



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Item 11 – Development Committee 6th
November 2024

TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT TO DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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| Report Author | Colin Hill – Project Manager |
| Tel No | 07955283154 |
| Email | projectmanager@todmorden-tc.gov.uk |
| Date | Wednesday 6 th November 2024 |
| Subject | Neighbourhood Plan 2023-2032 |

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To present to Members for consideration, the final version of the Neighbourhood Plan incorporating changes recommended by the Examiner – Appendix 1
2. To seek Development Committee approval to recommend to Full Council that this document be formally approved and subsequently submitted to Calderdale MBC to take forward to referendum stage.
3. To present an outline timetable for taking this forward to Referendum stage.

BACKGROUND

4. Following Regulation 16 Consultation, Regulation 17 submission to appoint an independent Examiner and responses submitted following approval by this Committee, the final Examiners report (Appendix 2) has been received.
5. The Examiners responses to specific policies and the plan overall, has been reviewed by the Project Manager and Yorkshire Design (the Town Council planning consultant). Whilst it is supportive of the Town Councils aims in developing this policy, it is presented to Members for final consideration should Members at this last stage, wish to challenge any area of the final submission.
6. The purpose of examination is to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan is fit for purpose as a “stand alone” planning document that is capable of being followed by developers but also adds weight and justification to where unfavourable planning decisions may be appealed.
7. The Examiner has stated the following having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State it is :-
 - a. appropriate to make the neighbourhood plan;

- b. the making of the neighbourhood plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development.
 - c. the making of the neighbourhood plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area).
 - d. the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations.
 - e. the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
8. The Examiner also commented favourably on the work carried out regarding Non-Designated Heritage Assessments in that:-
- a. Todmorden has an exceptional wealth of built heritage.
 - b. The identification of the Neighbourhood Area’s non-designated heritage assets comprises a significant achievement and forms a fundamentally important part of the Neighbourhood Plan.
 - c. The main aim of Policy HG.1 is to identify the Neighbourhood Area’s non-designated heritage assets, of which there are many. The Policy identifies 202 non-designated heritage assets, each of which has emerged through a robust methodology. This is set out within the appendices to the Neighbourhood Plan along with relevant criteria and assessments.
9. Where policy wording has been felt to be too vague or not capable of interpretation the Examiner has either: -
- a. made helpful changes to policy wording
 - b. deleted policies
10. To aid Members understanding of these changes a comparison table (Appendix 3) is attached and where deleted, the examiners rationale included in full.
11. A model developed internally to help Members when considering planning applications in our role as consultee, of both Neighbourhood Plan and related Calderdale Local Plan Policies, will be updated to reflect these policy wording changes.
12. The timetable to now progress the Neighbourhood Plan to referendum stage is as follows:-

| Body | Stage | Date |
|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| TTC | Dev Committee | 6 th November 2024 |
| TTC | Full Council | 20 th November 2024 |
| TTC | Submit final to CMBC | 20 th Dec 2024 |
| CMBC | Cabinet | 13 th January 2025 |
| CMBC | Cabinet Decision Issued | 13 th January 2025 |

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| CMBC | Scrutiny Call in ends | 15 th January 2025 |
| CMBC | Place Scrutiny | 30 th January 2025 |
| CMBC | Publish Referendum Documents. | 3 rd February 2025 |
| CMBC | Earliest Referendum Date | 13 th March 2025 |
| CMBC | Latest Referendum Date | 1 st April 2025 |

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

13. None directly arising from this report .

RECOMMENDATION

14. That Members recommend to Full Council that this final version be approved for submission to Calderdale MBC to take forward to referendum stage.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

15. Development Committee had delegated authority to progress the Neighbourhood Plan, but Full Council approval is required to formally adopt.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

16. None arising from this report.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION:

17. No further consultation is deemed to be necessary by the Examiner in respect of the plan.

CLIMATE CHANGE:

18. None arising from this report

IMPACT EQUALITY ASSESSMENT

19. None arising from this report.

SUPPORTING PAPERS:

20. Appendix 1 - Neighbourhood Plan- Final Version
Appendix 2 – Examiners Report
Appendix 3 - Comparison of Examiners changes/recommendations

FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Colin Hill