

Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Development Plan Decision Statement (Regulation 18 (2)) The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 as amended

Summary

1. Following an independent examination undertaken by written representations, Oxford City Council now confirms that the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Development Plan will proceed to a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum.
2. This 'decision statement' will be made available on the City Council's internet page on the website and the Council offices at St. Aldates Chambers, 109-113 St. Aldates, Oxford OX1 1DS. The 'decision statement' will also be made available in the Summertown Library, South Parade, Summertown and the North Oxford Association Community Centre, Diamond Place, Oxford, OX2 7DP

Background

3. On 10th July 2013 Oxford City Council formally designated the area shown at Appendix 1 as the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Plan Area. On 22nd January 2014 Oxford City Council formally designated the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Forum as the neighbourhood forum for the previously designated neighbourhood area.
4. Following the submission of the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Development Plan to Oxford City Council the plan was publicised and representations were invited. The publicity period ended on 11th July 2018.
5. The City Council appointed an independent Examiner, Andrew Ashcroft BA (Hons) MA, DMS, MRTPI to examine whether the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Development Plan met the basic conditions as set out in Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and whether the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Development Plan should proceed to a Referendum.
6. The Examiner's Report recommended a number of modifications to ensure that the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Development Plan is able to fully comply with the 'basic conditions' and other relevant statutory requirements, so that the Draft Plan as modified can be submitted for Referendum.
7. The Examiner's Report (September 2018) concludes by saying:
 - *the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Development Plan meets the basic conditions for the preparation of a neighbourhood plan, subject to a series of recommended modifications to the policies in the Plan.'*
 - *The Inspector therefore concludes that 'on the basis of the findings in this report I recommend to Oxford City Council that subject to the incorporation of the modifications set out in my report that the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Development Plan should proceed to Referendum. '*

Recommendations, decisions and reasons

8. Having considered the modifications made by the Examiner's Report Oxford City Council has resolved that, subject to the proposed modifications, the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Plan be submitted to a Referendum.
9. A number of factual and editorial changes have been made by the City Council to the supporting text to reflect the changes made by the Examiner as modifications to the policies in the Plan.
10. To meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 a Referendum which poses the question, *'Do you want Oxford City Council to use the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Development Plan to help it decide planning applications in the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Area ?'* will be held in the area formally designated as the Summertown and St. Margaret's Neighbourhood Area.
11. The date on which the Referendum will take place is on the 7th March 2019