

What does a sustainable community look like?

This sheet will help you to identify what a sustainable community looks like.

1. Transport and connectivity

Creating communities that are...well connected.

Sustainable communities benefit from good transport services and communications, linking people to jobs, schools, health and other services, to reduce dependence on cars. There are facilities to encourage safe local walking and cycling.

A sustainable community ... has good transport services and communication linking people to jobs, health and other services.

2. Services

Creating communities that are...well served.

Sustainable communities benefit from public, private, community and voluntary services that are affordable, appropriate to people's needs and accessible to all.

A sustainable community ... has public, private, community and voluntary services that are appropriate to people's needs and accessible to all.

3. Environment

Creating communities that are...environmentally sensitive.

Sustainable communities play their part in tackling climate change, and are considerate of the environment creating cleaner, safer and greener neighbourhoods.

A sustainable community ... provides places for people to live that are considerate of environment and reflect climate change.

4. Inclusive

Creating communities that are...fair for everyone.

Sustainable communities are fair for everyone, including those in other communities, now and in the future. Everyone is given fair access to services, jobs and education, and other facilities.

A sustainable community ... includes those in other communities, now and in the future.

5. Economy

Creating communities that are...thriving.

Sustainable communities have a successful and diverse local economy, providing a range of business and employment opportunities. Local people are encouraged to open up small businesses and spend their wages locally to help improve other people's businesses.

A sustainable community ... has a flourishing and diverse economy.

6. Housing and the Built Environment

Creating communities that are...well designed and built.

Sustainable communities are well designed, attractive and safe featuring a quality built and natural environment. They are places with a positive feeling for people and local distinctiveness - a sense of place. They will offer good quality and affordable housing to meet the needs of diverse households.

A sustainable community ... features a quality built and natural environment.

7. Social and Cultural

Creating communities that are...active, inclusive and safe.

Sustainable communities are fair, tolerant and cohesive with a strong local culture and other shared community activities, often led by the community. There are low levels of crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour.

A sustainable community ... has a fair, tolerant and cohesive with a strong local culture and other shared community activities.

8. Governance

Creating communities that are...well run.

Sustainable communities have effective and inclusive participation, representation and leadership in the decision-making process. They enjoy a sense of civic values, responsibility and pride.

A sustainable community ... has effective and inclusive participation, representation and leadership.