

ELLDP*one*







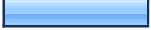

THE EAST LOTHIAN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
your chance to help shape the future of East Lothian

Feedback on pre-Main Issues Report consultation events - February 2012











This document contains the feedback gathered from participants at a series of 10 consultation events held across East Lothian in February 2012. The events were run independently by Planning Aid for Scotland (PAS), an impartial, charitable organisation that helps people have their say in the planning system. They aimed to gather the views of local residents and others on the issues that should be addressed in the East Lothian Local Development Plan. The findings of the consultation events themselves are detailed separately in a report by PAS to East Lothian Council.

The Council invited participants to complete an online survey telling us what they thought of the events, and giving us suggestions for future consultation events. The feedback received is set out in this document. Please note that this document has been assembled from a computer-generated report and as a result page numbers are not consecutive.

1. First, we'd like to know a bit more about you. Are you a ... ?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Resident of East Lothian		69.4%	25
Community Councillor		19.4%	7
Representative of a community group or other organisation		19.4%	7
Landowner / developer / agent		22.2%	8
Local business person		11.1%	4
Other		5.6%	2
	Please provide further details (where appropriate)		5
		answered question	36
		skipped question	0

2. Which event(s) did you attend?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Haddington community event (Weds 1st Feb)		25.7%	9
Prestonpans community event (Fri 3rd Feb)		5.7%	2
North Berwick community event (Mon 6th Feb)		14.3%	5
Musselburgh community event (Thurs 9th Feb)		5.7%	2
Tranent community event (Tues 21st Feb)		8.6%	3
Dunbar community event (Sat 25th Feb)		11.4%	4
Blindwells workshop (Tranent, Mon 13th Feb)		22.9%	8
Community Council workshop (Haddington, Weds 8th Feb)		14.3%	5
Business community drop-in (Musselburgh, Weds 15th Feb)		8.6%	3
Developers' forum (Musselburgh, Weds 22nd Feb)		17.1%	6

Page 1, Q2. Which event(s) did you attend?




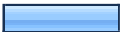


1	Personally, the timings were not good for me as I had to pick up my son from infant school which comes out at 3.20pm.	Mar 19, 2012 8:48 AM
2	The acoustic in the North Berwick Community Centre is poor and a microphone and speakers should be made available - the Community Centre has its own.	Mar 19, 2012 6:58 AM
3	Consultation events seem to be focused in larger settlements. Smaller settlements should be given an opportunity by having events focused in these. Having an event in every community centre or school would represent a considerable improvement.	Mar 16, 2012 4:43 AM
4	I think that there might have been more people attending an evening meeting as even people who aren't working can have weekday commitments.	Mar 14, 2012 2:50 PM
5	I thought the event needed advertising outside as the door was locked and it didn't seem anyone was there. Large posters would have been good. Very few people were there and several said they had heard about it the night before.	Mar 14, 2012 5:24 AM
6	The time of the event did not allow those working to attend. A member of the planning committee should have been in attendance to give the committee's vision for East Lothian at the start of the meeting.	Mar 14, 2012 4:00 AM
7	Time a big long Seating not comfortable	Mar 14, 2012 2:36 AM
8	good location/time/venue.	Mar 14, 2012 1:10 AM
9	All events were poorly advertised. The timing of the Haddington workshop was difficult for those in employment to attend hence mostly retired folks did. The business workshop in Musselburgh was also difficult as it finished at 6pm - I work in Haddington until 5.30pm and was able to attend but many other local business could not get to Musselburgh in time.	Mar 13, 2012 12:18 PM
10	Would have rather the whole CC work shop had been about the local development plan, rather than have the full area CC meeting first.	Mar 13, 2012 11:02 AM
11	the event was poorly attended - and this may have been in part due to inadequate notice	Mar 13, 2012 10:59 AM
12	No one from the North Berwick event has any memory of the March 12 deadline!	Mar 12, 2012 3:34 AM

Do you have any comments on the events' times, locations or venues?

12

answered question	35
skipped question	1

3. How did you hear about the event(s)?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Press advert/article		23.5%	8
East Lothian Council website		8.8%	3
Email or letter from East Lothian Council		52.9%	18
Word of mouth		8.8%	3
Poster in library, shop, etc.		2.9%	1
Planning Aid 'roadshows' in local supermarkets		0.0%	0
Other		17.6%	6

Please add as much detail as you can




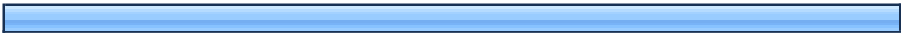

8

answered question	34
skipped question	2

Page 1, Q3. How did you hear about the event(s)?

