



Scothern Neighbourhood Development Plan – Final Decision Statement

Friday 20th January 2017

1. Summary

Following a positive referendum result on the 19th January 2017, West Lindsey District Council is publicising its decision to 'make' the Scothern Neighbourhood Development Plan part of the West Lindsey Development Plan in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

2. Background

Scothern Parish Council, as the qualifying body successfully applied for the town to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area, under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (2012), which came into force on 9th April 2015. Following the submission of the Scothern Neighbourhood Plan to the Council, the plan was publicised and comments were invited from the public and stakeholders. The consultation period closed in September 2016.

3. Decision & Reasoning

West Lindsey District Council appointed an independent Examiner; Mr Andrew Ashcroft, to review whether the plan met the basic conditions required by legislation and whether the plan should proceed to referendum.

The Examiner's Report concluded that the plan meets the Basic Conditions, and that subject to the modifications proposed in the report and which are set out in the Scothern Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement December 2016, the plan should proceed to a Referendum. It was agreed at the Council meeting of West Lindsey District Council on the 6th December 2016 that the plan should proceed to referendum and, in the outcome of a successful referendum result, it should be 'made'.

A referendum was held on 19th January 2017, 93.68% of those who voted were in favour of the plan. Paragraph 38A (4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended requires that the Council must make the Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the plan.

West Lindsey District Council is not subject to this duty if the making of the plan would breach, or would otherwise be incompatible with, any EU obligation or any of the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998).

The referendum held on 19th January 2017 met the requirements of the Localism Act 2011; it was held in the Parish of Scothern and posed the question:

'Do you want West Lindsey District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Scothern to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area'.

The count took place on the 19th January 2017 and greater than 50% of those who voted were in favour of the plan being used to help decide planning applications in the plan area.

The results of the referendum were:

Question:		
Do you want West Lindsey District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Scothern to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?		
	Votes recorded	Percentage
Number of votes cast in favour of 'yes'	178	93.68%
Number of votes cast in favour of 'no'	10	5.26%

West Lindsey District Council has assessed that the plan including its preparation does not breach, and would not otherwise be incompatible, with, any EU obligation or any of the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998).

In accordance with the Regulations and the Council's procedure the Scothern Neighbourhood Development Plan is 'made' and planning applications in the area must be considered against the Scothern Neighbourhood Development Plan, as well as existing planning policy, such as the West Lindsey Local Plan (2006) and its successors and the National Planning Policy Framework and Guidance.