# NOTES on NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

February 2015

**EDITION 14** 

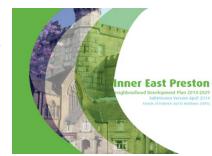
Produced by the Department for Communities and Local Government

This special publication from the Department for Communities and Local Government celebrates the milestone of 50 successful neighbourhood planning referendums in England. We begin by taking a look at the most recent plans to pass, which all went to the vote on 12 February.

#### Inner East Preston (Preston) – 93% YES vote

The Inner East Preston neighbourhood plan covers two wards in the city, and has been developed by the Friends of Fishwick and St Matthew's community organisation.

The group had a keen interest in making the area a better place to live, and worked very hard to ensure as much of the community was involved in the plan's development as possible.



Bob Fletcher, a member of the Forum, has said that "as a group of inexperienced individuals in a disadvantaged, run-down, urban area we have all learnt a lot" and the process "has certainly put the area on the map, both locally and nationally." The process of developing a neighbourhood plan has also fostered better relations between the community and authorities, creating "a sense of working together and a more joined up thinking approach to future potential developments."





#### Exminster (Teignbridge) – 95% YES vote

Exminster is a village on the southern edge of Exeter in Devon, with a population of over 3,000. In December 2012 a mixture of councillors and community volunteers began working on the neighbourhood plan.

The plan was developed through consultation with the community, and over 60% of households across the parish made their views known.

The Plan covers four policy areas: community sports and leisure facilities; open countryside; quality of design and use of Community Infrastructure Levy.

The Parish's lessons for others is to keep the plan simple and focussed on clear aims; and to make sure that they get good advice and a strong evidence base.

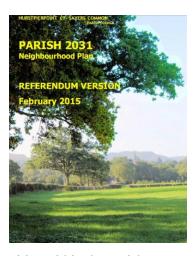
#### Hurstpierpoint (Mid Sussex) – 92% YES vote

Hurstpierpoint 's neighbourhood plan covers an area of 20 square miles of countryside and villages in Mid Sussex.

The plan aims to shape the next 20 years of the community's life. It is concerned with how to; preserve the countryside; shape the location and look of new housing; encourage new economic and employment opportunities; provide better local amenities and services and adapt to changes in transport usage.

Although producing the plan posed numerous challenges to the community, they now have "every reason to be proud of the new Plan, and confident that the local community was involved in its creation from the outset." The Plan also ensures "all new development will bring

financial and other contributions to enable improvements to roads and amenities within the Parish area."



#### The DCLG Team

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Previous edition of Notes can be found at: http://ow.ly/zYNO4

Email: decentralisation@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Twitter: @CommunitiesUK

# **#NeighbourhoodPlanning: VITAL STATISTICS**

## REFERENDUMS

52 SUCCESSFUL REFERENDUMS

## TOP 5 HIGHEST TURNOUTS

- 1. Winslow 60%
- 2. Woodcote 59%
- 3. Strumpshaw 59%
- 4. Billesdon 55%
- 5. Tattenhall 52%

32% AVERAGE VOTER TURNOUT

# TOP 5 HIGHEST 'YES' VOTES

- 1. Winslow 98%
- 2. Loxwood 98%
- 3. **Angmering 97%**
- 4. Kingston 96%
- 5. Tattenhall 96%

88%

AVERAGE 'YES' VOTE

**TOTAL VOTES CAST: 65,880** 

## **COMMUNITIES AND AUTHORITIES**

1,400

COMMUNITIES ARE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

## TOP 5 AUTHORITIES FOR DESIGNATIONS

- 1. Herefordshire 88
- 2. Cornwall 49
- 3. Leeds -33
- 4. Wiltshire 29
- 5. Stratford on Avon 26

# 6.1 million

PEOPLE IN ENGLAND LIVE IN A DESIGNATED NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA

# TOP 5 AUTHORITIES FOR MADE PLANS

- 1. Arun 10
- 2. Broadland 2
- 3. Cheshire West & Chester 2
- 4. Harborough 2
- 5. South Oxon 2
- 6. Wolverhampton 2

TOTAL MADE PLANS AND ORDERS: 38

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

#### LEAST POPULOUS AREAS WITH A PLAN\*

- 1. Kingston 625
- St Eval 628
   Strumpshaw 634
- Strumpshaw 634
   Anslow 805
- 5. Billesdon 901

£4,811,041

AWARDED TO COMMUNITIES THROUGH SUPPORT GRANTS

#### MOST POPULOUS AREAS WITH A PLAN\*

- 1. Winsford 31,000
- 2. **Littlehampton 27,000**
- 3. Tettenhall -23,000
- 4. Ascot 18,000
- 5. Madeley 17,600

340,000

PEOPLE LIVE IN A COMMUNITY WITH A PLAN\*

### **TOTAL COMMUNITIES SUPPORTED: 920**



of citizens think it is important for them personally to feel they can influence decisions in their local area 63%

of citizens say they would be more supportive of house building if local people were given greater control and say over what gets built

British too lef Hiths dec Survey 202

To explore the range of policies that communities have developed to shape growth in their area, take a look at <u>The Power of Neighbourhood</u>

Planning.

# THE NATIONAL PICTURE: first 50 referendums

