

Policy Justification

- a) The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) includes the recognition of the social role of the planning system to 'support vibrant and healthy communities' and to 'take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all'. The select committee on Public Service and Demographic Change report '*Ready for Ageing*' (2013) suggests that the housing market is delivering much less specialist housing for older people than is needed. The Cornwall Local Plan identifies that aging populations are putting increasing pressures on health services.
- b) In 2015 the over 65 age group of the L&L CNA population was estimated as being 23%. By 2030 the predicted over 65 age group is estimated as being 27% of the population - a higher percentage than either the national (17.7%) or the South West (21.4%) (*Mid-year estimates ONS 2015*). Predicted changes in age structure of the population by 2030 are significant in their projections of much lower numbers of younger people of working age in the local population and of children of school age. The need for a balanced mix of housing types and ownership/rental provision is seen as a key need to ensure that the communities within the area can maintain a secure future. The mix will also encourage the maintenance of family and other ties and intergenerational relationships which can support both older people and young children in working families within the community.

The health of older people in the community is one of several issues related to health in Cornwall:

- One in three children leaving primary school is overweight or obese. There are an estimated 16,000 children who are obese in Cornwall (age 0-16).
- Only 13% of adults in Cornwall achieve the recommended level of physical activity.

CLP Policy16 Health and Wellbeing supports the maximisation of opportunities for physical activity through the use of open space, indoor and outdoor sports and leisure facilities.

- c) The town of Liskeard (approximately 2.8 miles and a six-minute drive from Dobwalls and approximately 4.2 miles and a 10-minute drive from Trewidland) provides the nearest health facilities which include: a community hospital (two wards, minor injuries unit, x-ray department and out-patient clinics), two GP surgeries which deliver medications and three dental surgeries.
- All these services are under significant pressures. Opportunities to supplement their provision with part time local clinics, e.g. for chiropody/asthma etc, to serve the aging local population would improve the access to services for many of those in the community.

Policy Intentions

- To ensure that planning policy supports and encourages a balanced demographic mix to meet the changing population needs.
- To ensure that new development provides improved opportunities for outdoor activity and active leisure to support physical and mental health.
- To ensure that development is designed to support positive social interaction across the community.
- To ensure that CIL income is used to maximise health benefits to the community through improved health service facilities and upgrading of poor-quality housing.

Policy: Community Health**HE1: Community Health Accommodation**

Development proposals will be encouraged which take account of the existing housing provision and contribute to a balanced mix of open market and affordable, accessible rented homes for: the elderly, those with disability, impaired mobility and additional needs and families. Developments

should be located to take advantage of the level access to shops, public transport services and other local facilities available in the centre of Dobwalls.

HE2: Improving Community Health

Development proposals should support the physical and mental health of individuals and the social health of the community through:

- Contribution to the provision of useable on-site open space and playable spaces for children form part of the green-space network for walkers.
- Providing other appropriate public open space and facilities for teenagers and adults.
- Take opportunities to design out crime and anti-social behaviour.