

Golborne and Lowton West Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement (Regulation 18(2))



24 May 2023

Summary

Following an independent examination, Wigan Council can now confirm that the Golborne and Lowton West 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/golbornelowtonwestplan and in hard copy at both Wigan Library, The Wiend, Wigan, WN1 1NH, and Golborne Library, Tanners Lane, Golborne, WA3 3AW during opening hours.

Background

Wigan Council formally designated Golborne and Lowton West Voice as the Neighbourhood Forum for the area shown at Appendix 1 as the Golborne and Lowton West Neighbourhood Area and on 4 October 2019.

Following the submission of the Golborne and Lowton West Neighbourhood Plan to Wigan Council the plan was publicised and representations were invited for 6 weeks from 12 October to 22 November 2022.

Wigan Council appointed an independent examiner, Andrew Ashcroft, MRTPI to examine whether the Golborne and Lowton West 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 Golborne and Lowton West Neighbourhood Plan is able to comply with the 'basic conditions', and that the draft plan as modified can be submitted for referendum. It concludes:

"On the basis of the findings in this report, I recommend to Wigan Council that subject to the incorporation of the modifications set out in this report that the Golborne and Lowton West Neighbourhood Development Plan should proceed to 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 Golborne and Lowton West Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in the Golborne and Lowton West Neighbourhood Area?' will be held in the area formally designated as the Golborne and Lowton West 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: Golborne and Lowton West Neighbourhood Area