1	In Blog from Kings Meadow Primary School. I opted in to receive these otherwise I would have not known about it.	Mar 19, 2012 8:48 AM
2	Internal information via the Council	Mar 14, 2012 5:24 AM
3	East Lothian Tenants & Residents Association	Mar 14, 2012 2:36 AM
4	Homes for Scotland e-mail	Mar 14, 2012 2:09 AM
5	PAS website	Mar 13, 2012 12:27 PM
6	Through Nick Wrights association with the Haddington Vision project. Late letter from ELC - i checked out ELC website for info and although i knew it was there it took a good 20 minutes to find the detail. I passed on info to my neigbourghs about the Blindwells workshop who stated if i hadn't they would not have known.	Mar 13, 2012 12:18 PM
7	Few people knew about this event, so numbers were very low.	Mar 13, 2012 9:19 AM
8	There appears to be problems with the mailing list for Community Councils as North Berwick only received a sing page letter and no email with attachments as others did.	Mar 12, 2012 3:34 AM




4. We are keen to reach as many people as possible - how might we improve publicity for future events like this?

		Response Percent	Response Count
More information on Council website		53.3%	16
Use social media (e.g. facebook, twitter)		50.0%	15
Promote events on local radio stations		40.0%	12
Deliver a leaflet to households / businesses		63.3%	19
Have more posters in shops, libraries, sports centres, etc.		70.0%	21
Visit schools to explain the process to children		26.7%	8
	Please expand on your response or suggest any other ideas you have		12
		answered question	30
		skipped question	6

Page 1, Q4. We are keen to reach as many people as possible - how might we improve publicity for future events like this?

1	EMAIL LIST FOR PEOPLE INTERESTED IN COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIIES	Mar 22, 2012 1:43 PM
2	Use everything that is available. Personally, I use Facebook & Courier for local information. Posters in shops cafe is good. Poster in Tourist Info board next to fountain in Haddington. Use farmers markets to distribute leaflets. Get leaflets put in bags via schools	Mar 19, 2012 8:48 AM
3	Clear advrerts in the local Press at least two or three weeks in advance	Mar 19, 2012 6:58 AM
4	It would have helped had this questionnaire identified the advertisement/publicity measures used. It is somewhat alarming that some of the techniques outlined above have not been used or if they have only very sparingly.	Mar 16, 2012 4:43 AM
5	I think that missing from that list was press releases in local papers. Often people don't notice small ads. With all events like these it's a case of 'sowing seeds widely in the hope that a few will take germinate'	Mar 14, 2012 2:50 PM
6	Use key local people to encourage participationm such as CDOs and community leaders. Also joining on to an existing community event or through a key group such as the communtiy centrrre management committee or in Prestonpans through the three harbours festival group	Mar 14, 2012 5:24 AM
7	I heard about this through a friend. It was not at all well publicised - I could find nothing about it on the ELC website. Not everyone buys the local paper, uses social media or even has acces to the internet. Local supermarkets have information boards and it would an effective use of resources. Using a cascade effect, whereby publicity is disseminated down through local organizations and interested parties, who could then publicize the event even further, would also be another way of doing it.	Mar 14, 2012 2:04 AM
8	East Lothian Coucnil should develop a procedure which could be applied to all consultataions, at times consultations seem to be a piece meal and have no clear direction or objectives	Mar 14, 2012 12:48 AM
9	A lot of people do not realise the importance of the ELLPD, to maximise exposure and ensure future generations take part it requires promotional material by other social media and the local and national press. High school councils could also be approached.	Mar 13, 2012 11:02 AM
10	The notice of the meeting was inadequate - if the purpose is to maximise attendance there must be sufficient notice.	Mar 13, 2012 10:59 AM
11	the notice of the meeting was inadequate - if the purpose is to maximise attendance there must be sufficient notice.	Mar 13, 2012 10:46 AM
12	Contact local community organisations directly	Mar 13, 2012 9:12 AM

5. What are your views on having Planning Aid for Scotland running the events?

		Response Percent	Response Count
The Council's planning department should have run the events themselves		15.2%	5
It was useful having Planning Aid running the events as they are independent		75.8%	25
Don't know		9.1%	3
	Please explain your response further (if applicable)		18
		answered question	33
		skipped question	3

Page 2, Q5. What are your views on having Planning Aid for Scotland running the events?





