

Placemaking Plan Workshop Toolkit Training Workshop

Available Toolkits

There are many toolkits available to support communities (and professionals) to address a wide range of issues. Below is an overview of the key national and local authority toolkits (many are listed in B&NES Neighbourhood Planning Protocol) that communities in B&NES may find useful.

1 **Visioning and Broad Assessment tool**

- **Placecheck (English Heritage funded tool)** - Placecheck is a method of taking the first steps in deciding how to improve an area and can be a useful tool to inform a vision.
 - <http://www.placecheck.info/>

2 **Character Assessments tools**

- **Local, or Community Landscape Character Assessment** - Local distinctiveness & local landscape character assessment adds detail and local level knowledge to the district level Assessment. Two useful toolkits are:
 - **Unlocking the Landscape (CPRE)**
<http://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/countryside/landscapes/item/1929->
 - **Local Landscape Character Toolkit (Hampshire County Council & Community Action Hampshire)**
<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/landscape-and-heritage/planning-the-landscape/landscape-character.htm>
- **Community (or Village) Design Statements (built environment character assessment)**. Over 600 Design Statements have been produced across England to date. The new National Planning Policy Framework gives renewed emphasis to community involvement in the design of developments in their 'neighbourhood'.
 - **Village Design. Making Local Character Count in New Design (Countryside Commission)**. The original guide to design statements was produced in 1996 by the Countryside Commission. PDF copies of the guidance will be available to download from the placemaking plan webpage.
- **Heritage**
 - **Knowing your place** (English Heritage) - This advice note deals with the incorporation of local heritage within plans that rural communities are producing, reviewing or updating and focuses particularly on parish plans and village design statements.
<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/knowning-your-place/>

3 Other Local Issue Assessment Toolkits

- **Community Facility Toolkit (New Forest District Council)** - The Toolkit aims to support and guide people who want to assess the usage, gaps and potential of their community facilities.
<http://www.newforest.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=6979>
- **Traffic in Village (Dorset AONB)** – Advice and information on a range of initiatives available to communities.
<http://www.dorsetaonb.org.uk/our-work/rural-roads/traffic-in-villages-toolkit.html>
- **Local High Streets (New Economics Foundation)** - The New Economics Foundation have developed a number of tools available on their website to aid communities in addressing issues around their local high street. <http://www.neweconomics.org/projects/high-street-uk>

4 Assessing Applications / Proposals

- **Building in Context (CABE / English Heritage)** - Building in Context is aimed at local authority staff and addresses how projects can respond well to their surroundings.
<http://www.building-in-context.org/>
- **Buildings for Life 12 (Design Council CABE)** - Building for Life 12 stimulates a conversation between local communities, local authorities and developers about creating great places to live. 12 questions are designed to help structure discussions between local communities, the local planning authority, the developer of a proposed scheme and other stakeholders.
<http://www.designcouncil.org.uk/our-work/CABE/Localism-and-planning/Building-for-Life/>