

The Decision Statement



Great Gransden Neighbourhood Plan

Decision Statement

Following an independent examination Huntingdonshire District Council's Cabinet confirmed on the 24 January 2023 that the Great Gransden Neighbourhood Plan will proceed to a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum.

Background

The Great Gransden neighbourhood area was designated on 30 July 2018 under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (2012). The plan area covers the parish of Great Gransden.

Great Gransden Parish Council, as the qualifying body, submitted the Great Gransden Neighbourhood Plan and its supporting evidence to Huntingdonshire District Council on 17 August 2022. The statutory six week submission consultation was held from 25 August to 14 October 2022.

Huntingdonshire District Council, in discussion with Great Gransden Parish Council, appointed an independent examiner, Andrew S Freeman BSc (Hons) DipTP DipEM FRTPI, to review whether the submitted Neighbourhood Plan met the Basic Conditions as required by legislation. Andrew Freeman issued his report on 30 November 2022 which recommended that the Neighbourhood Plan, subject to the modifications proposed in his report, met the Basic Conditions and should proceed to referendum.

Following discussions with the qualifying body it was decided that the Examiner's recommendations would be accepted in full.

The Basic Conditions are:

- Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood plan;
- The making of the neighbourhood plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
- The making of the neighbourhood plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area);

- The making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, European Union (EU) obligations; and
- Prescribed conditions are met in relation to the neighbourhood plan and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the neighbourhood plan.

Regulations 32 and 33 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (2012) (as amended) set out two basic conditions in addition to those set out in primary legislation and referred to above. These are:

- The making of the neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects
- Having regard to all material considerations, it is appropriate that the neighbourhood development order is made where the development described in an order proposal is Environmental Impact Assessment development (this is not applicable to this examination).

Decision and Reasons

Huntingdonshire District Council's Cabinet considered the recommendations on 24 January 2023 and agreed to accept the Examiner's proposed modifications and approve the Great Gransden Neighbourhood Plan to proceed to referendum.

The modifications to the Neighbourhood Plan, as needed to ensure it meets the Basic Conditions and in accordance with the Examiner's recommendations are listed in the following table. The Examiner also concluded that any other consequential amendments, non-material changes and up-dating (that do not affect the Basic Conditions), including suggestions set out in the representations, can be incorporated into the final version of the Plan.

Examiner's Recommended Modifications Received 30 November 2022

The statement below sets out the modifications considered by the examiner as necessary to enable the submission neighbourhood plan to meet the required basic conditions. Strike-through text indicates a deletion and bold indicates the insertion of additional text.

Proposed modification (PM)	Page no.	Modification
PM1	Page 43	<p>In the first bullet point of Policy G1, replace “the edge of” with “a site contiguous with”. After “Boundary”, replace “in” with “and within easy and”.</p> <p>In the second bullet point, delete “exceptional”.</p> <p>At the start of the final bullet point, insert “Where the scale permits,”. At the end of the final bullet point, add “(see Paragraph 7.1.17)”.</p>
PM2	Page 44	<p>Replace Policy G2 with the following:</p> <p>“Proposals for small scale affordable housing (10 or fewer dwellings) on rural exceptions sites contiguous with the Built-Up Area Boundary will be supported in principle for occupation by people with a genuine local connection with Great Gransden parish provided that the criteria in Policy LP 28 of Huntingdonshire’s Local Plan, and the related reasoning, are met.</p> <p>In addition, the following local criteria will apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the homes are located within safe and easy pedestrian and cycle access to Great Gransden village centre and amenities; and • no significant harm shall be caused to the character of the village, its setting or the countryside.”
PM3	Pages 46 and 47	<p>In Policy G3, at the end of the reference to ribbon and greenfield development, add “unless it accords with the specific opportunities afforded by local and national policy”.</p> <p>In the final paragraph, replace “cycles etc” with “cycles, electric scooters and mobility scooters”.</p>
PM4	Page 53	<p>In the final sentence of Policy G4, replace “they would adversely impact” with “there would be a significant adverse impact”.</p> <p>On Figure 8, delete View A, View D (both) and View E (looking south). Delete related references in the text.</p> <p>The remaining sites should be relabelled A-F.</p>
PM5	Page 55	<p>In the third paragraph of Policy G5, replace “they adversely impact” with “there would be a significant</p>

Proposed modification (PM)	Page no.	Modification
		<p>adverse impact”.</p> <p>Insert “(as shown on Figure 8)” after “Conservation Area”.</p> <p>On Figure 8, show the Conservation Area boundary.</p>
PM6	Page 59	<p>In Policy G6, after “NPPF”, insert “LP 4 of the Local Plan (Contributing to Infrastructure Delivery) and the Developer Contributions SPD (2011) (or any successor documents)”.</p>
PM7	Page 63	<p>In Policy G7, replace “will not be acceptable other than in the exceptions identified in national policy,” with “shall be consistent with national Green Belt Policy and”.</p> <p>Delete Sites A, B, C and D from the list of Other Valued Green Spaces. Delete from Figure 11 and remove related references in the text.</p> <p>The remaining sites should be relabelled A-C.</p>
PM8	Page 66	<p>In Policy G8, after “NPPF”, insert “LP 4 of the Local Plan (Contributing to Infrastructure Delivery) and the Developer Contributions SPD (2011) (or any successor documents)”.</p>
PM9	Page 68	<p>In Policy G9, delete “or Permissive Path, or which is clearly visible from a Public Right of Way”.</p> <p>In the final paragraph, delete “and permissive path”.</p>
PM10	Page 71	<p>In Policy G10, replace “these must be provided” with “provision shall be made as required by the District Council in consultation with the local highway authority”.</p>
PM11	Page 77	<p>In the first sentence of Policy G13, after “as per” insert “the NPPF, Local Plan, Policy LP 4 (Contributing to Infrastructure Delivery) and the Developer Contributions SPD (2011) (or any successor documents)”.</p>