

WIMBORNE ST GILES NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2021-2036

Dorset Council is satisfied that the Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2036, as modified, meets the basic conditions, is compatible with the Convention rights and complies with the definition of a neighbourhood development plan.

A referendum will therefore be held on the 20 March 2025.

Background

The Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Area was designated by Dorset Council on the 15 July 2021 in accordance with Part 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (the 'Regulations'). The relevant body is confirmed as Knowlton Parish Council and the designated neighbourhood area includes a large portion of the parish of Wimborne St Giles (but not completely), omits the majority of the three other parishes within the group parish (Woodlands, Horton & Chalbury) and includes small areas of two other neighbourhood parishes (Cranborne and Edmondsham Parish Council and Vale of Allen Parish Council) with their consent.

In May 2024 Knowlton Parish Council submitted its draft neighbourhood plan and supporting material to Dorset Council. Dorset Council was satisfied that the documents submitted met the requirements of Regulation 15 of the 'Regulations'. The Parish Council was notified of Dorset Council's conclusion and informed that the plan could proceed to examination.

The submitted documents were made available for consultation from 12 August 2024 until 24 September 2024 and an independent examiner, Andrew Mead MRTPI MIQ, was appointed to examine the Plan. The examiner's report was received on 2 December 2024.

In summary, the examiner's report concluded that the Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2036 would meet the basic conditions and other legal requirements, subject to his recommended modifications as set out in Appendix A of this decision statement.

Dorset Council has considered each of the recommendations and modifications contained in the examiner's report. In considering the conclusions of the independent examiner, Dorset Council agreed that the legal requirements and basic conditions had been met. The referendum version of the neighbourhood plan agreed by Dorset Council includes the examiner's recommended modifications as set out in Appendix A of this document.

Dorset Council is therefore satisfied that the plan as amended...

- (i) meets the basic conditions (as set out in Schedule 4B to the Town & Country planning Act 1990); and
- (ii) is compatible with the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998); and
- (iii) complies with the provision concerning Neighbourhood Development Plans made by or under Sections 38A and 38B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and

...can now proceed to a referendum.

The area covered by the Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2036

The neighbourhood plan area includes a large portion of the parish of Wimborne St Giles (but not completely), omits the majority of the three other parishes within the group parish (Woodlands, Horton & Chalbury) and includes small areas of two other neighbourhood parishes (Cranborne and Edmondsham Parish Council and Vale of Allen Parish Council) with their consent.

Details of the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

The independent examiner considered that it was appropriate for the referendum to be held over the neighbourhood area.

Information about the referendum will be published on the Council's website and made available for inspection no fewer than 28 days before the referendum.

Where to find more information...

Copies of this decision statement, the examiner's report and the neighbourhood plan can be viewed online at: [Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan - Dorset Council](#)

Appendix A: Modifications from Examiner’s Report

Appendix: Modifications

Below are the recommendations and modifications taken from the Examiner’s Report.

Note: Additions are shown in **bold** and deletions are show in ~~strike through~~.

Proposed modification number (PM)	Page no./ other reference	Modification
PM1	Policy 2	Delete: “In general, ...” and substitute: “Unless otherwise justified, ...” .
PM2	Policy 9	Add: “Site developers should be aware that net new windfall housing or other uses such as tourist accommodation and equestrian related development within the 400m to 5km catchment of the Dorset Heaths SAC/Dorset Heathlands SPA shown on the Map at Appendix C of the Plan will require a separate report to inform HRA, for submission to the local planning authority in line with the Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework 2020 – 2025; Supplementary Planning Document. Depending on the details, mitigation for recreational pressure impacts may also be required.” “Site developers should also be aware that net new windfall housing or other uses such as tourist accommodation and equestrian related development either within the 13.8km catchment of the New Forest SAC/SPA/Ramsar site shown on the Map at Appendix C of the Plan, will require a separate report to inform HRA, for submission to the local planning authority. Depending on the details, mitigation for recreational pressure impacts may also be required in line with Mitigation for Recreational Impacts on New Forest European Sites Supplementary Planning Document: 2021.” Add:” Appendix C: New Forest Recreational Zone and Dorset Heathland buffers.”
PM3	Policy 12	Delete the second sentence of the policy.
PM4	Policy 15	Delete the policy.
PM5	Paragraph 7.1	Delete the table at paragraph 7.1 and substitute the table submitted by WSGPC on 24 October 2024 ¹ in answer to my Q5 a. ² with the deletion of the reference to Policy 15 and its details.

¹ View at: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/documents/d/guest/examiner-questions-wsg-response-final-241024>

² View at: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/documents/d/guest/examiner-procedural-matters-and-questions-wimborne-st-giles-300924>

Examiner's note: A consequence of the acceptance of the recommended modifications would be that amendments will have to be made to the explanation within the Plan in order to make it logical and suitable for the referendum. Further minor amendments might also include incorporating factual updates; correcting inaccuracies; text improvements suggested helpfully by DC in their Regulation 16 consultation response; and any other similar minor or consequential changes (such as paragraph numbering) in agreement with DC. None of these alterations would affect the ability of the Plan to meet the Basic Conditions and could be undertaken as minor, non-material changes.³

³ PPG Reference ID: 41-106-20190509.