

Ambitions for the North: People and Place

Call for Evidence

A Blueprint for a Great North Plan

There is broad agreement that we need a 'Great North Plan' to underpin the Northern Powerhouse agenda. In 2015, the RTPI and IPPR North gathered evidence from over 400 Northern businesses and local leaders on what this might look like, and how it should be developed.

The result was a blueprint for emerging Northern strategies on transport, growth and investment, exploring these issues and establishing consensus on actions to take forward. It recommended seven workstreams, which are:

1. A vision for the North and its economy up to 2050
2. A transport strategy
3. An economic strategy
4. A natural assets strategy
5. A people and place framework
6. A prospectus for the North (an investment plan for national and international investors)
7. A governance and delivery workstream

These workstreams are being delivered by Transport for the North, the Department for International Trade, IPPR North and others. For its part, the RTPI is focused on developing the framework for people and place, led by Peter Brett Associates and Newcastle University.

Ambitions for the North of England: People and Place

The output from our work will be a non-statutory spatial framework for the North. We would like it to be brief yet ambitious, well founded but transformative, strategic and influential. Our goal is that it will play an important role in shaping progressive spatial planning which will support the building of prosperous, healthy and sustainable communities, and a more competitive Northern Powerhouse.

We recognise that this framework will need to work across a wide range of existing geographies and organisations with responsibilities for the spatial agenda in the North of England, and our work therefore needs to deliver something additional which is relevant from a pan-northern perspective.

Through six roundtables, we are developing a set of shared ambitions and spatial planning propositions for improving places and quality of life. The themes for these roundtables are:

Responding to demographic change | Housing quality and affordability | The future of town centres | Harnessing northern assets | Commerce, jobs and the 4th Industrial Revolution | Enhancing rural and coastal communities

Discussions at our roundtables are looking at these issues through the prism of the **social, technical, economic, environmental** and **political** influences on our future, including the a range of cross-cutting social, technical, environmental, economic and political issues as outlined over the page.

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We are keen that this spatial framework is well founded, and takes account of the latest thinking about spatial planning issues in the North in this strategic context. We are therefore **calling for submissions** from public and private sector organisations, and from members of civil society, to provide underpinning evidence in support of the spatial framework.

These submissions may provide references to existing documents and proposals (to make sure that the project team has taken these into account in its work), or original thinking about **possible pan-northern spatial planning propositions** that would support the aim of shaping progressive spatial planning, better places and a more competitive Northern Powerhouse. These may be:

- Key cross border investments and strategies that need to be accounted for in spatial planning
- Common policies that might be adopted consistently across the North to deliver good growth
- Planning and delivery methodologies which can develop better, more competitive places

Responses to this call for evidence should be sent to ambitions@peterbrett.com. They should explain how any evidence or proposal relates to the key themes and cross cutting issues in the table below, and how they can influence future spatial planning outcomes in the north of England. **The deadline for submissions is Friday 1st March 2019.**

Influences	Social		Technical		Environment	Economic	Political
Key themes	Quality of the built and natural environment	Quality of life, health and wellbeing	Connectivity and infrastructure	Digital influences on jobs and travel	Environment and climate change	Prosperity and reducing inequality	Governance and collaboration
Responding to demographic change							
Housing quality and affordability							
Commerce, jobs the fourth Industrial revolution							
Enhancing rural and coastal communities							
Securing the future of town centres							
Harnessing Northern Assets							