

DECISION STATEMENT FOR THE MAKING OF THE RINGWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2023-2036

Decision

Following an Independent Examination and a positive referendum result, New Forest District Council (NFDC) and the New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA) have decided pursuant to section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, to 'make' the Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan (the 'Plan'). For NFDC this decision was made on 8 July 2024, and for the NFNPA this was made on 25 July 2024.

Background

In November 2023, Ringwood Town Council submitted its draft Neighbourhood Plan and supporting material to NFDC and the NFNPA. An independent examiner was appointed, and his report was received in February 2024. The Examiner's Report concluded that the Ringwood Plan would meet the basic conditions and other legal requirements, subject to modifications.

NFDC and the NFNPA considered the recommendations and modifications contained in the Examiner's Report at their respective meetings of 13 May 2024 and 21 May 2024. The two local planning authorities for the parish of Ringwood agreed that the legal requirements and basic conditions had been met.

The Referendum

The District Council held a referendum on 4 July 2024. A majority (83.2%) of those voting in the referendum voted in favour of the plan. No other issues have become known that would suggest that the planning authorities should decline to make the plan.

The referendum result is as follows:

Response	Votes recorded	Percentage
YES	5368	83.2%
NO	1084	16.8%
Unmarked or void	296	
Turnout	58.9%	

The area covered by the Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan area covers the area of Ringwood Parish only.

What this means for the Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan area

In England, development plans are used to set out the planning policies for the development and use of land. Planning applications are determined by local planning authorities such as New Forest District Council and New Forest National Park Authority. Planning decisions are made in accordance with the adopted development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The Neighbourhood Plan forms part of the

development plan for the Ringwood parish. This includes the adopted New Forest District Local Plan Part One: Planning Strategy (2020) and Part Two: Sites and Development Management (2014), and the adopted New Forest National Park Local Plan (2019). The Neighbourhood Plan and its policies will be given full weight when assessing planning applications that affect land covered by the Plans.

For further information

This Decision Statement and the made Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed online at [Neighbourhood planning - New Forest District Council](#) and [Neighbourhood planning - New Forest National Park Authority \(newforestnpa.gov.uk\)](#). The relevant documents can also be inspected during normal opening hours at:

- New Forest District Council, Appletree Court, Beaulieu Road, Lyndhurst, SO43 7PA.
- New Forest National Park Authority, Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington, SO41 9ZG.
- Ringwood Town Council, 2 Ashley Rd, Ringwood BH25 6AS.

25 July 2024