



Ashby de la Zouch Neighbourhood Development Plan – Final Decision Statement

1. Summary

- 1.1 Following a positive referendum result North West Leicestershire District Council is publishing its decision to 'make' the Ashby de la Zouch Neighbourhood Development Plan in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Ashby de la Zouch Neighbourhood Development Plan forms part of the Development Plan for North West Leicestershire District.

2. Reasons for Decision

- 2.1 The Ashby de la Zouch Neighbourhood Plan meets the Basic Condition and its promotion process is compliant with legal and procedural requirements. Paragraph 38A(4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to make the Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting in the referendum have voted in favour of the Plan being used to help decide planning applications in the area. The Plan was endorsed by more than the required threshold in the referendum on 22 November 2018.

3. Background

- 3.1 In December 2013 Ashby de la Zouch successfully applied for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area under Part 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.
- 3.2 In August 2017, Ashby Town Council submitted the Examination Version of the Plan to the District Council. It underwent a period of consultation from 30 August 2017 to 11 October 2017. North West Leicestershire District Council appointed an Independent Examiner, Mr Jeremy Edge, to assess whether the plan met the basic conditions required by legislation and whether the plan should proceed to referendum.
- 3.3 The Examiners report concluded that, subject to modifications, the Ashby de la Zouch will meet the necessary basic conditions and subject to these modifications being made should proceed to a Referendum based on the Ashby de la Zouch Neighbourhood Area.
- 3.4 A referendum was held on 22 November 2018, and the question asked at referendum was:-

“Do you want North West Leicestershire District to use the Neighbourhood Plan for the Ashby de la Zouch Neighbourhood Area to help it decide planning applications in the Neighbourhood Area?”

The turnout was 22.01% and 92% of those who voted were in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan.

- 3.5 North West Leicestershire District Council has assessed that the Plan, including its preparation, does not breach, and would not otherwise be incompatible with, any EU obligation or any Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998).
- 3.6 In accordance with the regulations the Ashby de la Zouch Neighbourhood Plan is 'made' and planning applications in the Neighbourhood Area must be considered against the Ashby de la Zouch Neighbourhood Plan, as well as other existing planning policy, including the North West Leicestershire Local Plan.
- 3.7 This decision statement can be viewed online on the North West Leicestershire District Council website at

https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/ashby_neighbourhood_plan

It can also be viewed in hard copy at:

North West Leicestershire District Council, Council Offices, Whitwick Road, Coalville, Leicestershire, LE67 3FJ – Mon- Wed and Friday: 8.45am - 5pm. Thurs: 9.30am - 5pm and;

At Ashby de la Zouch Library (North Street, Ashby de la Zouch, LE65 1HU) during its normal opening hours of:

Monday: 10am to 5pm, Tuesday: 1pm to 6pm, Wednesday: Closed, Thursday: 10am to 5pm, Friday: 10am to 5pm, Saturday: 10am to 3pm and Sunday: Closed