



DRAFT CHARTER FOR ALTON HAMPSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

1. In February 2016 The Alton Neighbourhood Plan was made following a referendum and was adopted as part of the planning policy framework by the Local Planning Authority (East Hampshire District Council)

A new Neighbourhood Planning Act was published in 2017 along with the publication of the revised National Planning Policy Framework in 2018 with subsequent revisions in 2019. Both intended to strengthen Neighbourhood Planning.

In 2019 East Hampshire District Council publicly consulted upon a draft new Local Plan in response to the revised The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) Regulation 10A, that requires Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to review their Local Plan within five years of the date of adoption.

In conformity with the Local Plan, the Town Council felt it would be appropriate to review the Alton Neighbourhood Plan in 2021 as it reaches its fifth anniversary.

Given the speculation over the future of the current iteration of the National Planning Policy Framework and the content of the two government White Papers (Planning for the Future and Changes to the Current Planning System both published 6th August 2020) and concerns over the robustness of the district five-year housing land supply, Alton Town Council took the decision on the 28th October 2020 to undertake a modification of the existing Alton Neighbourhood Plan, whilst holding in abeyance a full review given the uncertainty but addressing the concerns over the potential for speculative development in the short to medium term.

This process will be carried out in accordance with The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 Statutory Instrument 637.

A significant amount of public consultation and analysis will go into the draft Neighbourhood Plan modification document for public examination and final implementation following approval by the inspector towards the end of 2021

OBJECTIVE

2. In conformity with the Joint Core Strategy, develop and implement a Modification to the existing Alton Neighbourhood Development Plan as soon as possible to update the HO3 residential housing site allocation policies contained within. This is to ensure paragraph 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is engaged, essentially maintaining full weight of its policies for a further two-year period which will commence on the date of adoption of the modified plan.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

3. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will develop, foster and maintain a network of individual volunteers and organisations throughout Alton with a common interest and intent to develop and implement the Neighbourhood Plan. This group will seek to engage as widely as possible with the local community to garner their views.

- a. Alton general public and surrounding Parish residents
- b. Relevant constituted and non-constituted bodies and clubs etc. within Alton.
- c. Alton Town Council, East Hampshire District Council and Hampshire County Council.
- d. Neighbouring Parish Councils.

The process will be endorsed at every stage by the Town Council.

4. The Alton Neighbourhood Plan Modification will build and expand on elements of the considerable public consultation work undertaken by the draft Local Plan during 2019.

5. The Alton Neighbourhood Plan Modification will also build and expand on emerging site allocations which will be provided by EHDC. Given the commercial sensitivities around emerging site allocation documentation, these will remain within the group as confidential until such time as any required documentation for the modification of the Plan is made public.

6. Custodianship and maintenance of the Neighbourhood Plan modification and supporting documentation will be an Alton Town Council responsibility.

STEERING GROUP STRUCTURE

7. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will be as follows:

Councillor Graham Titterington - Chairman
Councillor Pam Jones
Mr. Mike Heelis MBE
Mr. David Allan MBE
Nicky Branch (Alton Society)
Vicki Potts (EHDC)
Adam Harvey (EHDC)
Wendy Simson – Assistant to the Clerk
Leah Coney – Town Clerk

FUNDING

8. Funding will be arranged, managed and coordinated through Alton Town Council.

CONSULTANTS

9. Where funding will allow, professional consultancy support may be employed to carry out an independent ‘Health Check’ of the new Pre-Submission document and preparation of the

Modification Statement and Schedule.

OUTLINE TIMETABLE

- Startup Meeting November 2020
- Gap analysis completed by 4th December and findings circulated
- SEA Screening determination (EHDC) (6weeks) consultation end 5th
February 2021
- Pre-submission documentation and Reg 14 approval by Full Council 10th
February 2021
- Launch Press release/ Altonian to go out 15th Feb 2021
- Regulation 14 consultation 16th February 30th March 2021 (6weeks)
- Consultation feedback publication/ exhibition.
- Consolidate all info into final draft modification of plan.
- Final approval of Plan to ATC Full Council April/May 2021
- Passed to EHDC May 2021
- Reg 16 (6 weeks) consultation June/July 2021
- Passed to examiner August 2021
- Back to EHDC end of September 2021