

WOOLER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Submission Draft Version

Commencement of Examination Procedural Note
Wooler Neighbourhood Plan
by Independent Examiner, Rosemary Kidd

Rosemary Kidd MRTPI
NPIERS Independent Examiner
25 March 2020

Wooler Neighbourhood Plan

I am writing to confirm that I have commenced the examination of the Wooler Neighbourhood Plan. From my initial appraisal of the submitted documents I am satisfied that a hearing will not be necessary, provided that I receive satisfactory answers to any questions and matters for clarification. I therefore intend to proceed by way of written submissions alone. All contact will be through a named representative of the Local Planning Authority. They will be responsible for forwarding all correspondence (except for contractual matters) to the representative of the Qualifying Body. All correspondence between myself, the Local Planning Authority and the Qualifying Body (except for contractual matters) should be placed on the Local Authority's website to ensure that the examination is conducted in an open and transparent manner.

In view of the current restrictions on travel due to Coronavirus I am not proposing to undertake a site visit.

I have undertaken a detailed appraisal of the background documents to check that the legal requirements have been satisfied and that adequate consultation has taken place to meet the requirements of the Regulations.

I have a copy of the SEA Environmental Report dated March 2019 which states in section 1.2 that the WNP was screened in by NCC as requiring a SEA. However, I cannot find a copy of the Screening Report on the website. Would you provide me with a copy please so that I can understand the reasons for requiring the SEA.

Would you also provide me with copies of the correspondence from the environmental bodies to the Environmental Report and Addendum Report of January 2020.

I shall undertake a detailed appraisal of the Plan and the policies to ensure that they satisfy the Basic Conditions, taking account of any representations once the submission consultation period has closed on 30 March. I will write to the Local Planning Authority and Qualifying Body to seek clarification on any matters or to request further information.

- I anticipate that I will present my Examination Questions and matters for clarification to the Local Planning Authority by 15 April, subject to receipt of representations. This will also seek agreement to any significant wording changes to policies.
- I will allow 14 days for a response by the Local Planning Authority and Qualifying Body. (29 April)
- Following receipt of responses to my questions and matters of clarification, I will prepare my draft Examination Report for fact checking.
- I will allow 7 days for a response by the Local Planning Authority and Qualifying Body.
- I anticipate that I will issue my final report to the Local Planning Authority and Qualifying Body by mid May.

All dates are indicative at this stage and may be revised, if necessary, should significant issues or additional questions arise or extensions of time be requested by the Local Planning Authority and/or Qualifying Body.

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