

Cresswell Neighbourhood Plan Examination

22nd August 2024

Dear Qualifying Body

Clarification Note from the Examiner to Cresswell Parish Council

The examination of the Cresswell Neighbourhood Plan is underway. I have reviewed the submitted Cresswell Neighbourhood Plan (referred to below as the Neighbourhood Plan), all supporting information and representations received and am now contacting Cresswell Parish Council as the Qualifying Body in respect of the matters set out below.

Having considered the submitted information and representations received, I confirm that I have decided that it is not necessary to hold a public hearing as part of the examination process. However, taking account of good practice, as set out in Neighbourhood Planning Independent Referral Service (NPIERS) Guidance¹ Paragraph 1.11.4, I am mindful that:

“The Qualifying Body will normally be given the opportunity to comment on the representations made by other parties...The opportunity for the Qualifying Body to comment on representations could be incorporated within an independent examiner’s clarification note...”

Noting this, Cresswell Parish Council may write to me in response to any of the representations made during the Submission stage consultation. This is not a requirement and it may be that you have no comments to make. However, should you wish to comment, I confirm that I will take any comments made into account as part of the examination of the Neighbourhood Plan.

In addition to the above, I would also be grateful for any assistance Cresswell Parish Council can provide in respect of the questions I set out below. My questions are set out in the interests of clarity and any answers you can provide will help the examination process. Thank you.

The Parish Council’s response will be published alongside all submitted information on the Northumberland County Council website. In responding, if referring to evidence relating to the Neighbourhood Plan, please note that this should only comprise evidence that is already publicly available.

I am conscious of the logistics involved in co-ordinating a written response and I am not imposing a deadline, but I am grateful for Cresswell Parish Council’s due consideration of this Clarification Letter and I look forward to your response and to the timely completion of the examination process.

¹ NPIERS “Guidance to Service Users and Examiners.”

Cresswell Neighbourhood Plan Clarification Letter

Thank you in advance.

Kind regards.

Nigel McGurk

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Policy 1

Northumberland County Council, in its representation to the Submission Plan, proposes changes to the wording of Policy 1. Do you have any comments in this regard ?

Policy 2

Policy 2 appears to require development proposals to meet existing national and Local Plan policy requirements. Are you able to provide me with an outline or further information in respect of what it is that the community would like the policy to achieve - the Neighbourhood Area-specific intention of the policy –alongside, or over and above, those policies which already exist ?

Thank you for your consideration of the above.

Please note that the purpose of the above is not to criticise the Neighbourhood Plan but to help my understanding of the Policies and to help to support the Neighbourhood Plan's positive examination against the basic conditions.

Thank you.
