

Ref:

Called in

Yes/No

THE THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION OF CABINET

Cabinet Member

Councillor Rick Everitt

Relevant Portfolio:

Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Strategy and Transformation

Date of Decision:

10 August 2023

Subject:

Birchington Draft Neighbourhood Plan

Key Decision

Yes

In Forward Plan

Yes

Brief summary of matter:

Birchington Parish Council has prepared a draft neighbourhood plan. It was published and formally submitted to the Council and has subsequently been assessed by an independent Examiner. The Examiner's report has also been published. It supports the proposed Neighbourhood Plan, with some minor modifications, and recommends that it be subject to a referendum.

The Council has to issue a Decision Statement as to whether or not it accepts the recommendations in the Examiners report, and, if not, what actions would be necessary. The Council also has to consider whether the draft Plan meets the "basic conditions" for a Neighbourhood Plan. The draft Neighbourhood Plan, along with the modifications proposed by the Examiner, is supported.

Decision made:

Cabinet agreed the following:

1. That the draft Neighbourhood Plan be modified as set out in this report, and
2. That the Council issues a Decision Statement that it accepts the recommendations in the Examiners report, and the draft Neighbourhood Plan can proceed to referendum.

Reasons for decision:

Cabinet considered that the draft Neighbourhood Plan, along with the Examiners modifications, meets the 'Basic Conditions' and should proceed to referendum.

Alternatives considered and why rejected:

That Cabinet decides to issue a Decision Statement that the Birchington Neighbourhood Plan does not meet the Basic Conditions, and proposes further modifications be made to the plan in order for it to do so. Those modifications would then require a public consultation.

The Council submitted formal responses to the two rounds of formal consultations that form part of the Neighbourhood Planning process. It is considered that either subsequent versions of the draft plan, or the modifications proposed by the Examiner, fully address any concerns raised in the formal responses. No further modifications to the plan are therefore considered necessary.

Details of any conflict of interest declared by any executive Member who has been consulted and of any dispensation granted by the Standards Committee:

None

Author of Officer report:

Adrian Verrall, Strategic Planning Manager

Background papers

Birchington Neighbourhood Plan - Cabinet Report - Google Docs
Annex 1 - Birchington NP Cabinet Report - 10 August - Google Docs

Statement if decision is an urgent one and therefore not subject to call-in:

None

Last date for call in: 21 August 2023