

## **Decision Statement – Thurcaston and Cropston Neighbourhood Plan**

### Summary

This Decision Statement confirms that following an independent Examination the Thurcaston and Cropston Neighbourhood Plan will proceed to a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum.

This Decision Statement, the Examiner's Report, the Neighbourhood Plan and its supporting documents are available to view on the Council's dedicated Local Plan website:

<http://www.localplan.charnwood.gov.uk/content/index.php?id=132>

Paper copies of the documents are available for inspection at Charnwood Borough Council's Offices at Southfield Road, Loughborough, LE11 2TX.

### Background

Thurcaston and Cropston Parish Council applied for the parish to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area, under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (2012) on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2014. The designation was confirmed on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

The Thurcaston and Cropston Neighbourhood Plan was submitted to Charnwood Borough Council on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016. Following an assessment against the statutory requirements set out in Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 the plan was publicised by the Borough Council for consultation, ending on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

The Borough Council, with the agreement of the Parish Council, then appointed an independent examiner, Mr Nigel McGurk, to review whether the Neighbourhood Plan met the Basic Conditions required by legislation and should proceed to Referendum.

The Examiner's report was received on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016 and recommended that, subject to the modifications proposed, the Thurcaston and Cropston Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to a Referendum.

### Decision and Reasons

Charnwood Borough Council, in agreement with Thurcaston and Cropston Parish Council, has considered each of the recommendations made by the Examiner and the reasons for them and Thurcaston and Cropston Parish Council has made all of the modifications to the Plan proposed by the Examiner. The modifications and modified Neighbourhood Plan ensure that the Basic Conditions set out in Paragraph 8(2),

Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 are met. For clarity, the relevant basic conditions are:

- a) Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State it is appropriate to make the order (or neighbourhood plan).
- d) The making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) contributes to the achievement of sustainable development.
- e) The making of the order (or 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).
- f) The making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations.
- g) Prescribed conditions are met in relation to the order (or plan) and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the order (or neighbourhood plan).

In addition to the basic conditions set out in primary legislation, Regulations 32 and 33 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) sets out further requirements that a neighbourhood plan should not have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. The Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report and the Habitats Regulation Screening Report (May 2016) confirmed it is unlikely that there will be any significant environmental effects, including on European sites, arising from the Thurcaston and Cropston Neighbourhood Plan and that further testing was not required.

Taking the above into account, Charnwood Borough Council considers that the Thurcaston and Cropston Neighbourhood Plan, as modified to incorporate the Examiner's Recommendations, should proceed to Referendum.



Richard Bennett  
Head of Planning and Regeneration  
28th September 2016