

## Chichester District Council

### Development Plan Panel

Thursday 15 May 2014

### Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan Draft Decision Statement

#### 1. Contact

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#### 2. Recommendations

##### 2.1 That the Development Plan Panel recommends to the Cabinet that:

- The Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan proceeds to referendum subject to the modifications set out in the Draft Decision Statement attached as appendix one to this report.
- The Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan Referendum Area has the same boundary as the Designated Neighbourhood Area.

#### 3. Background

- 3.1. The Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan was examined in March 2014 by Janet Cheesley. The examiner has submitted a report recommending that the Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan proceed to referendum subject to a number of modifications. The examiner's report also recommended that the Referendum Area was the same as the Designated Neighbourhood Area.
- 3.2. Chichester District Council is responsible for publishing a Decision Statement which sets out the modifications that are to be made to the Neighbourhood Plan. The reasons for each of the proposed modifications are set out in appendix one.
- 3.4. Loxwood Parish Council has the ability to withdraw their Neighbourhood Plan if it is unhappy with the recommendations set out in the Draft Decision Statement. The recommendations have been discussed with Loxwood Parish Council and it is happy to proceed to referendum with the modifications to the neighbourhood plan set out in the Decision Statement.
- 3.5. The date of the referendum has been provisionally set for Thursday 31 July 2014. The referendum will be organised by Chichester District Council Electoral Services in much the same way as a local election. The question that the referendum has to ask is: 'Do you want Chichester District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Loxwood Parish to help it decide planning applications in the Neighbourhood Area?'

- 3.6 Anybody registered to vote in the area covered the neighbourhood plan/referendum will be entitled to vote. A simple majority of votes (over 50% of those voting) in favour of the neighbourhood plan is sufficient for it to succeed.
- 3.7 When the Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan successfully passes its referendum, the final plan will be brought back to Chichester District Council to be formally made part of the Development Plan for the plan area.

#### **4 Appendix**

- 4.1 Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement