



Scenario: Years 11 and 12

We are looking for **innovative and different planning models to create sustainable and eco-friendly communities around the UK**. To succeed, new communities need to be much more than dormitory townships. There must be businesses and a wide range of independent shops to offer consumer choice and employment; a range of vital public services to support the necessary infrastructure for a functioning community. Retailers and businesses should have a policy of reducing the environmental impact of the goods and services they provide. Local entrepreneurship should be encouraged.

For this stage of the competition, **your group challenge is to construct a plan for a new town of 20,000 people**. Your group's exact focus will depend on your year group. **You should focus on businesses, provision of public services and facilities, and infrastructure**. (Years 9 and 10 will concentrate on providing housing and leisure facilities).

THE COMMUNITY MUST INCLUDE:

- **Housing:** Planning must be for a diverse population - from single people to large families in a variety of relationships. You must include low-cost rental and social housing, as well as owner-occupier housing ranging from first-time buyers to high priced homes. All these houses and dwelling units must be designed to have as low a carbon footprint as possible, while still keeping the homes affordable.
- **Landscaping and public spaces:** These are important elements that help knit a community together.
- **A wide range of retail outlets:** These help towards building a good community spirit as well as supplying necessary and luxury consumer goods. The retail outlets will need to be all types, serving the needs of the many different types of people who will live here. Remember that access is an important consideration.
- **Non-retail businesses and renewable energy generation sources:** These help support the direct daily needs of a healthy community as well as contributing to local and regional economies. The businesses should serve the needs of the many different types of people in the community. As far as possible you should identify the types of business and energy sources.

- **Local government structures and public services:**

These are a vital part of ordering, regulating and serving a town.

The **emphasis** must be on an **environmentally-friendly, healthy, happy, well functioning community**. You can assume that the community will be built somewhere local, with good links available to other towns or cities.

OTHER POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. What does a **community** need to **prevent it becoming** just a **dormitory town**? (You should consider private and public facilities; businesses and public services)
2. How should these **elements fit together within a town layout** so that **everyone** in the community (from the very young to the very old; poorer and wealthy people; employers and employees) **feels included and valued**?
3. What sort of **housing** will be needed? It will need to be **eco-friendly, energy efficient** and also suitable for all sorts of people
4. How can building plans **protect the local ecosystem for native wildlife**?
5. **Why** is it **vital** to have a **range of small and medium businesses** sited **within the community**, as well as **excellent road or rail services** to other communities and urban centres?
6. **How** could the **town generate its own energy** (and perhaps even be able to sell some back to the National Grid)?
7. **Why** are **excellent transport services vital** to the **community**?
8. What sort of an **infrastructure*** is **required** for a **healthy, happy community**? How can towns preserve an appearance of **natural growth** (both of nature and buildings) so the town is a **pleasant environment for all its inhabitants**?

You will focus in more detail on points 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7 but all areas need some thought

* Infrastructure means the system of transport, sewage, electrical, gas, water, telephone, computer cabling and other communications – all the 'behind the scenes' systems that underpin cities. These must be planned before building begins so the town's people enjoy a healthy and civilised lifestyle.

All your ideas will probably be transferable to existing developments.