1	EXPLAINED THE PROCESS POORLY	Mar 22, 2012 1:51 PM
2	I don't believe Planning Aid are independent as some of their volunteers are in the development industry acting on behalf of private clients in East Lothian. It would also have helped to have had senior planning officers at all of the meetings to answer questions.	Mar 16, 2012 4:43 AM
3	I think that having an informed but neutral person running the workshop was a good idea.	Mar 14, 2012 2:55 PM
4	It is useful to have external facilitators always - takes the pressure off of staff to respond to planning issues.	Mar 14, 2012 5:34 AM
5	I was disappointed by the lack of representation by East Lothian Council's Forward Planning Team which was limited to one member of staff. I expected a far greater level of representation by the Council, at a senior level.	Mar 14, 2012 2:40 AM
6	Using an outside consultancy to run an event like this, is an appalling use of limited resources. Surely there are qualified and experienced people within local government who could have done this. Even bringing someone from a different local council would have been better than using an outside agency.	Mar 14, 2012 2:28 AM
7	It was positive they were run by a neutral party but this meant that there were only a small number of council officers hearing the discussions first hand. But effectiveness of any event depends on how much any dialogue is going to influence the Council anyway	Mar 14, 2012 2:11 AM
8	Independent facilitators ensured that comments could be recorded in an unbiased way.	Mar 14, 2012 1:32 AM
9	Attendance by Phil McLean was useful to hear comments first hand.	Mar 14, 2012 1:11 AM
10	It was good to have an independent group but would still like to have the council's planning department have some responsibility in dealing with the general public and Community Councils.	Mar 13, 2012 3:14 PM
11	Support the use of independent facilitators - though good that ELC staff were present.	Mar 13, 2012 12:30 PM
12	I have recently attended a workshop run by ELC - One way in Haddington and 3 events regarding the local development plan by Planning Aid; Nick Wright ran a much more focussed and positive meeting than ELC and was able to concentrate the audience. The Haddington one-way workshop was a complete shambles.	Mar 13, 2012 12:24 PM
13	Having participated in an ELC workshop, Planning Aid's workshop knocked the socks off ELC! Good job and set an example to ELC on how to consult with community groups!	Mar 13, 2012 11:05 AM
14	I felt that farming out the running of this event indicated a lack of commitment to public involvement on the part of the Council. There	Mar 13, 2012 11:00 AM

Page 2, Q5. What are your views on having Planning Aid for Scotland running the events?

was not a single Councillor present - further indication that the LDP does not have high priority.

15	ELC attended the event - and the rep said afterwards that he had to restrain himself from commenting as other made their contributions.	Mar 13, 2012 10:51 AM
16	they did not seem to know that there had been previous planning events so much of the info was not that useful. Although they had the right attitude.	Mar 13, 2012 9:20 AM
17	More Planning Department officials should have been there to hear, first hand, strength of views expressed. Councillors should have attended as well.	Mar 13, 2012 9:15 AM
18	Although there was a slight feeling that Planning Aid were recycling an already-used formula, their approach was good and they explained the issues well.	Mar 11, 2012 5:04 PM





6. What did you think of the event(s) overall?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Excellent		11.4%	4
Good		65.7%	23
Average		17.1%	6
Poor		5.7%	2
	Please add any comments		10
	answered question		35
	skipped question		1

Page 2, Q6. What did you think of the event(s) overall?

1	DISJOINTED AND NOT OBVIOUS HOW THIS WOULD BE USED. NO FEEDBACK OPTIONS OFFERED	Mar 22, 2012 1:51 PM
2	I felt that it was well run but there should have been many more people there.	Mar 14, 2012 2:55 PM
3	The papers on the tables were not helpful and did not explain the link between them and the work at hand e.g. the EL SOA - would have been better to use branded materials on this and explain the link and where this initiative sits. Other key strategies should have been highlighted also - participants were quite frustrated that their work on the coastal strategy did not seem to be acknowledged. Very few local women were present (two of us were staff so we don't really count) - this would have brought quite a different perspective	Mar 14, 2012 5:34 AM
4	The discussions turned into a bit of a 'bun fight' between local development interests and the Council. As a National House Builder we are looking to share our expertise and work collaboratively with the Council, we hoped that this will provide us with a platform to do so. The limited representation from the Council at the event was disappointing as it gave the impression that this was not the case. We hope to be positively engaged by the Council moving forward.	Mar 14, 2012 2:40 AM
5	Chairmanship needed to be stronger to ensure that discussions were focussed and moved at a reasonable pace. This would have ensured that there was more discussions on the real issues that affect long-term planning.	Mar 14, 2012 1:32 AM
6	It was well run and enjoyed the little workshops	Mar 13, 2012 3:14 PM
7	Purely due to the poor attendance; i don't think people have really grasped the idea of being involved in local planning for the future; more general education required and much more forward thinking you cant just plan these things a couple of weeks ahead it takes much longer to sow the seeds that the people are being consulted; hence it felt like a tick box experience.	Mar 13, 2012 12:24 PM
8	Excellent, lots of ideas and lots of discussion items, enjoyed it very much.	Mar 13, 2012 11:05 AM
9	The Blindwells event went off at a tangent into other issues, but this was predictable and I am unsure of any strategy which would have avoided this	Mar 12, 2012 3:37 AM
10	It was disappointing that the local planning official who was present at the beginning of the Planning Aid presentation did not see fit to stay until the end...	Mar 11, 2012 5:04 PM



