

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL
Post Examination Decision Statement
Regulation 18 (2) of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012
EMSWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

In accordance with the above regulations, notice is hereby given that Havant Borough Council has taken the decision to accept the recommendations of independent examiner Mr Andrew Ashcroft MRTPI, and to take the Emsworth Neighbourhood Plan to a referendum in the neighbourhood area.

This decision statement is available to view

- on the Council's website www.havant.gov.uk/emsworth-neighbourhood-planning;
- at the Council's offices at Public Service Plaza, Civic Centre Road, Havant, PO9 2AX; and
- at Emsworth Library, 23 High Street, Emsworth, PO10 7AQ.

Background

In 2014, community group The Emsworth Forum applied to Havant Borough Council to be designated as the 'neighbourhood forum' and the Emsworth Ward to be designated as a 'neighbourhood area' for the purposes of neighbourhood planning. The council accepted that application and designated the forum and the area on 23 July 2014. That designation was extended for a further 5 years on 24 June 2019.

Following the submission of the Emsworth Neighbourhood Plan to Havant Borough Council on 25 April 2019 representations were invited under Regulation 16 of the above Regulations.

The Borough Council, in consultation with the Forum, appointed an independent Examiner, Mr Andrew Ashcroft MRPTI, to examine whether the Emsworth Neighbourhood Plan met the basic conditions as set out in Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and whether the Emsworth Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to a referendum. The examination was conducted by written representations.

The Examiner's Report was received on 6 January 2020. The report concluded that subject to a series of recommended modifications set out in the report, the Emsworth Neighbourhood Plan met all the necessary legal requirements and should proceed to referendum.

Decisions and Reasons

Having considered the recommendations made in the examiner's report, and the reasons for them, Havant Borough Council decided on 21 February 2020, through a delegated decision by the Cabinet Lead for Planning, Regeneration and Communities, to accept the modifications proposed in the examiner's report, and to proceed to referendum with voters in the neighbourhood area.

To meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 a referendum which poses the question 'Do you want Havant Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Emsworth to help it decide planning applications in the Neighbourhood Area?' will be held with voters in the Emsworth ward.

The date on which the referendum will take place is Thursday 7 May 2020.