



West Northamptonshire Council

Overstone Neighbourhood Development Plan

Decision Statement

3 December 2021

1. Summary

1.1 Following a positive referendum result, West Northamptonshire Council is publishing its decision to 'make' the Overstone Neighbourhood Development Plan as part of West Northamptonshire Council's Development Plan in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

2. Background

2.1 Overstone Parish Council, as the qualifying body, applied for the southern part of Overstone Parish (excluding the area allocated as the Northampton North Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE)) to be designated as a neighbourhood area on 15 April 2014. Following consultation on the application Daventry District Council designated the neighbourhood area on 4 September 2014. On 18 July 2017 Overstone Parish Council applied to amend the neighbourhood area to include the area to the north of the SUE; this was approved on 12 October 2017. The current neighbourhood area which covers the entire Overstone Parish, including the SUE and area to the north, was subject to an application by Overstone Parish Council on 27 July 2020 and was approved on 31 July 2020.

2.2 The draft Neighbourhood Development Plan was published by Overstone Parish Council for public consultation between 19 October and 1 December 2020.

2.3 Following submission of the Overstone Neighbourhood Development Plan to Daventry District Council on 20 January 2021 the plan was published for consultation between 1 February and 22 March 2021.

- 2.4 Following the submission consultation, West Northamptonshire Council, with the agreement of the Parish Council, appointed an independent Examiner, Andrew Ashcroft BA (Hons) MA, DMS, MRTPI, to review whether the plan met the Basic Conditions required by the legislation and should proceed to a referendum.
- 2.5 Following the examination, the Examiner's report was completed in July 2021 and made available on the Council's website. The report concludes that subject to the making of the modifications recommended in his report, the plan meets the Basic Conditions set out in legislation and should proceed to a referendum. The Council proposed to make a different decision to the Examiner in respect of one issue, deletion of important view V6, and accordingly undertook post-examination consultation. At its meeting on 12 October 2021 West Northamptonshire Council's Cabinet considered a report on the Overstone Neighbourhood Development Plan. Having considered that report, it was resolved that Cabinet:
- a) Noted and welcomed the significant progress in making the neighbourhood development plan (NDP) by the Overstone community
 - b) Agreed the Examiner's recommended modifications in respect of the Overstone NDP with the exception of the recommendation relating to important view V6
 - c) Considered the responses to the consultation on proposed deletion of important view V6 and confirms deletion of the view
 - d) Agreed the Examiner's recommendation that the NDP, as modified in accordance with recommendation b) and c), should proceed to a referendum of voters within Overstone Parish
 - e) Approved the proposed decision statement set out in appendix 1, subject to recommendations b) and d)
 - f) Agreed that delegated authority be given to the Interim Head of Planning and Climate Change Policy to make further minor editorial changes to the NDP to address any factual and typographical errors and to reflect the fact that the document will be in its intended final form
 - g) Agreed that the costs of the referendum be met from the earmarked reserve for neighbourhood planning.

3. Decision and Reasons

3.1 With the Examiner's recommended modifications, as modified by the decision to delete important view V6, the Neighbourhood 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 provision made by or under Sections 38A and B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended.

3.2 A referendum into the Plan was held on 2 December 2021. Those voting were asked the following question:

'Do you want West Northamptonshire Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Overstone to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

3.3 The count took place on Thursday 2 December 2021, the result of the referendum was as follows:

Response	Number of Votes	Percentage of Total
Yes	197	87.16%
No	28	12.39%
Turnout: 27.16%		
Number of ballot papers rejected: 1		

3.4 The Regulations require that a majority of those voting vote in favour for the plan to be made. This requirement is therefore satisfied.

3.5 To be legally compliant, neighbourhood development plans must not contravene Convention rights or European Union obligations when made. Based on the Screening Report for Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment (October 2020) and confirmed by the examiner in his report (July 2021) and that nothing has come to light subsequently, there is no evidence to suggest any such contravention would occur. I am satisfied that this requirement is met and it is possible for the plan to now be made.

Upon the signing of this document by the Interim Head of Planning and Climate Change Policy, the Overstone Neighbourhood Plan is made and planning applications in the Overstone Neighbourhood Area must be considered against the Overstone Neighbourhood Plan, as well as existing planning policy.

I certify that the above statements are true.

Signed:

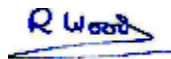


Jane Parry, Senior Policy Officer (Planning)

Date 3 December 2021

I certify that I am satisfied that the making the Overstone Neighbourhood Development Plan would not contravene Convention rights or European Union obligations.

Signed:



Richard Wood, Interim Head of Planning and Climate Change Policy

Date 3 December 2021