

Re-designation of Horsham Blueprint Neighbourhood Business Forum – Evidence of authority

This application is for the re-designation of Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Forum in relation to the existing Neighbourhood Plan Area (as specified in the Horsham District Council Decision Notice dated 24 August 2020).

Constitution

A copy of our constitution is attached. There have been no changes since it was approved.

The constitution recognises the key roles of the Neighbourhood Councils, Horsham Town Community Partnership, the Horsham Society and other civic groups in working together in support of the Forum's objectives.

Statement

Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Forum seeks re-designation with the express purpose of:

promoting and improving the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Neighbourhood Forum Area in accordance with Section 61F(5)(a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and to produce and maintain a Neighbourhood Development Plan covering the Area.

With the adoption in December 2022 by HDC of the 'Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2036' our emphasis has shifted to monitoring development within, and affecting, our area to ensure that the policies within the Plan are taken into account; and to support and encourage the implementation of the non-policy actions within the Plan in furtherance of its Vision and Objectives. As and when the Horsham District Local plan is approved we will consider the need for consequential amendments to our Neighbourhood Plan.

Membership

The Forum is non-political and fully inclusive in accordance Section 61F(5)(b) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Membership is open to:

- I. Individuals who live in the Area.
- ii. Individuals who work in the Area (whether for businesses carried on there or otherwise), and
- iii. Individuals who are elected ward members for West Sussex County Council or Horsham District Council any of whose area falls within the Area.

The membership includes a minimum of 21 individuals each of whom—

- i. Lives in the Area

- ii. Works there (whether for a business carried on there or otherwise), or
- iii. Is an elected ward member for West Sussex County Council or Horsham District Council any of whose area falls within the Area.

We currently have 37 active members drawn widely across the Forum area, including elected representatives from HDC and WSCC. We therefore have considerably more than the legislative requirement for 21 members.

We have ten affiliated organisations, including 'Your Horsham' (Horsham BID)

In addition more than 500 people have signed up to be on our mailing list.

Governance arrangements

The Steering Group may be between 6 and 15 people. For your information Minutes of the existing steering committee can be found at https://horshamblueprint.org/?page_id=102

The Steering Group is elected annually at the Annual General Meeting, and includes 5 reserved spaces for representatives from Denne, Forest and Trafalgar Neighbourhood Councils, Horsham Town Community Partnership and the Horsham Society.

The Steering Group is tasked with over-seeing activities of the Forum.