



Dobwalls & Trewidland Parish Neighbourhood Plan

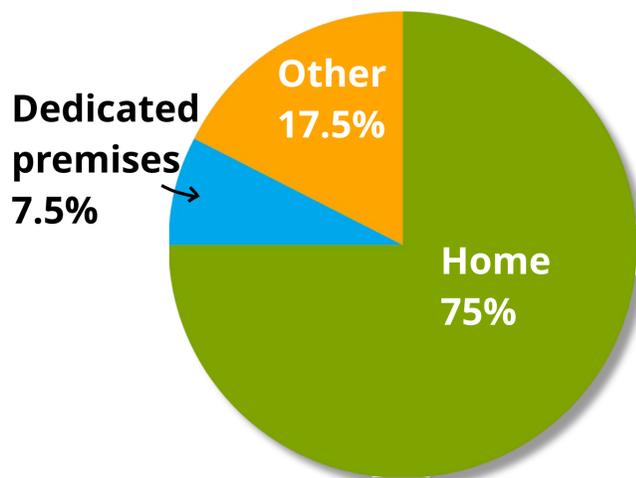
It is important to provide employment and encourage business development. To help us understand future need we asked you about your current employment status.



It is clear from the answers given that retired people are over-represented in the survey sample.

This will be born in mind when considering answers to the other employment related questions.

Next we asked, 'If you do run a business in the Parish, where do you run it from?'



The vast majority of self-employed survey respondents run their business from home.

With growing numbers of people working from home, the Neighbourhood Plan will need to consider ways to support home workers.



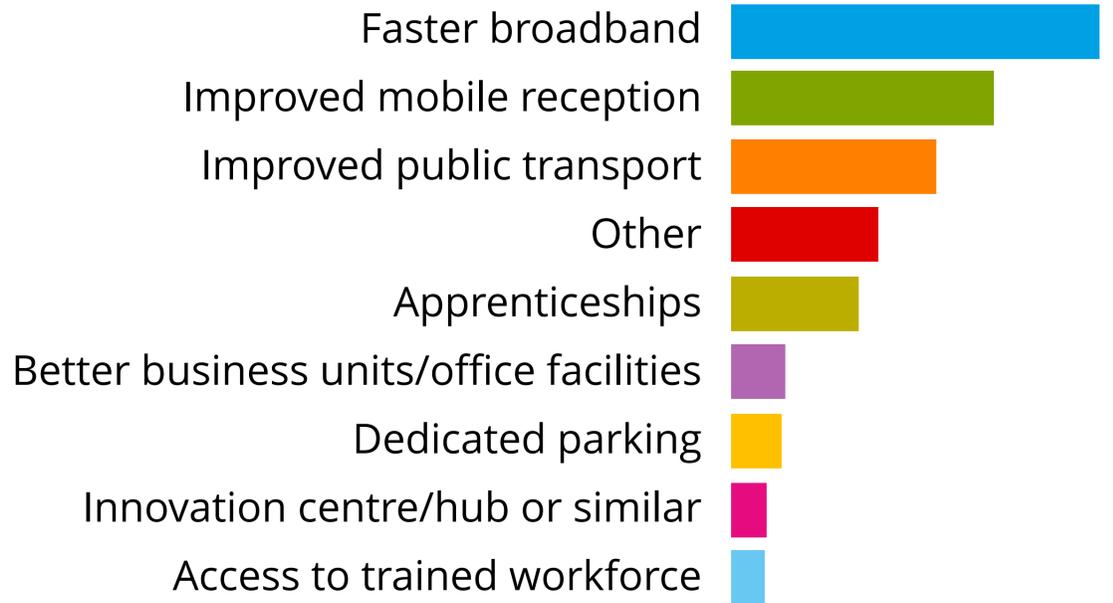
Growing numbers of people are running their business from home.



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If you run a business in the Parish, which of the following would improve your experience of running your business in its current location?

The self-employed felt the top three things that would help them most with running their business were faster broadband (59%), improved mobile reception (41%), and improved public transport (32%).

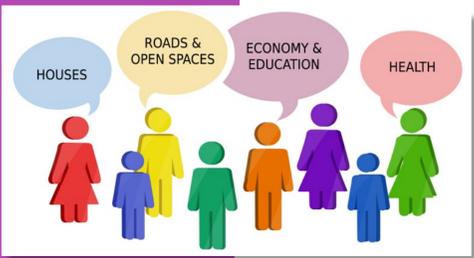


We then asked, 'What type of business units do you think are needed in the Parish.'



The top three types of business units most needed were: workshops/light industrial units, micro farm/market gardening land and units and live and work units.

Most people that responded 'other' were of the view the Parish did not need any new business premises.



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From your survey responses and other Neighbourhood Plan consultation exercises a number of key issues and opportunities have been identified which we hope will help to guide us when we come to draft our Neighbourhood Plan Policies.

Employment and Economy Issues and Opportunities

Issues

- There is a potential decrease in the working age population, according to the 2011 Census statistics. However, significant house building in Dobwalls since 2011 may have changed this demographic.
- Given that nearly a quarter of residents have no qualifications, there is a need for improved skills training, since there are low numbers of unskilled jobs available.
- The majority of land in the Parish is used for agriculture, but this industry only directly employs approximately 5% of workers, although there are additional jobs in associated trades, including motor vehicle repair, distribution, transport, sales and storage. The Cornwall average employment for agriculture is 4% of workers.
- The impact of Brexit is hard to define, but there are potential implications for farmers if EU subsidies are removed and on sales of livestock in the EU if tariffs are applied by the EU. It is possible that tariffs on imports could stimulate production of arable and cereal crops, but agricultural land in the Parish is predominantly unsuitable for arable.
- Approximately 15% of economically active residents are self-employed, compared to the Cornwall average of 14%.
- Tourism is an important business sector in Cornwall, but Census figures do not make this clear. Although the Parish has no large tourism centres, there are jobs in the sector, such as in hotel and catering and other accommodation, transport, and retail, which are dependent upon visitors. Changing trends in holidaying mean that there is potential for further growth in serviced and specialised accommodation, such as glamping and activity-based breaks.
- The Parish, along with other parts of South East Cornwall, is impacted by the level of commuting into Plymouth, which helps to explain the level of professional and managerial occupations of residents in an area where there are few businesses demanding such jobs. Thus, the future employment prospects for the area are affected by changes in employment structure in the city.

Opportunities

- The Parish already has a diverse range of businesses.
- The Neighbourhood Plan is looking forward to 2030, not just the immediate future.
- Possibly the biggest step for a business is taking on its first employee.
- There is a reported big demand for low cost easy in-easy out premises.
- Businesses say they need 'show not tell' advice/expertise.
- Businesses need employees with the right skills.