7. What did you think of the format of the event(s)?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Excellent		8.6%	3
Good		65.7%	23
Average		22.9%	8
Poor		2.9%	1
	Please add any comments		7
answered question			35
skipped question			1

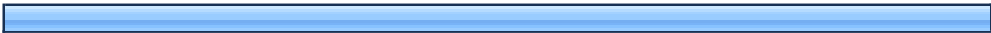

Page 2, Q7. What did you think of the format of the event(s)?

1	LACKING CONTEXT AND STRUCTURE	Mar 22, 2012 1:51 PM
2	Group discussions were somewhat limited in value as participants were keen to express their concerns to the Council and not each other. However, Planning Aid were quick to realise this and switched to an open forum.	Mar 14, 2012 2:40 AM
3	I find splitting up into work groups, rather tedious. Those who shout loudest, will be the ones who are heard and their opinions will be forced through. Can't think of any other way of doing it though!	Mar 14, 2012 2:28 AM
4	The breakout groups were not very effective. There were too many questions and too little time to consider them for each group to consider.	Mar 14, 2012 1:32 AM
5	Liked the hands on elements	Mar 13, 2012 12:30 PM
6	Would have preferred whole evening to be dedicated to this event.	Mar 13, 2012 11:05 AM
7	Workshop style was fairly good at getting delegates thinking about the issues, however there could have been more time for discussion of ideas across the separate groups so that we were more aware of the concerns of other groups.	Mar 11, 2012 5:04 PM

8. Do you feel you were able to get your views across?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		91.4%	32
No		8.6%	3
Please add any comments			7
answered question			35
skipped question			1

9. Did the event(s) help you understand the Local Development Plan process?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		77.1%	27
No		22.9%	8
Please add any comments			12
answered question			35
skipped question			1

Page 2, Q8. Do you feel you were able to get your views across?

1	There were not enough Facilitators and there was no overall summing up - not sure what was to happen to the views expressed afterwards.	Mar 19, 2012 7:01 AM
2	Yes. It perhaps was not the most efficient way to do so, given our concerns were not as wide ranging as those of local development interests	Mar 14, 2012 2:40 AM
3	It was a bit repetitive	Mar 14, 2012 2:37 AM
4	I was able to get my views across, but then i'm not afraid of speaking up. In the Dunbar one, a leading question was asked about what we thought of ASDA. I was the only one to put my hand up to say that I liked it, because of its convenience and everything being in one place. I got the distinct impression, that there were others who agreed, but felt intimidated by the strong personalities that were in evidence. Unavoidable, I know.	Mar 14, 2012 2:28 AM
5	With the small numbers, I felt the local councillors had a lot of input when this was badged as a community event.	Mar 13, 2012 12:30 PM
6	Mainly because I am doubtful that holding events like this in a vacuum are of limited value. Better to do it when there are firm ideas to bite on.	Mar 13, 2012 11:00 AM
7	I think both council and planning aid are willing to listen	Mar 13, 2012 9:20 AM



Page 2, Q9. Did the event(s) help you understand the Local Development Plan process?

