

Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement (Regulation 18, 2)

Summary

1. Following an independent examination undertaken by written representations, Rother District Council now confirms that the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions and will proceed to a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum.
2. This decision statement is available on the [Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan](#) page of the Rother District Council website.

Background

3. On 8th June 2017, Rother District Council formally designated the area shown at Appendix 1 as the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Area.
4. Following the submission of the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan to Rother District Council the plan was publicised and representations were invited. The publicity period ran from 25th October 2024 to the 6th December 2024.
5. The District Council appointed an independent examiner, Mr John Slater BA (Hons), DMS, M.R.T.P.I. to examine whether the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan met the basic conditions as set out in Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and whether the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to a referendum.
6. The Examiner's Report recommended a number of modifications so that the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan is able to comply with the 'basic conditions' and other relevant statutory provisions and that the submission plan if modified can be put to referendum.
7. The Examiner's Report concludes by stating:

'I can confirm that my overall conclusions are that the Plan, if amended in line with my recommendations, meets all the statutory requirements including the basic conditions test, and that it is appropriate, if successful at referendum, that the Plan be made.

I am therefore delighted to recommend to Rother District Council, that the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan, as modified by my recommendations, should proceed, in due course, to referendum.'

Recommendations, Decisions and Reasons

8. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Regulation 18 requires the local planning authority to outline what action to take in response to the recommendations of an examiner made in a report under paragraph 12 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as applied by Section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).
9. Having considered the recommendations made by the Examiner's report, and the reasons for them, in addition to the removal of paragraphs 5.12 to 5.16 on pages 19-20 agreed between Rother District Council and Hurst Green Parish Council following the examination and subsequent discussion with the Examiner, Rother District Council in conjunction with Hurst Green Council (the Qualifying Body) has agreed to accept the modifications made to the draft plan under paragraph 12(6) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in response to the Examiner's recommendations/ modifications.
10. To meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 a referendum which poses the question, 'Do you want Rother District Council to use the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Development Area?' will be held in the area formally designated as the Hurst Green Neighbourhood Area.
11. The date on which the referendum will take place is 20th November 2025.

October 2025