

# **Potton Neighbourhood Plan**

Decision Statement (October 2019)

**A great place to live and work.**

## Summary

Following an Independent Examination and Referendum, Central Bedfordshire Council now confirms that the Pottton Neighbourhood Plan ('the Plan') forms part of the Development Plan for Central Bedfordshire and the policies in the Plan can therefore now be given full weight when assessing planning applications that affect land covered by the Plan.

This Decision Statement and the Plan can be viewed at the following places:

[Pottton Town Council website](#)

[Central Bedfordshire Council website](#)

Central Bedfordshire Council Offices

Priory House

Monks Walk

Chicksands

BEDS

SG17 5TQ

Offices open Mon-Thurs 8:30-17:00 and Friday 8:30-16:00. Available on request via Reception.

## Background

Pottton Town Council, as the relevant body, applied for Pottton parish to be designated as a Neighbourhood Plan Area for the purpose of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan Area application was approved by Central Bedfordshire Council ('the Council') on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016 in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

Following the submission of the Plan to the Council in January 2019, the Plan was publicised and representations were invited under the formal Regulation 16 consultation. This consultation period was for 6 weeks, from **14<sup>th</sup> February to 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019**.

The Council, with the agreement of Pottton Town Council, appointed an Independent Examiner, Mr Andrew Ashcroft BA (Hons) MA DMS MRTPI, to review whether the Plan met the Basic Conditions set out in legislation and should proceed to Referendum.

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

## Decisions & Reasons

The Council accepted the contents and proposed modifications in the Examiner's Report and that the Pottton Neighbourhood Plan (as modified) should proceed to Referendum. The modifications proposed by the Examiner have been made by Pottton Town Council.

A Referendum took place on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019**. The results showed that **95.92%** of those who voted were in favour of the Plan.

On 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019, the Director of Regeneration & Business made the delegated decision, pursuant to Section 38A(4) of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, to 'make' the Pottton Neighbourhood Plan as more than half of those voting voted in favour of the Plan. This Decision Statement and the Plan 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 via the Town Council.