1	DEFINITELY NOT. FELT DISCONNECTED AND OUT OF CONTEXT	Mar 22, 2012 1:51 PM
2	But I am just a beginner and need to know loads more info.	Mar 19, 2012 8:49 AM
3	Perhaps a little more but I find the overlap between the Regional plan and the Local Development Plan confusing.	Mar 14, 2012 2:55 PM
4	However, I have since heard that this very ambitious visioning and then mapping of a specific area cannot really be taken on board because of restrictions on the scope of the ELLDP. ONew of the golden rules of comjmunty engagement is only to consult or engage if the situation can be influenced.	Mar 14, 2012 5:34 AM
5	I was already fully aware of the LDP preparation process.	Mar 14, 2012 2:40 AM
6	Whether or not the opinions will be valued and acted upon is another matter, because the bottom line is how to allocate limited resources. More houses have to be built - that is understandable. It breaks my heart however, to see our beautiful East Lothian covered in great swathes of bland, ugly housing estates. Developers should be expected to landscape their developments in such a way, that is pleasing to the eye, with more trees and open spaces. They should also contribute a sum of money, to local projects, that are having dificulty securing funding.	Mar 14, 2012 2:28 AM
7	Mostly due to involvement outside the events	Mar 13, 2012 12:24 PM
8	Very much so, understood it more and the importance of it.	Mar 13, 2012 11:05 AM
9	I understood it already.	Mar 13, 2012 11:00 AM
10	I already had this understanding	Mar 13, 2012 10:51 AM
11	Although an explanation was given it was not readily understable by those who do not have a planning background.	Mar 13, 2012 9:21 AM
12	A little bit.	Mar 13, 2012 9:20 AM

10. Is there anything else you would like to have been included in the session(s)?

	Response Count
	15
answered question	15
skipped question	21

11. If you would like to be added to our consultation database to be kept up to date with the progress of the Local Development Plan, please provide your name and email address

		Response Percent	Response Count
Name		100.0%	27
Email address		96.3%	26
	answered question		27
	skipped question		9

Page 2, Q10. Is there anything else you would like to have been included in the session(s)?

1	MORE INFORMATION MORE STRUCTURE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE HOW THE INFORMATION HAD BEEN USED OR SUMMARISED IT FELT THAT NOT ALL THE INFORMATION WAS BEING COLLECTED - AS SOME POINTS WERE MISSED AND OTHER POINTS MENTIONED IN PASSING WAS PUT DOWN AS MAJOR ISSUES. THIS WILL HAVE PRESENTED A BIASED LIST OF ISSUES IN THE MAIN ISSUES REPORT OVERALL DISAPPOINTING AND UNREPRESENTATIVE	Mar 22, 2012 1:51 PM
2	Both Councillors and Planners should be attending these events.	Mar 16, 2012 4:43 AM
3	I can't think of anything.	Mar 14, 2012 2:55 PM
4	No	Mar 14, 2012 12:19 PM
5	Clear parameters of what can and cannot be dealt with should be included in the publicity and the session itself. Recognition of the SOA including the Statement of Intent which is very ambitious - could have been used to encourage and support communities in their visioning. However, this is not productive if there is very little chance of influencing the ELLDP	Mar 14, 2012 5:34 AM
6	A list of suggestions should be minuted and published, to allow participants judge which, if any, of the suggestions etc. have been adopted by the council.	Mar 14, 2012 4:04 AM
7	An assurance that we will be getting feedback in some form or the other, about how our ideas would be used...or not as the case maybe.	Mar 14, 2012 2:28 AM
8	The session needed to explore further the diversity of communities across Scotland - what is good about them, what is not so good and how the planning process can help to build stronger ones.	Mar 14, 2012 1:32 AM
9	No	Mar 13, 2012 11:00 AM
10	My memory of the event - though held recently - is not clear.	Mar 13, 2012 10:51 AM
11	Yes. There was confusion by groups as to the purpose of the meeting. Some groups felt County strategies were more important whereas others attempted to deal with local planning issues. Perhaps future events could be split into these two areas so everyone has the opportunity to discuss both areas.	Mar 13, 2012 9:21 AM
12	What is needed is a much more linked up, creative and knowledgeable partnership between council and local community. Were both sides are willing to listen and come together and create a really fantastic local plan that will be robust and intelligent. The coastal regeneration forum had consulted around 1500 local people and have nearly completed a planning for real process. Surely this is a great process to build on.	Mar 13, 2012 9:20 AM

Page 2, Q10. Is there anything else you would like to have been included in the session(s)?

13	See comment above on Council attendance.	Mar 13, 2012 9:15 AM
14	I wasn't clear which planning issues were being considered and which are outside the remit of the Local Development Plan	Mar 13, 2012 9:13 AM
15	No, I feel the sessions were well organised and delivered what they were meant to.	Mar 12, 2012 3:37 AM