

RECORD OF DECISIONS BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN CONSULTATION WITH POLICY BOARD MEMBER

Barry Rowland, Executive Director - Place
Councillor Allan Hepple, Policy Board Member for Planning, Housing and Regeneration

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

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

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

3. Background

- 3.1 Cramlington Town 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 planning area. Once this has been done, all other neighbourhood planning powers may be exercised by the qualifying body, in this case, Cramlington Town Council.
- 3.3 The area designation application complies with the requirement set out in the relevant Regulations. It has been publicised for six weeks, from 11th November 2013 to 23rd December 2013. Publicity took the form of a public notice in the Journal; site notices posted around the parish of Cramlington; written notification to adjoining parish councils and Newcastle City Council; and the application was publicised on the County Council's website. No representations were received during the publicity period.
- 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. The expectation must be that, unless there are good reasons to act otherwise, it will be appropriate to designate the whole of a parish as a neighbourhood area. Cramlington parish is distinctive in that it encompasses the whole of the town and sufficient hinterland to make neighbourhood planning for the whole of the parish a realistic proposition. It is therefore considered that the area proposed for designation is appropriate for neighbourhood planning purposes.
- 3.5 Original plans for Cramlington were to create three residential sectors and one industrial sector, but only two residential and one industrial sector have been completed. The South West Sector remains largely undeveloped. The South West Sector consists of private and Northumberland County Council owned land. Current planning policy would not support the quantum of development proposed in the emerging Northumberland Plan, which has been endorsed by the Town Council. The Neighbourhood Plan will provide a platform for a

community led planning of the sector. It will also allow for other issues important to the community to be addressed.

- 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:

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DECISION TAKEN

Executive Director - Place

Policy Board Member for Planning, Housing and Regeneration

Subject: Designation of the parish of Cramlington as a neighbourhood area

Decision taken:

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

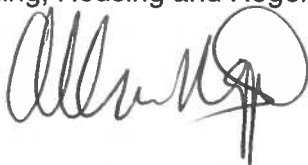
Signatures

Executive Director - Place:



Date: 4/2/14

Policy Board Member for Planning, Housing and Regeneration:



Date: 4/2/14