

Notification of Decision

6 March 2024



COTSWOLD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Notification of Decision of the Cabinet Member for Planning and Regulatory Services

Present: Councillor Juliet Layton

Officers: Joseph Walker – Community Partnerships Officer, Caleb Harris- Senior Democratic Services Officer

1. Declarations of Interest

There were none from the Cabinet Member or the Officers present.

2. Neighbourhood Planning: Regulation 15 Decision for The Stow and The Swells Neighbourhood Development Plan

The purpose of the item was to agree the Cotswold District Council representation on the Cirencester Neighbourhood Plan.

The Cabinet Member invited the Community Partnerships Officer to introduce the decision.

The following points were made:

- It was highlighted that the Regulation 14 consultation is a key part of the process for Neighbourhood Development Plans as the main consultation opportunity for residents, landowners and statutory consultees.
- As a statutory consultee, there was an opportunity for the Council to provide its input.
- Cirencester Town Council was congratulated for a well-presented plan and consultation. It was also highlighted that there is opportunity to comment online for residents and other parties. This was also in line with the Cirencester Masterplan and Local Plan consultations.
- It was noted that the Council response is supportive of the ambitions of the plan but this was the opportunity for reflections and revisions on the proposal at Annex A.
- It was highlighted that Council officers had flagged some opportunities where policy could be clarified and revised to ensure a better fit with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
- It was noted that there were over 30 policies to consider, and it was a comprehensive document.
- The Community Partnership officer suggested one minor addition to what's in the document pack. This was to add direction to the criteria within the NPPF to support the comments on page 63 of Annex A, regarding proposed Local Green Spaces.

The Cabinet Member agreed to the minor amendment presented.

The Cabinet Member commended the documents presentation and the pride for Cirencester shown.

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Decision

The Cabinet Member considered the report, the recommendations of the officer and subject to the minor amendment, AGREED this for submission to Cirencester Town Council.

Reason for Decision of the Cabinet Member for Planning and Regulatory Services

The Cabinet Member stated that the Council's representation has been written to enhance the policies and the plan by identifying either points which may not meet the Basic Conditions against which the Neighbourhood Development Plan will be assessed, or where the wording used may be open to interpretation during the development management process, and thereby help Cirencester's Neighbourhood Plan meet its vision.

3. Neighbourhood Planning: Decision to make the Down Ampney Neighbourhood Development Plan

The purpose of the item was to consider the result of the referendum held on the 29 February 2024, in line with statutory duty regarding the Down Ampney Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The Cabinet Member invited the Community Partnerships Officer to introduce the decision.

The following points were made:

- This was a neighbourhood plan at the end of the process which is a referendum.
- It was noted that on 29 February 2024 the referendum produced a strong result of over 90% of the electors voting in favour of the plan.
- In this case, none of the legal reasons which may prevent the making of the plan have been identified and the referendum result stands.

Decision

The Cabinet Member considered the recommendations of the officer and AGREED that the Down Ampney Neighbourhood Plan be made.

Reason for Decision of the Cabinet Member for Planning and Regulatory Services

The Cabinet Member felt that the plan should be made, because it had been found to meet the Basic Conditions at examination, and the referendum has returned a decisive vote in favour of the plan being made. The Cabinet Member also wished to congratulate the efforts of the team who had put the plan together and wished them well for the future of the plan.

ACTIONS BY:

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Action Embargoed until:

6 March 2024
14 March 2024 (5.00pm)
15 March 2024

(END)