

**AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**

**BUCKINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN DECISION STATEMENT SEPTEMBER 2015**

**1. Summary**

1.1 Following an Independent Examination and Referendum, Aylesbury Vale District Council now confirms that the Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan (“the Plan”) forms part of the Development Plan and the policies in the Plan can therefore now be given full weight when assessing planning applications that affect land covered by the Plan.

1.2 This decision statement and the Plan can be viewed at:

**Buckingham Library**

Verney Close  
Buckingham  
MK18 1JP

Open Tuesday and Friday 9.30am – 7pm, Wednesday to Thursday 9.30am – 5.30pm,  
Saturday 9.30am – 5pm

**Aylesbury Vale District Council Office**

The Gateway,  
Gatehouse Road  
Aylesbury,  
HP19 8FF

Open Monday to Thursday 8:45am-5:15pm; Friday 8:45am-4:45pm  
(Closed Saturday and Sunday)

**2. Background**

2.1 In September 2014 Buckingham Town Council, as the relevant body, applied for Buckingham Parish to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area for the purpose of preparing a neighbourhood plan. The Neighbourhood Area application was approved by Aylesbury Vale District Council (the Council) on 24 November 2014 in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

2.2 Following the submission of the Plan to the Council in March 2015, the Plan was publicised and representations were invited. The consultation period closed on 24 April 2015.

2.3 The Council, with the agreement of Buckingham Town Council, appointed an independent examiner, Mr Nigel McGurk, to review whether the Plan met the Basic Conditions required by legislation and should proceed to referendum.

2.4 The Examiner's Report concluded that, subject to making the modifications proposed by the Examiner, the Plan met the Basic Conditions set out in the legislation and should proceed to a Neighbourhood Planning referendum.

### **3. Decision and Reasons**

3.1 On 14 July 2015 the Forward Plans Manager made the delegated decision for the Council to accept and act upon the Examiner's report and that the Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan (as modified by the Examiner's Report) should proceed to referendum. The District Council made the modifications proposed by the Examiner to ensure that the draft plan met the Basic Conditions.

3.2 A referendum took place on Thursday 17 September 2015. The results showed 91% of those who voted were in favour of the plan.

3.2 On 30 September 2015 the Forward Plans Manager made the delegated decision, pursuant to section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, to 'make' the Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan as more than half of those voting voted in favour of the Plan. This decision statement, the Plan and details of where they can both be inspected have been published on our website. This information has also been brought to the attention of people who live, work or carry out business in the neighbourhood area.