



DECISION STATEMENT FOR THE MAKING OF THE WELLOW NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Decision

Following an Independent Examination and a positive referendum result, the New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA) has decided pursuant to section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, to 'make' the Wellow Neighbourhood Plan (the 'Plan'). This decision was made at the full New Forest National Park Authority meeting on 25 July 2024.

Background

Wellow Parish Council submitted its draft Neighbourhood Plan and supporting material to Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) and the New Forest National Park Authority, as the designated Wellow Neighbourhood Area includes land with both local planning authority areas. An independent examiner was appointed, and his report was received in April 2024. The Examiner's Report concluded that the draft Wellow Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions and other legal requirements, subject to modifications.

TVBC and the NFNPA considered the recommendations and modifications contained in the Examiner's Report. The two local planning authorities for the parish of Wellow agree that the legal requirements and basic conditions have been met.

The Referendum

Test Valley Borough Council held a referendum on the draft Wellow Neighbourhood Plan on 11 July 2024. A majority (90.86%) of those voting in the referendum voted in favour of the plan. No other issues have become known that would suggest that the planning authorities should decline to make the plan.

The referendum result is as follows:

Response	Votes recorded	Percentage
YES	557	90.86%
NO	55	8.97%
Turnout	22.58%	

The area covered by the Wellow Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan area covers the area of Wellow Parish only. This area falls within the New Forest National Park and Test Valley Borough for planning purposes.

What this means for the Wellow Neighbourhood Plan area

In England, development plans are used to set out the planning policies for the development and use of land. Planning applications are determined by local planning

authorities such as Test Valley Borough Council and the New Forest National Park Authority. Planning decisions are made in accordance with the adopted development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The Neighbourhood Plan forms part of the development plan for the Wellow parish, which also includes the adopted New Forest National Park Local Plan 2016 – 2036. The Neighbourhood Plan and its policies will be given full weight when assessing planning applications that affect land covered by the Plans.

For further information

This Decision Statement and the made Wellow Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed online at [Wellow Neighbourhood Development Plan | Test Valley Borough Council](#) and [Neighbourhood planning - New Forest National Park Authority \(newforestnpa.gov.uk\)](#). The relevant documents can also be inspected during normal opening hours at:

- Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3AJ
- New Forest National Park Authority, Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington, SO41 9ZG

**Policy Team
New Forest National Park Authority
25 July 2024**