

Rye Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement (Regulation 18, 2)

Summary

1. Following an independent examination undertaken by written representations, Rother District Council now confirms that the Rye Neighbourhood Plan will proceed to a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum.
2. This decision statement is available on the [Rye Neighbourhood Plan](#) page of the Rother District Council website and at the Bexhill Town Hall and Rye Community Help Point.

Background

3. On 4 November 2013, Rother District Council formally designated the area shown at Appendix 1 as the Rye Neighbourhood Area.
4. Following the submission of the Rye Neighbourhood Plan to Rother District Council the plan was publicised and representations were invited. The publicity period ran from 16 November 2018 to 11 January 2019.
5. The District Council appointed an independent Examiner, Mr John Slater BA (Hons), DMS, MRTPI to examine whether the Rye Neighbourhood Plan met the basic conditions as set out in Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and whether the Rye Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to a referendum.
6. The Examiner's Report recommended a number of modifications so that the Rye Neighbourhood Plan is able to comply with the 'basic conditions' and other relevant statutory provisions and that the submission plan if modified can be put to referendum.
7. The Examiner's Report (5 April 2019) concludes by stating:

"I consider that this is a locally distinct neighbourhood plan, which seeks to deliver on the expressed priorities of the residents of Rye and will deliver on its vision and protect its high quality townscape and landscape setting. The plan will provide a sound basis for dealing with planning applications in the town in the coming years.

To conclude, I can confirm that my overall conclusions are that the Plan, if amended in line with my recommendations, meets all the statutory

requirements including the basic conditions test and that it is appropriate, if successful at referendum, that the Plan, as amended, be made.”

I am therefore delighted to recommend to Rother District Council that the Rye Neighbourhood Plan, as modified by my recommendations, should now proceed to referendum.”

Recommendations, Decisions and Reasons

8. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Regulation 18 requires the local planning authority to outline what action to take in response to the recommendations of an examiner made in a report under paragraph 10 of Schedule 4a to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as applied by Section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).
9. Having considered the recommendations made by the Examiner’s report, and the reasons for them, Rother District Council in conjunction with Rye Town Council (the Qualifying Body) has agreed to accept the modifications made to the draft plan under paragraph 12(6) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in response to the Examiner’s recommendations/modifications.
10. To meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 a referendum which poses the question, ‘Do you want Rother District Council to use the Rye Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in the Rye Neighbourhood Area?’ will be held in the area formally designated as the Rye Neighbourhood Area.
11. The date on which the referendum will take place is Thursday 27 June 2019.

17 May 2019