



Abram Communities Together Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement (Regulation 18(2))

28 November 2024

Summary

Following an independent examination, Wigan Council can now confirm that the Abram Communities Together Neighbourhood Plan will proceed to a Neighbourhood Referendum.

This decision statement is available to view online on the council's website at www.wigan.gov.uk/abramplan and in hard copy at both Wigan Library, The Wiend, Wigan, WN1 1NH, and Platt Bridge Library, Community First, Rivington Ave, Platt Bridge, Wigan WN2 5NG during opening hours.

Background

Wigan Council formally designated Abram Communities Together as the Neighbourhood Forum for the area shown at Appendix 1 as the Abram Neighbourhood Area on 6 August 2015.

Following the submission of the Abram Communities Together Neighbourhood Plan to Wigan Council the plan was publicised and representations were invited for 6 weeks from 11 June to 23 July 2023.

Wigan Council appointed an independent examiner, Nigel McGurk, MRTPI to examine whether the Abram Communities Together Neighbourhood Plan met the basic conditions as set out in Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

The Examiner's Report recommended a number of modifications so that the Abram Communities Together Neighbourhood Plan is able to comply with the 'basic conditions', and that the draft plan as modified can be submitted for referendum. It concludes:

"I recommend to Wigan Council that, subject to the recommended modifications, the Abram Communities Together (ACT) Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to a Referendum."

Recommendations, Decisions and Reasons

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 10 of Schedule 4a to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as applied by Section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

Having considered the recommendations made in the examiner's report, and the reasons for them, Wigan Council 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.

To meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, a referendum which poses the question, 'Do you want Wigan Council to use the Abram Communities Together Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in the Abram Neighbourhood Area?' will be held in the area formally designated as the Abram Neighbourhood Area.

The Referendum is currently being arranged by Wigan Council. Details of the Referendum, including the date it will be held, how people can vote, and who is eligible to vote will be publicised in due course.

Appendix 1: Abram Neighbourhood Area

1:28,500

