Q and A Responses - Session 6: Pennine Towns and Villages Key Proposals - 3rd March 2021

Session Questions / Matters Raised

We have problems commenting upon the individual profile for Wilsden because the statistics quoted in report 5.27 cannot be reconciled with any other source of public domain statistics that we have used. From comments by parish councils in neighbouring villages they are having similar challenges. For example the population quoted is 78% of the figure from the 2011 Census. Because the parish council hand delivers things to every household in our area we have strong data on where the housing is located and the figure quoted for the number of dwellings doesn't even represent numbers within the Settlement Boundary. It is 100 lower than the reality. We have accessed other data sources such as from LSOA tables and also cannot reconcile the data quoted with information from this source either.

This is important because, for instance, the average house price used in our Neighbourhood Plan Housing Needs study is about £20,000 higher than the figure used in your study. Can we first of all understand the basis of the statistics used and secondly have agreement at least between those areas preparing a Neighbourhood Plan as to the basis of the statistics that are used.

Response

The statistics used in the profiles is based on Local Insight software but using bespoke geographical boundaries to match settlement areas. The software uses a weighting system to draw together the geographical datasets to best fit the settlement boundary. All the settlement and area profiles have used the same software to help standardise statistical reporting. This approach may explain the differences across data reporting.

The profiles provide a snapshot or overview of an area, but it is advisable to review against other data sources in drawing conclusions. The Council is happy to work with the Neighbourhood Plan group on discussing the material further and provide additional information on the approach used in the Local Plan. The Census 2011 information underpins some of the data reporting and should be treated with a degree of caution due to the age of the data source.