

## Decision Statement

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**On behalf of Dorset Council, 7 April 2020**

At the meeting of the Cabinet on 7 April 2020, Dorset Council has taken the decision to make the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan (as modified in accordance with the Examiner's recommendations) part of the development plan for the Bridport Neighbourhood Area.

### Reasons

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In April 2019 Bridport Town Council submitted the Bridport Area neighbourhood plan and supporting evidence to Dorset Council. An independent examiner was appointed, and their report was received in October 2019. In summary, the examiner's report concluded that the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan, subject to some modifications, would meet the Basic Conditions and other legal requirements.

Dorset Council considered each of the recommendations and modifications contained in the examiner's report and agreed the amendments in an Executive Decision Statement 27 November 2019. Dorset Council issued its decision which was in agreement with the examiner's findings, within the exception of two modifications to Policy H3 and that the plan as modified should proceed to referendum.

Dorset Council held a referendum on 27 February 2020. More than half of those voting in the referendum voted in favour of the plan. No other issues have come to light which would suggest that the council should decline to make the plan.

### What this means for the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan area

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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 Dorset Council. 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 Bridport Neighbourhood Area (the parishes of Allington, Bothenhampton & Walditch, Bradpole, Bridport and Symondsburys) alongside the adopted West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland joint local plan.

The policies in the neighbourhood plan are in general conformity with the strategic policies of the local plan. Therefore the policies contained in the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan will

take precedence over the non-strategic policies in the adopted local plan when decisions are being made on development proposals.

#### The area covered by the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan

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The neighbourhood plan area covers the parishes of Allington, Bothenhampton & Walditch, Bradpole, Bridport and Symondsburry.

#### Where to find more information...

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Copies of this decision statement and the adopted Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed online at <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/bridport-area-neighbourhood-plan> and in the council offices at South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1UZ during standard opening hours (8.30am to 5pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am to 4.30pm Friday).

*A copy of this statement is automatically sent to the Town Council who submitted the plan and anyone who has asked to be notified of this decision.*