

# Chichester District Council

CABINET

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## Southbourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan

### 1. Contacts

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### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the Decision Statement as set out in the Appendix be published.
- 2.2. That the Examiner's recommendation that, subject to modifications as set out in the decision statement, the Neighbourhood Plan proceed to referendum be approved.

### 3. Background

- 3.1. The Examination into the Southbourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan Submission Plan has now been completed and the Examiner's report and Addendum published. The Examiner's summary (section 7.0) is of particular note as it clearly sets out the Examiner's general findings.
- 3.2. The Examiner has carefully considered the contents of the Southbourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan in relation to the requirements of the Basic Conditions. In order to ensure the Neighbourhood Plan meets these requirements the Examiner recommends a number of modifications that should be made to the Plan. Subject to the inclusion of these modifications (which relate principally to revisions to the wording and content of policies), he finds that the Plan would meet the basic conditions.
- 3.3. On the basis that the Plan is amended to accommodate the identified modifications, the Examiner then goes on to recommend that the draft Plan as modified should be submitted for referendum.
- 3.4. The Decision Statement (attached as an Appendix to this report) sets out the Examiner's recommended modifications along with the justification for each of them. This Decision Statement has been produced jointly with Southbourne Parish Council.
- 3.5. It is also the Examiner's role to consider the referendum area and whether or not it is appropriate if the Plan is to proceed to referendum. In this respect the Examiner considers that the referendum area should extend to the Plan area, comprising the revised Parish boundary in accordance with the designated area as confirmed on 5 March 2014 and as identified as Plan A within the Plan.

#### **4. Outcomes to be achieved**

- 4.1. That the Decision Statement for the Southbourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan is agreed for publication and that the Plan, subject to the modifications set out in the Decision Statement, proceeds to referendum.

#### **5. Proposal**

- 5.1. In the light of the Examiner's recommendation, it is proposed that the Decision Statement is agreed for publication. It is further proposed that the Southbourne Neighbourhood Plan should be modified as set out in the Decision Statement and should then proceed to referendum.

#### **6. Alternatives that have been considered**

- 6.1. That the Council does not agree the Decision Statement for publication and the Southbourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan cannot proceed to referendum. This is not supported by the evidence which indicates that the plan should proceed.

#### **7. Resource and legal implications**

- 7.1. The referendum will incur appropriate costs in line with the Council's duties and procedures. These costs will be met through existing budgets.

#### **8. Consultation**

- 8.1. Southbourne Parish Council and local members have been involved in the completion of the Decision Statement and have agreed its contents.

#### **9. Community impact and corporate risks**

- 9.1. There may be a community impact if the Southbourne Neighbourhood Plan is not agreed to proceed to referendum. The Parish and community may lose confidence in the neighbourhood planning process.

#### **10. Other Implications**

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| <b>Crime &amp; Disorder:</b>             | None |
| <b>Climate Change:</b>                   | None |
| <b>Human Rights and Equality Impact:</b> | None |
| <b>Safeguarding:</b>                     | None |

#### **11. Appendices**

- 11.1 Southbourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement  
(The Decision Statement is available in colour in the supplementary appendices pack on the Council's website; it is printed in black and white for members of the Cabinet.)

#### **12. Background Papers**

- 12.1. None