

Definition of Community

A community of geography

Where the definition would be all people living in a defined geographical area, a street, village or town.

This may seem straightforward but you need to be able to draw a line on a map to say why the issue or concern is only relevant to the people within that line. This can be tricky; for example if the issue is about a need for community facilities in a rural town does the issue only concern the people in the town or does it affect people living in outlying areas? Probably the latter – so the line might have to be drawn out a good distance from the town boundaries. There is no perfect answer to this question and the answer is a matter of judgement depending on the nature of the issue.

A community of interest

Where people are concerned with issues which are particular to a specific section of the community: This would be issues affecting for example. People with learning difficulties, deaf people, carers, homeless or elderly people

A community of identity

This would cover for example: family, clan travellers, migrant workers or refugees, asylum seekers, Scots, English etc

