

7. MAKING OF HARTINGTON TOWN QUARTER PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

1. Purpose

1.1. To 'make' Hartington Town Quarter Parish Neighbourhood Plan ('the Neighbourhood Plan' 'the Plan') part of the statutory development plan for Hartington Town Quarter Parish Neighbourhood Area ('the Neighbourhood Area').

2. Context

2.1. The Neighbourhood Area was designated by the Peak District National Park Authority ('the Authority') on 8th February 2013 in accordance with Regulations. All reference in this report to 'Regulations' is to the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

2.2 Hartington Town Quarter Parish Council prepared the Neighbourhood Plan and undertook its Regulation 14 consultation. The Parish Council then modified the Plan and submitted it to the Authority under Regulation 15.

2.3 On the 17th January 2025, the Planning Committee determined that the Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan met legal requirements and authorised its further (Regulation 16) public consultation and independent examination. The Regulation 16 consultation was undertaken by the Authority between 3rd March 2025 and 28th April 2025.

2.4 A qualified, experienced independent examiner was appointed by the Authority in consultation with Hartington Town Quarter Parish Council. Examination of the Plan took place in July 2025 and was conducted by written representations. The examiner considered all of the policies and supporting text within the Plan, and whether it met the Basic Conditions required by legislation (paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990). The Examiner's Report recommended a number of modifications to the Plan and concluded that, subject to those modifications being made, it should proceed to referendum.

2.6 On 5th September 2025 the Planning Committee resolved to accept the proposed modifications and that the Plan as modified met the Basic Conditions, was compatible with Convention rights, complied with the definition of a neighbourhood development plan and should proceed to referendum.

2.7 On 27th November 2025 a referendum was undertaken by Derbyshire Dales District Council. It asked: 'Do you want the Peak District National Park Authority to use the neighbourhood plan for the Parish of Hartington Town Quarter to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?' One hundred and twenty-nine (129) people voted 'yes' and eighteen (18) voted 'no'.

2.8 Following the referendum, it was identified that the Authority had not published a Decision Statement following receipt of the Examiner's Report. This is required under Regulation 18 to set out the Authority's decision and proposed actions following receipt of the Examiner's Report.

2.9 By agreement with Derbyshire Dales District Council and in accordance with legal advice officers determined that it was necessary to repeat the statutory process from the point of error (Regulation 18 Notification and Referendum) to ensure the Neighbourhood Plan could be properly and lawfully made. The Authority acknowledges this error and has apologised to Hartington Town Quarter Parish Council, residents and other stakeholders for the inconvenience and confusion.

2.10 On 11 March 2026 the Regulation 18 Decision Statement was sent by post to all households and businesses in the Neighbourhood Area and publicised on the Authority's website.

2.11 On 8th July 2026 a repeat referendum was undertaken by Derbyshire Dales District Council. One hundred and eight (108) people voted 'yes' and six (6) voted 'no'. As the Hartington Town Quarter Parish Neighbourhood Plan was supported by a majority of those voting it must be made part of the statutory Development Plan for the purposes of determining planning applications within the neighbourhood area.

3. Proposals

3.1. That Hartington Town Quarter Parish Neighbourhood Plan be made part of the statutory development plan for Hartington Town Quarter Parish Neighbourhood Area.

4. Recommendations

4.1. That the Committee makes Hartington Town Quarter Parish Neighbourhood Plan part of the statutory development plan for Hartington Town Quarter Parish Neighbourhood Area.

5. Corporate Implications

a. Legal

The Authority has a legal duty to 'make' neighbourhood plans that are supported in a referendum.

b. Financial

The costs associated with neighbourhood planning, including the Examination and Referendum, must be met by the Authority. The cost of the repeat referendum was £2,934.81.

c. National Park Management Plan and Authority Plan

Support for neighbourhood planning is a key delivery mechanism for the achievement of Management Plan Objectives.

d. Risk Management

There are no risk management implications.

e. Net Zero

This report doesn't directly contribute to meeting net zero.

6. Background papers (not previously published)

Nil.

7. Appendices

7.1 Appendix 1 – [Hartington Town Quarter Parish Neighbourhood Plan Referendum Result](#)

7.2 Appendix 2 – [Hartington Town Quarter Parish Neighbourhood Plan](#)

Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date

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