

BOROUGH OF TELFORD & WREKIN
Newport Neighbourhood Development Plan Decision Statement
Regulation 19 Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

1. Summary

1.1. Following a positive referendum result Borough of Telford & Wrekin (“Telford & Wrekin Council”) is publishing its decision to make the Newport Neighbourhood Development Plan in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Newport Neighbourhood Development Plan is now part of Telford & Wrekin Councils Development Plan.

2. Background

- 2.1. In May 2013, Telford & Wrekin Council designated the area comprising the Town of Newport as a Neighbourhood Area for the purpose of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan in accordance with Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (England), Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.
- 2.2. Following the submission of the Newport Neighbourhood Development Plan (Regulation 15 Consultation Version) to Telford & Wrekin Council, the plan was publicised and representations were invited. The publicity period began on 5 December 2017 and ended on 23 January 2018.
- 2.3. Telford & Wrekin Council appointed an Independent Examiner, Mr Nigel McGurk, to review whether the Plan met the Basic Conditions and satisfied certain other criteria as required under the legislation and whether it should proceed to Referendum.
- 2.4. In May 2018 the Council received the Independent Examiner's report on the Newport Neighbourhood Development Plan. The report concluded that with a few modifications the Plan should proceed to Referendum.
- 2.5. Having considered each of the recommendations made in the Independent Examiner's report, and the reasons for them, Telford & Wrekin Council decided to make the recommended modifications to the draft Plan to secure that it met the Basic Conditions set out in legislation. At its meeting on 31

May 2018, the Council agreed that the Examiner's recommended modifications should be accepted and that the amended Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to a referendum.

2.6. A referendum was held on 26 July 2018 and 84.5% of those who voted were in favour of the plan.

2.7. Paragraph 38A (4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended requires that the Council must make the neighbourhood development plan if more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the plan.

2.8. However, the council are not subject to this duty if the making of the plan would breach, or would otherwise be incompatible with, any EU obligation or any of the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998).

3. Decision and Reasons

3.1. With the Examiner's recommended modifications, the Newport Neighbourhood Development Plan meets the basic conditions set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, is compatible with EU obligations and the Convention rights and complies with relevant provisions made by or under Section 38A and B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended.

3.2. The referendum held on 26 July 2018 met the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 posing the question: 'Do you want Borough of Telford & Wrekin to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Newport to help it decide planning applications in the Neighbourhood area?'

3.3. The count took place on Thursday 26 July 2018 and greater than 50% of those who voted were in favour of the Plan being used to help decide planning applications in the plan area. The results of the referendum were;

Response	Votes	% of votes cast
Yes	1807	84.5
No	320	15.0
Rejected	11	0.5
Turnout –	2138	23.6
Electorate total	9055	

3.4. Telford & Wrekin Council has assessed that the Plan, including its preparation, does not breach, and would not otherwise be incompatible with, any EU obligation or any Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998).

3.5. The Newport Neighbourhood Development Plan has now been made and planning applications in the area to which the Plan relates i.e. the administrative area of Newport Town Council, must be considered against the Newport Neighbourhood Development Plan, as well as existing planning policy, such as the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework and Guidance.

Richard Partington Managing Director Telford & Wrekin Council

This statement is dated 14 September 2018