

# Vision and Objectives for the Future of Garforth

The Vision outlined below is a snapshot of the Garforth of 2033. Clearly a lot of the statements made describe aspects of life in Garforth which already exist.

## Vision

In 2033 Garforth will continue to be a great place in which to live, work and play. There will be, as now, a strong sense of community. It will be a place with a distinctive small-town identity.

The town will be surrounded by protected and accessible countryside.

The town centre will be vibrant and re-invigorated, encouraging people to become actively involved in a flourishing community. There will continue to be a broad range of retail, leisure and offices; in addition there will be arts and culture as well as residential opportunities. A variety of outdoor events and pop-ups will also add to the stimulating mix.

Away from the centre, the town's commercial and industrial areas will be thriving and offering a wide range of jobs.

There will be access to a range of well designed, sustainable homes that meet the needs of all its people at all stages of life.

At the centre of making decisions about the town will be a concern with the health and wellbeing of everyone who lives and works in Garforth.

Given the ongoing global climate emergency, all decisions on development will take into account the need to achieve carbon neutrality in Leeds by the 2030s

## Objectives

The objectives outlined below give more detail on how the vision can be realised through its policies.

### A. Housing and The Built Environment (HBE)

- i. To support the provision of an inclusive range of different types of home and a greater range of affordable housing to meet the needs of all residents
- ii. To support the provision of sufficient homes in the town to enable young people and families to buy/rent their first and subsequent homes, where children can play outside
- iii. To encourage the successful integration of new homes into the town in a way that does not put excessive pressure on the existing physical infrastructure; to ensure specifically that all new developments address issues of drainage and flooding
- iv. To help ensure any new build housing meets high standards of design and sustainability

### B. Business Employment and Town Centre (BETC)

- i. To encourage new employment opportunities for local residents whilst protecting existing jobs
- ii. To encourage job opportunities for school leavers and young people within Garforth

- iii. To champion a more active and attractive town centre that will encourage local people to use the facilities thereby supporting local businesses and provide a hub for the town
- iv. To help ensure new developments/businesses do not adversely affect traffic flow within the town centre area
- v. To help ensure car parking supports the viability of the town centre

**C. Transport (T)**

- i. To promote sustainable travel choices and improve existing cycle and pedestrian provision
- ii. To support the management of the impact of traffic
- iii. To help ensure new housing is connected to the town via good pedestrian, cycle and bus links

**D. Green Space and the Rural Environment (GSRE)**

- i. To protect and improve the existing designated green spaces, maintaining the character and community value of the area.
- ii. To increase the amount of leisure area (green spaces) available for residents of Garforth
- iii. To protect the Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land
- iv. To maintain access to Public Rights of Way (PROW) and wildlife corridors
- v. To protect and maintain access to the countryside surrounding Garforth
- vi. To protect and increase tree and hedgerow cover to enhance biodiversity within green spaces and the surrounding countryside

**E. Community and Leisure (CL)**

- i. To support, improve and maintain existing community facilities and services
- ii. To support the provision of new sustainable community facilities

**F. Education and Health (EH)**

- i. To support the provision of sufficient primary and secondary school places for all those of school age living within the town
- ii. To support the provision of well-designed educational facilities
- iii. To protect and enhance opportunities for outdoor education
- iv. To promote health and wellbeing via opportunities for healthy lifestyle choices within a sustainable environment
- v. To support and encourage the provision of a comprehensive range of primary healthcare facilities within Garforth with equitable access to health services for all residents.