

14. LEEKFRITH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (AM)

1. Purpose of the report

To 'make' (bring into force) Leekfrith Neighbourhood Plan (as attached at Appendix 1 to this report) part of the statutory development plan for Leekfrith Neighbourhood Area.

Key Issues

- **following a positive referendum result, under Section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Peak District National Park Authority must 'make' (bring into force) Leekfrith Neighbourhood Development Plan part of the statutory development plan for Leekfrith Neighbourhood Area.**
- **A referendum asking 'Do you want Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and the Peak District National Park Authority to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Leekfrith to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area' took place on 6 May 2021. One hundred (100) people voted 'yes' and seventeen (17) voted 'no'.**
- **Staffordshire Moorlands District Council will determine whether the plan should be made on 30 June 2021.**

2. Recommendations(s)

- 1. That the Authority designates Leekfrith Neighbourhood Plan (as attached at Appendix 1 to this report) as part of the statutory development plan for Leekfrith Neighbourhood Area.**

How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

- 3. This is a legal obligation under Section 38 A (4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.**

Background Information

- 4. Leekfrith Neighbourhood Area was designated by the Peak District National Park Authority on 13 March 2015 and by Staffordshire Moorlands District Council on 24 March 2015. The area is same as the civil parish area. The relevant body that applied for the designation is Leekfrith Parish Council.**
- 5. Following submission by Leekfrith Parish Council of the draft Leekfrith Neighbourhood Plan to the Peak District National Park Authority and Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, and in accordance with Neighbourhood Planning Regulations Part 5 (14), the plan was publicised and representations were invited. This took place between 2 August 2019 and 23 September 2019.**
- 6. On 21 September 2019, the Peak District National Park Authority, with the agreement of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and Leekfrith Parish Council, and under Schedule 4B (para 7) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and Regulation 17 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, agreed to the appointment of an independent examiner. Mr Edward Collison was appointed as an independent examiner to review whether the plan met the Basic Conditions required by legislation and should proceed to referendum.**

7. The examiner's report was received on 23 December 2019 and was made available for viewing on the councils' web-sites. The examiner concluded that Leekfrith Neighbourhood Plan, as modified by his recommendations, met the basic conditions set out in the legislation.
8. The Peak District National Park Authority (at a meeting of the Planning Committee on 6 March 2020) and Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (at a Cabinet meeting on 11 February 2020), determined that the modifications recommended by the examiner be accepted and that Leekfrith Neighbourhood Plan met the Basic Conditions, was compatible with Convention rights and complied with the definition of a neighbourhood development plan and so should proceed to a referendum.

Proposals

9. That Leekfrith Neighbourhood Plan be made part of the statutory development plan for Leekfrith Neighbourhood Area.

Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial:

10. none

Risk Management:

11. The steps that the Authority is taking to respond to the referendum on Leekfrith Neighbourhood Plan means that the risk of failure to meet government standards or legal obligations is negligible.

Sustainability:

12. Sustainability issues are fully considered in the neighbourhood planning process

Equality:

13. Equality issues are fully considered in the neighbourhood planning process

14. Climate Change

1. How does this decision contribute to the Authority's role in climate change set out in the UK Government Vision and Circular for National Parks?

Working with communities to plan for the development and use of land

2. How does this decision contribute to the Authority meeting its carbon net zero target?

Not applicable

3. How does this decision contribute to the National Park meeting carbon net zero by 2050?

Not applicable

4. Are there any other Climate Change related issues that are relevant to this decision

that should be brought to the attention of Members?

No.

15. Background papers (not previously published)

None.

16. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Leekfrith Neighbourhood Plan – Referendum Version

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

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