

**Horsham District Council Local Planning Authority Horsham  
Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Development Plan 2036  
The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as  
amended) Regulation 19 and 20: Decision on a Plan Proposal  
and Publicising a Neighbourhood Development Plan**

**Introduction**

- 1.0** Under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), Horsham District Council has a statutory duty to support Parish Councils and Qualifying Bodies in the preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP's) and Orders and to take Neighbourhood Plans and Orders through a process of examination and referendum. The Localism Act 2011 (Part 6 chapter 3) sets out the Council's responsibilities under Neighbourhood Planning.

**Background**

- 2.0** The Neighbourhood Plan Area for the Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Development Plan (HBBNDP) covers the whole of the Denne, Forest and Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council area. The Horsham Blueprint Neighbourhood Forum was designated as a Neighbourhood Plan Area in June 2015 by Horsham Council and redesignated again in June 2020 to adhere to the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended).
- 2.1** The Pre-Submission HBBNDP underwent consultation under Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, from 10 February concluding on the 24 March 2020. The Pre-Submission Plan was amended in response to the comments made during the consultation and the "Submission Plan" was then formally submitted to the District Council. The Council, in accordance with Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, undertook a further consultation of the Submission Plan. Representations were invited between 14 September and the 2 November 2020.
- 2.2** Derek Stebbing was appointed by the Council with the consent of Horsham Blueprint, to undertake the examination of the submission Horsham Blueprint Business

Neighbourhood Plan and to prepare a report of the independent examination.

- 2.3** The Examiner's Report was completed and sent to Horsham District Council on the 5 February 2021. The Examiner concluded that with a number of modifications the Submission HBBNDP Neighbourhood Plan would meet the Basic Conditions and could proceed to Referendum on that basis. Following agreement with the Blueprint it was agreed to take the plan forward to referendum.
- 2.4** The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 makes provision for the conduct of additional "Business Referendums". As the Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Forum Area is also identified as a 'business area' there was a requirement to include the business community (specifically non-domestic rate payers) as part of the Referendum process. Two referendums were held separately for both residents and businesses on 20 October 2022. In the residential referendum more than 80% voted in support of the Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Plan. In the business referendum more than 90% voted in support of the plan. It follows, Horsham District Council must 'make' the plan so it can be used to help determine planning application as part of the development plan for the district.
- 2.5** On 14 December 2022, Horsham District Council resolved at Full Council that Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Development Plan to 2036, (incorporating the Examiners modifications and all modifications as per the HDC Decision Statement), should be 'made' and become part of the Development Plan for Horsham District Council.

### **Conclusion**

- 3.0** It is therefore confirmed that the HBBNDP to (incorporating Examiner's modifications as set out in the Horsham District Council Decision Statement), complies with the legal requirements and basic conditions set out in the Localism Act 2011. As a result of the Full Council resolution of 14 December 2023 the HBBNDP has been 'made' with effect 15 December 2022.
- 3.1** In accordance with Regulation 20 of the 2012 Regulations, the HBBNDP is available to view on the Council's website and on the Parish Council's website. In addition, hard copies are available upon request to view at the Horsham District Council Offices, Parkside, Chart Way, North Street, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1RL. Horsham District Council has also notified all persons who requested to be notified of the making of the plan and where it can be inspected.