

OBJECTIVE 5: WELLBEING

- 6.50 **To protect health and community facilities and ensure that these have the capacity to support any needs generated by new development and a changing population.**

6.51 **Policy 10 Protecting and enhancing health and community facilities**

There will be a presumption in favour of the protection of existing community facilities. Where planning permission is required, the change of use of existing community facilities, as listed below, will only be supported for other health, education or community type uses (such as community halls, local clubhouses, health centres, schools, public houses and children's day nurseries).

When a noncommunity use (e.g. housing) is proposed to replace, either by conversion or redevelopment, one of the facilities listed below such development will only be supported when in accordance with Eden Local Plan Policy COM1 Principles for Services and Facilities.

Alhambra Cinema
Castletown Recreation Hall
Evergreen Hall
Mansion House
Parish Rooms, St Andrew's
Penrith Health Centre
Penrith Hospital
Penrith Library
Penrith Methodist Church
Penrith Museum
Penrith Playhouse
Town Hall



Proposals for new and improved access to community facilities on the Pategill, Raiselands, Scaws and Wetheriggs estates will be supported.

Background/Justification

- 6.52 Penrith is identified in the Eden Core Strategy as one of the District's Key Service Centres (Policy CS2 Locational Strategy). The Key Service Centres acts as vital "service hubs" with a wide rural hinterland. They have the widest range of services and relatively better public transport.
- 6.53 The PNDP will support the aim of protecting and enhancing Penrith's role as a key Service Centre by protecting and enhancing existing community and health facilities.

- 6.54 Emerging planning policy in Local Plan 2032 aims to improve social infrastructure – schools, healthcare, recreation and community facilities in Penrith.
- 6.55 To ensure that quality of life is maintained, and, where possible, enhanced the PNDP identifies and seeks to protect key community facilities: being a land use plan the PNDP can protect buildings and land, which it will seek to do, but not the services run from those buildings. The running of services is not a land use planning matter. The loss of the buildings from which such services are run is and development of these buildings will only be permitted in line with emerging Eden Local Plan Policy 2014-2032, that is when:
- there is no longer a need for the facility or suitable and accessible alternatives exist
 - that it is no longer economically viable to provide the facility
 - that the site has been unsuccessfully marketed for sale in its current use
- 6.56 The services and facilities in Penrith are key elements to ensuring the town retains its valued quality of life. They perform the social role of sustainable development identified in national planning policy. They provide accessible local services that meet the community's needs and support health, social and cultural wellbeing. A particular need has been identified to improve community facilities and access to such facilities on the Pategill, Raiselands, Scaws and Wetheriggs estates. The PNDP seeks to support such improvements.

Supporting Town Council Actions

- Developers will be encouraged to liaise with the Northwest Ambulance Service and provide on all major new developments Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs).
- To work with Eden District Council and the NHS to encourage the expansion of healthcare facilities at the Old Firestation site (**Appendix X Brownfield Sites**)

Relevant District Planning Policies:

Core Strategy:

- CS1 Sustainable Development Principles
CS21 Principles for Services, Facilities, Sport and Informal Recreation

Eden Local Plan 2014-2032

COM1 Principles for Services and Facilities

Penrith Town Council Strategic Priorities: Health and Wellbeing; Community Engagement.

6.57 **Policy 11 Walking and Cycling**

The provision and enhancement of walking and cycling links within the town especially between existing and new residential areas and key destinations, such as the town centre, employment sites, schools and other community facilities will be supported. Where appropriate all new development should include facilities for walking and cycling that are of good design and accessible to all.

New development should seek to address and will be assessed against the following:

1. Provision of links to existing open spaces, open space corridors and watercourses;
2. Connections to the existing network of walking and cycle path routes, including ease and directness of any new connections created to the existing footpath and cycle path network (**Map B**);
3. Permeability and legibility of the footpath and cycle path network within the development site;
4. Use of sustainable materials and design that ensures access for all users;
5. Where necessary, inclusion of signage that is of good design, appropriate to the local context and avoids clutter;
6. Designed in such a way to be safe, appropriately lit and minimise opportunities for crime; and
7. Include native tree and plant landscaping that is easily maintained and suitable to the route and its local context.

When planning for new roads and for education related development the transport needs arising from education facilities need to be taken into consideration and should seek to reduce the need for private vehicle journeys to education sites.

Background/Justification

- 6.58 Policy 11 sets out a set of principles that will be used to ensure that, where appropriate, new development improves the environment for all so that Penrith becomes a walkable and cyclable town.
- 6.59 The approach set out in Policy 11 is in line with that set out in the Core Strategy, Policy CS5 of which seeks to “promote the use of walking and cycling” and “promote a healthy lifestyle through travel choice” and supports the aim of Cumbria’s Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3) of achieving health and wellbeing throughout life. LTP3 highlights that people are eating more and doing less physical exercise than in previous generations. LTP3 encourages more people to walk and cycle to get to school and work, and for other journeys rather than using their car.

Relevant District Planning Policies:

Core Strategy:

CS1 Sustainable Development Principles
CS5 Transport and Accessibility
CS18 Design of New Development
CS21 Principles for Services, Facilities, Sport and Informal Recreation

Eden Local Plan 2014-2032

DEV3 Transport, Accessibility and Rights of Way

Penrith Town Council Strategic Priorities: Health and Wellbeing; Transport.