighbourhood Planning
Steering Group**
are :-

Darrell Jackson
Gerry Gregory
Preston Hoggan
Megan Nixon
Rex Cooper
Anne Monroe

*The Group may be contacted at:
UPLANTARGREY@groups.live.com*

If you wish to find out more about this national initiative you can visit any or all of the following :-

<http://communityrights.communities.gov.uk>

http://www.uvns.org/sites/default/files/UVNS_Guide_to_Neighbourhood_Planning.pdf

<http://www.wenlockplan.org>