

NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL DECISION



DECISION OF: COUNCILLOR MARK CANNIFORD. THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR PLACEMAKING AND ECONOMY

WITH ADVICE FROM: THE DIRECTOR OF PLACE

DECISION NO: 22/23 DP 284

SUBJECT: PORTISHEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN. NORTH SOMERSET' COMMENTS ON THE SUBMITTED PLAN

KEY DECISION: YES

REASON: The Portishead Neighbourhood Plan will affect residents in all four wards of Portishead.

BACKGROUND:

The Portishead Neighbourhood Plan was submitted to North Somerset Council on 8 August 2022 for examination. The Executive on 7 September resolved that the plan met the necessary criteria to be passed to examination by an independent examiner and that North Somerset Council's comments on the submitted plan should be agreed by the Executive member for Placemaking and Economy.

As required by Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 North Somerset Council published the Plan for consultation with statutory and local bodies and the local community on Wednesday 5 October. The six-week period ends on Friday 18 November 2022. All comments made within this time including North Somerset Council's comments on the plan will be passed to an independent examiner for consideration during the examination. Details can be found at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/portisheadplan.

Officers have advised on planning policy and procedure during the plan making process, however the final plan contains a number of issues which should be addressed. Many of the comments suggest where more precise wording is needed to make the plan more effective or easier to interpret and implement. Other changes are suggested to better align the policies with national planning policy and/or North Somerset Council's strategic planning policies. The policies or paragraphs which are of note are listed in the attached appendix with suggested actions to remedy them.

DECISION:

The appended list of comments on the Portishead Neighbourhood Plan should be forwarded to the examiner to be considered during the examination of the Plan.

REASONS:

North Somerset Council officers have advised on the preparation of the plan by giving both procedural and technical support. This is the final opportunity for North Somerset Council to provide comments on the content of the plan.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

To not provide comments would mean that North Somerset Council lost the opportunity to improve the content of the plan to make the policies more effective and easier to implement and to better align with national and local planning policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no direct financial implications which relate to this decision.

Costs

This decision will not incur any costs to the Council.

Funding

There is a duty on the Council to assist the Neighbourhood Plan making process (including giving policy advice, organising consultation, commissioning and paying for the examination as well as the referendum) and this has resource implications. The Government has recognised this and has made money available to local planning authorities to assist with the process. £20k can be claimed by North Somerset Council upon a successful examination and a decision to pass the plan to a local referendum. Based on past expenditure it is anticipated that the funding claimed will fully cover the costs incurred by the Council including the primary cost of appointing the examiner and holding the referendum

LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS

There is a duty on the Council to assist the Neighbourhood Plan making process and the procedure is set out in Schedule 4B of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act (as amended) and Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, and Town and Country Planning (general) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no climate change and environmental implications.

CONSULTATION

As required by Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 North Somerset Council published the Portishead Neighbourhood Plan for consultation with statutory and local bodies and the local community on Wednesday 5 October for a period of six weeks to end on Friday 18 November. All comments including North Somerset Council's comments on the plan made within this time will be passed to the independent examiner for consideration during the examination.

RISK MANAGEMENT

There are not considered to be any risk management issues associated with this decision

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no equality impact implications of this decision. The Portishead Neighbourhood Plan itself is considered to have met the necessary Human Rights Articles and it is not considered that there are any equality impact considerations arising from the Plan.

Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment? Yes / **No**

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

There are no corporate implications arising from this decision.

APPENDICES


North Somerset Council's comments on the submission Portishead Neighbourhood Plan.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

[Portishead Neighbourhood Plan](#)


SIGNATORIES:

DECISION MAKER(S):

Signed:  Executive Member for Placemaking and Economy

Date: 7 November 2022

WITH ADVICE FROM:

Signed:  Assistant Director Placemaking and Growth. In accordance with 22/23 DP 53

Date: 7 November 2022