



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

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REPORT TO DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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Date	12th October 2022
Subject	Application for Designation of Neighbourhood Plan for Todmorden

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To advise Members that approval for designation of the Neighbourhood Plan Area for the Parish of Todmorden under the terms of the Localism Act, 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations, 2012, approved by Calderdale MBC on 27th April 2016, has expired.
2. To inform Members that it will be necessary to submit a new application for approval to Calderdale MBC in the form as attached in Appendix 1
3. To seek Members Approval to recommend to Full Council that a new application be submitted.
4. To re- establish a working group to take forward future work and consultation to bring this work to a conclusion.

BACKGROUND

5. Approval was given by Calderdale MBC on 27th April 2016 to designate a Neighbourhood Plan could be taken forward for Todmorden
6. Following earlier consultation, a Draft Plan and Design Guide has been produced which has been revisited in the last twelve months in terms of content revision.
7. This currently includes data from the 2011 census and referenced to the then Calderdale Local Plan by a series of policy references within the Neighbourhood Plan.
8. There is a requirement that no policy within the Neighbourhood Plan should contradict that of the current local Plan.
9. Given that the new Calderdale Development Plan is nearing adoption, it was felt sensible to delay our submission until the new Calderdale Development Plan was formally adopted and made public, when we could undertake a final cross check to all policy references, whilst also ensuring that our

policies also reflect the ambition of the Town Deal Fund and also our views regarding Climate related policy.

10. Our Consultant, Integreat, has been asked to update the census data and re-reference our proposed policies to the new Calderdale Development Plan in order for an updated draft Neighbourhood Plan to be available for Member consideration in due course.
11. At this stage we have also asked Integreat to undertake an Environmental Screening Assessment as set out in regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.
12. Members also wished to include within the Neighbourhood Plan properties of Local Heritage Interest, with in addition to the c200 properties in Todmorden that are formally listed, over 250 properties identified as of such local interest.
13. The Assistant Town Clerk has been working on this periodically, alongside other duties, to arrive at a position where we have established criteria for selection, provided descriptions and photographs for each property.
14. The next stage is to include this is one overall document, that also provides map locations for each property included in a separate page for each , with an associated table of referencing criteria. Document production is being worked on by the Admin Officer alongside other duties, with criteria input from the Project Manager.
15. In addition, works needs to be commenced on designating Local Green Spaces , sites that are protected from development due to the contribution they make to the local area. There is specific criteria for designating sites so not all green spaces will be suitable for Local Green Space listing. This work will be carried out by the Project Manager.
16. As all of the issues mentioned above are completed there will be a need for the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and Draft Design Guide to be formally revisited in an open and transparent manner, before submitting the final version to Full Council to agree to consult again on, necessary given the lapse in time since the first consultations were carried out.
17. To enable this to happen speedily, it may be appropriate to convene frequent meetings of a Working Group to invite the public into, and deal with one or two policy areas at a time. Amendments / additions can then be considered and then included, before arriving at a final version to submit to Development Committee, with a view then to recommending to Full Council to approve to go out to local consultation.

FINANCIAL

18. Rewriting/updating of the plan/guide will be at additional cost as will be a further local consultation event(s).
19. An Earmarked Reserve of £5,000 has already been established to meet these additional costs and should now be released into revenue budget to enable the work to progress.
20. Whilst Todmorden Town Council has already received grant funding from "Locality" for previous work , if there is an opportunity to apply for consultation funding, this will be taken forward.

RECOMMENDATION

21. That the Development Committee consider whether it wishes to seek approval for designation of the Neighbourhood Plan Area for the Parish of Todmorden under the terms of the Localism Act, 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations, 2012, and if so , recommend to Full Council to submit this application.
22. That the Development Committee recommends to Full Council that the Neighbourhood Plan Earmarked Reserve of £5,000 be released and a revenue budget established of £5,000 to meet further commitments.
23. That the Development Committee establish a Working Group to progress matters once the draft Neighbourhood Plan and Design Guide have been updated as per the indications in this report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

24. The Neighbourhood Plan falls under the remit of the Development Committee.
25. Full Council approval is required to submit an application for designation of the Neighbourhood Plan Area.
26. Full Council approval is required to release Earmarked Reserves.
27. Establishing a Working Group will assist in taking forward the next steps and ensuring openness and transparency ahead of public consultation event(s).

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

28. This is a resubmission of an application to take forward a Neighbourhood Plan for Todmorden.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION:

29. In re applying for Neighbourhood Plan designation, Calderdale MBC will need to advertise. Consultation by the Town Council will follow before any final version is submitted to Calderdale for their formal consultation commences ahead of submission to the Planning Inspectorate for consideration.

CLIMATE CHANGE:

30. The draft Neighbourhood Plan has already been revisited to reflect our concerns.

IMPACT EQUALITY ASSESSMENT

31. All of our policies will need to supplement, not contradict those of Calderdale MBC as the Local Planning Authority.

SUPPORTING PAPERS:

32. Appendix 1 – proposed application for designation of the Neighbourhood Plan Area for the Parish of Todmorden under the terms of the Localism Act, 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations, 2012,

FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Colin Hill