

RPC NDP Consultation Feedback Analysis

Local Economy

Should we support new business and employment opportunities?

- Over 90% of responses said 'yes' to supporting new businesses and job creation.
- Home working considered important along with need for improved broadband capabilities
- Considered vital in retaining younger people within the parish
- Important in enabling young people/families to move into and stay in the parish
- Local retail provision needs improvement
- Virtually no reference to agriculture other than to retain grazing and arable land
- Some concern that business activity can conflict with rural life and environmental issues – wood-chip production is noisy and burning such has negative environmental effect
- Some concern about too much tourism – expressed in calls for fewer holiday cottages
- Industrial activities should be placed near to the parish boundaries
- Repurpose old farm buildings for business use

If yes, what type of businesses would you like to see?

- Home working most mentioned business activity – no specific market sectors referenced
- Small local (Rennington) retail – bakery, post office/shop, art/crafts gallery, farm shop
- Local food production for local consumption
- Hospitality – cafe (Rennington), food and drink, public house, micro brewery
- Artisan craft(s) making
- Services in support of increasing population and tourism – repairs, cleaning, gardening, shopping, deliveries

Some possible policy issues – RTD comment

- Development of 'smart' business hubs providing support services to small local businesses (possibly integrated with wider community amenity needs)
- Protection of farming/agriculture relevance in seeking to retain rural heritage of the parish
- Designation of sites for business/light industry development
- Tourism – support or discourage?