



Chobham Neighbourhood Plan 2024 – 2038

Information Statement

This statement has been prepared to meet Regulation 4(3)(a) of the Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012 (as amended)

1. About this Statement

A referendum on the Chobham Neighbourhood Plan will be held on 7 May 2026. This Statement provides information on the referendum that is going to take place and how you can take part in it.

2. Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan

A referendum asks you to vote 'yes' or 'no' on a specific question. For this referendum you will receive a Ballot Paper which asks the following question:

“Do you want Surrey Heath Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Chobham to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

3. The Chobham Neighbourhood Plan

The **Chobham Neighbourhood Plan** has been prepared by **Chobham Parish Council** assisted by the neighbourhood plan steering group. It has been produced in accordance with the statutory requirements and, following independent examination which recommended some modifications, has been recommended to proceed to referendum.

The neighbourhood area for **Chobham** is shown on the map at the end of this Statement (Annex A). The boundary of the neighbourhood area was approved by Surrey Heath Borough Council on 12 November 2013. The referendum area covers the whole of the neighbourhood area, which covers the whole of the civic parish of Chobham.

4. What Does the Referendum Result Mean?

If more than 50% of individuals vote 'yes' in the referendum, then Surrey Heath Borough Council will 'make' the Chobham Neighbourhood Plan. If the Neighbourhood Plan is 'made' it will form part of the statutory development plan for Surrey Heath and help determine planning applications in the Chobham Neighbourhood Area. If more people vote 'no' than 'yes' then the Neighbourhood Plan will not be made part of the statutory development plan.

5. Can I Vote in the Referendum?

A person is entitled to vote in the Chobham Neighbourhood Plan referendum if on 7 May 2026:

- he or she is entitled to vote in a local government election in the referendum area; and
- his or her qualifying address for the election is in the referendum area. A person's qualifying address is, in relation to a person registered in the register of electors, the address in respect of which he or she is entitled to be registered.

The referendum will be conducted based in accordance with procedures similar to those used at local government elections.

In order to vote in the referendum, you must be registered to vote by **midnight on Monday, 20 April 2026**. Electors who are currently on the Electoral Register at a qualifying address do not need to make a new registration application in order to vote at this poll.

6. How Can I Vote?

There are three ways of voting, you may vote in person, by post or by proxy:

In Person:

At your local polling station on **7 May 2026**. This will be displayed on the poll card that will be sent to you.

The polling station will be open between **7am and 10pm**.

By Post:

If you already have a postal vote you will receive a postal poll card confirming this and postal vote pack with your ballot paper.

If you do not have a postal vote but, would like to vote by post in the referendum please complete a postal vote application form. Application forms can be downloaded from the [Electoral Commission website](#).

Once completed either scan a copy to **vote@surreyheath.gov.uk** or deliver it to:

Democratic Services

Surrey Heath House

Knoll Road,

Camberley

GU15 3HD

If you are not able to access the form online please contact us on **01276 707165** and we will arrange for a form to be posted to you.

*Please note: The deadline for us to receive your postal vote application is **5pm, Tuesday, 21 April 2026.***

By Proxy:

If you already have a permanent proxy vote you will receive a poll card confirming this in the weeks leading up to the referendum.

If you are unable to vote at your polling station and do not wish to vote by post you may be eligible to vote by proxy. This means appointing somebody to vote on your behalf at your polling station.

Details on applying to vote by proxy and application forms can be found on the [Electoral Commission website](#).

*Please note: The deadline for us to receive your proxy vote application is **5pm, Tuesday 28 April 2026.***

*After this date you can still apply for an emergency proxy vote if your circumstances meet certain criteria. Information is available from www.yourvotematters.co.uk or by calling **01276 707165.***

7. How to Mark Your Ballot Paper?

You show your choice by putting a cross (X) in the box next to your choice on the ballot paper.

Put a cross in only ONE box and do not mark your ballot paper in any other way. If the Counting Officer is not able to clearly understand what your intention was your vote will not be counted.

8. Referendum Expenses

Individuals or Groups may campaign to promote a particular outcome of the referendum. Spending on the campaigns is restricted by an expenses limit, which campaigners and campaign groups must not exceed.

The referendum expenses limit that will apply in relation to the referendum and the numbers of persons entitled to vote has been calculated as the following:

The expenses limit as at the publication of this notice is:

Expenses Limit: £2,362

Persons Entitled to Vote: 3,157

9. How Can I View the Referendum Documents?

There are a number of documents that are available to view as part of the referendum:

- The Chobham Neighbourhood Plan (incorporating modifications) and Appendices;
- The Independent Examiner's Report;
- A Summary of the representations submitted to the Independent Examiner;
- Post Examination Decision Statement, including confirmation that the Council is satisfied that the Plan meets the basic conditions and provisions as they apply; and,
- A statement setting out general information in relation to town & country planning (and neighbourhood planning) and the referendum.

These documents can be viewed on the [Chobham Neighbourhood Plan](#) webpage

If you do not have access to the internet the documents, including this Information Statement, will be available for inspection at:

Surrey Heath Borough Council Offices, Surrey Heath House, Knoll Road, Camberley, GU15 3HD

- Opening times: Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm for face-to-face visits. Appointments can be pre-booked by calling 01276 707100.

[Chobham Parish Council](#), Chobham Parish Pavilion, Chobham Recreation Ground, Station Rd, Chobham, GU24 8AJ

- Opening times – 10am – 12pm Mondays or by appointment via clerk@chobhamparishcouncil.org or telephone 01276 856633

10. How to Find Out More

Further general information on neighbourhood planning can be found on the [Government's neighbourhood planning guidance webpage](#).

Annex A - Boundary of Chobham Neighbourhood Area

