



Surrey Heath Borough Council
Windlesham Neighbourhood Plan
Decision Statement

**Published pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 Schedule 38A(9) and
Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General)
Regulations 2012 (as amended)**

12th June 2019

1. Summary

In accordance with the above regulations, and following a positive referendum result, Surrey Heath Borough Council (SHBC) made the Windlesham Neighbourhood Plan (2018-2028) on 12th June 2019. The Neighbourhood Plan forms part of the statutory development plan for Surrey Heath Borough Council.

2. Background

On 27th January 2015, SHBC designated the Windlesham Neighbourhood Area for the purpose of preparing a neighbourhood plan. The plan area covers the extent of the old Windlesham Ward¹ of Windlesham Parish, and lies solely within the Surrey Heath Local Planning Authority Area. Windlesham Parish Council, the qualifying body, submitted the draft Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents to SHBC on 15th February 2018.

Following submission of the Windlesham Neighbourhood Plan, SHBC publicised the Plan and supporting documents and invited representations during the consultation period which ran from 6th April 2018 for six weeks. SHBC, with the consent of Windlesham Parish Council, appointed an independent examiner, Deborah McCann BSc MRICS MRTPI Dip Arch Con Dip LD, to review the Plan and consider whether it should proceed to referendum.

¹ Windlesham Ward as defined before the electoral boundary changes effective from 2nd May 2019

The Examiner's Report was received in December 2018 and recommended that, subject to a number of proposed modifications, the Plan should proceed to referendum. The modifications are required to ensure that the Plan meets the basic conditions set out in the legislation (Para 8(2) Schedule 4B Town and Country Planning Act 1990). The examiner also recommended that the area for the referendum be based on the designated neighbourhood area which the Plan relates to.

3. Decision and Reasons for the Decision

Paragraph 38A(4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the council to make the Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting in a referendum have voted in favour of the Plan being used to help to decide planning applications in the area.

A local referendum was held in the designated Neighbourhood Area on 2nd May 2019 to decide whether the local community were in favour of the Windlesham Neighbourhood Plan. From the votes recorded, 944 out of 1,224 (77%) of those who voted were in favour of the plan. The turnout of electors was 36.24%.

The Council has also assessed and concluded that the plan, including its preparation, does not breach, and would not otherwise be incompatible with, any EU obligation or any of the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998). As such, the Council decided the following, at the Full Council meeting on 12th June 2019 to:

'make the Windlesham Neighbourhood Development Plan with immediate effect'

This decision statement can be viewed on the Surrey Heath Borough Council website at:

<https://www.surreyheath.gov.uk/residents/planning/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/windlesham-neighbourhood-plan>

Hard copies of the Neighbourhood Plan are available for inspection or purchase from the Council's Offices at Surrey Heath House, Knoll Road, Camberley, GU15 3HD (open 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday, and 8.30 am to 4.30 pm Friday). Hard copies are also available to view at Windlesham Parish Council's offices and Lightwater Library during their normal opening times.

Further information can be obtained from the Planning Policy Team on 01276 707100 or planning.policy@surreyheath.gov.uk