

# RECORD OF DECISIONS BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN CONSULTATION WITH CABINET MEMBER

**Rob Murfin** – Interim Executive Director of Planning & Local Services, Regeneration, Commercial & Economy

**Councillor Colin Horncastle** – Cabinet Member for Community Services

---

## Decision on the application to designate the civil parish of Cresswell as a neighbourhood area for the purposes of neighbourhood planning

---

### 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to determine an application to designate the civil parish of Cresswell as a neighbourhood area for the purposes of neighbourhood planning.

### 2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that:

- The civil parish of Cresswell should be designated as a neighbourhood area for the purposes of section 61G(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990; and
- The area covered by the parish of Cresswell will not be designated as a business area for the purposes of neighbourhood planning.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 Cresswell Parish Council has applied to the County Council seeking designation of the parish as a neighbourhood area.
- 3.2 Legislation sets out a number of steps that are required to be taken when using neighbourhood planning powers. The first requirement is to have an area designated as a 'neighbourhood area'. Once this has been done, all other neighbourhood planning powers may be exercised by the qualifying body, in this case, Cresswell Parish Council.
- 3.3 The area designation application complies with the requirements set out in the relevant Regulations.
- 3.4 Legislation requires that the local planning authority must have regard to the desirability of designating the whole of a parish as a neighbourhood planning area where an application is made by a parish council. Unless there are good reasons to act otherwise, it will be appropriate to designate the whole of a civil parish as a neighbourhood area.
- 3.5 The proposed neighbourhood area consists of a single civil parish. The adjoining parish councils have expressed no intention of joining with Cresswell to create a larger neighbourhood area. The civil parish boundaries provide an appropriate geographically distinct area within which neighbourhood planning activity could take place. It is considered appropriate to designate the civil parish of Cresswell as a neighbourhood area.
- 3.6 As part of the process of designation the County Council must consider whether the area should also be designated as a business area for neighbourhood planning purposes. The proposed neighbourhood area is not dominated by business activities. It would therefore not be appropriate to designate it as such.

---

**Report Authors:**

Sarah Brannigan – Senior Planning Officer  
Telephone no: 07966 335 508  
Email: [sarah.brannigan@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.brannigan@northumberland.gov.uk)

David English – Planning Manager (Neighbourhood Planning)  
Telephone no: 07966 329404  
Email: [david.english@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:david.english@northumberland.gov.uk)

---

**DECISION TAKEN**

**Interim Executive Director of Planning & Local Services, Regeneration, Commercial & Economy**

**Cabinet Member for Community Services**

**Subject:** Designation of the parish of Cresswell as a neighbourhood area

**Decision taken:**

The civil parish of Cresswell will be designated as a neighbourhood area for the purposes of section 61G(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The neighbourhood area will not be designated as a business area for the purposes of neighbourhood planning.

**Signatures**

Interim Executive Director of Planning & Local Services



09 June 2022

..... Date: .....

Cabinet Member for Community Services



09 June 2022

..... Date: .....