



Knebworth Neighbourhood Plan

Decision Statement

Background

North Hertfordshire District Council approved the application for the Parish of Knebworth to be designated as a neighbourhood area by delegated decision on 14 June 2016 to enable the preparation of a neighbourhood plan for the Parish. Knebworth Parish Council subsequently commenced preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan in consultation with the local community.

The Knebworth Neighbourhood Plan was then submitted to North Hertfordshire District Council who undertook the statutory consultation in accordance with Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012) between October 2021 and February 2022.

The District Council, with the agreement of Knebworth Parish Council, appointed an independent examiner, Nigel McGurk, to undertake an examination into the Knebworth Neighbourhood Plan. The examiners report was issued on 2 February 2022.

The Examiner recommended a number of modifications were made to the Plan to ensure it meets the necessary basic conditions. The Examiner concluded in the report as follows:

“I find that the Knebworth Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions and I recommend to North Hertfordshire District Council that, subject to modifications, it should proceed to Referendum.”

and

“I am required to consider whether the Referendum Area should be extended beyond the Knebworth Neighbourhood Area.

I consider the Neighbourhood Area to be appropriate and there is no substantive evidence to demonstrate that this is not the case.”

Decision

The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012), Regulation 81, requires the local planning authority to decide what action to take with the examiner’s recommended modifications to the Plan as set out in his report.

North Hertfordshire District Council at a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 22 March December 2022 considered the Examiner's recommended modifications to the Plan and accepted all the proposed modifications in the Examiner's report. The reason for this decision is to ensure that the Knebworth Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions and will be a robust planning document.

The Council's Cabinet report, Examiners Report and copy of the Knebworth Neighbourhood Plan including proposed modifications can be viewed on the Council's website at: [Approved Neighbourhood Areas - Knebworth | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/Approved-Neighbourhood-Areas-Knebworth)

Next steps

The Knebworth Neighbourhood Plan will now be subject of a Referendum in the designated Knebworth Neighbourhood Planning Area, the Parish of Knebworth.

The date of the forthcoming referendum will be Thursday 5 May 2022.