



Northumberland
County Council

Belford Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 19 Decision Statement

Northumberland County Council has resolved to ‘make’ the Belford Parish Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan has been brought into legal force. It now forms part of the statutory Development Plan for the civil parish of Belford.

The Belford Parish Neighbourhood Plan was submitted to Northumberland County Council in March 2023. Publicity was undertaken in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. A report following Independent Examination of the Plan, published in July 2023, found that, with modifications, the Plan passed the necessary legal tests and could be put to a local referendum. The County Council accepted 13 of the recommended modifications in full for the reasons set out in the examiner’s report but considered that 6 further modifications were not required in order to meet the basic conditions.

In taking the decision to come to a different view, the County Council considered the requirements set out in paragraph 13 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and advice provided in National Planning Practice Guidance. Accordingly, the persons prescribed in the regulations were notified and representations were invited on a Post-Examination Plan.

Following this, a local referendum was held in the Parish on 14 March 2024. A majority of those voting were in favour of the Plan being used by the County Council in making decisions on planning applications.

The Belford Parish Neighbourhood Plan complies with legal requirements governing the making of neighbourhood development plans set out in the Planning Acts and associated Regulations. Accordingly, I hereby confirm that the Belford Parish Neighbourhood Plan has been made under delegated authority.

Decisions on planning applications in Belford Parish must now be made in accordance with policies in the Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed on the County Council’s neighbourhood planning webpage: www.northumberland.gov.uk/ourplan

Signed:

Rob Murfin
Director of Housing and Planning, Directorate of Place and Regeneration

Date: 3 April 2024