

Rural Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement – December 2018

In line with Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 this Decision Statement has been prepared to inform people who live, work or carry out business in the Neighbourhood Area the Hartlepool Borough Council has Made the Rural Neighbourhood Plan.

Referendum and process for the Plan to be Made:

The question which was asked at the referendum on the 4th October 2018 was:

“Do you want Hartlepool Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for the Hartlepool Rural Area to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

At the referendum there were a total of 405 votes cast with 330 voting in favour and 75 against. This means there has been a majority vote in favour of the HRNP.

A detailed legislative framework for undertaking neighbourhood planning was set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Rural Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared and is in conformity with these and as such the local authority, following the positive vote at Referendum, had a duty to adopt the Rural Neighbourhood Plan to form part of the Development Plan for Hartlepool. The document was Made (adopted) at the Full Council meeting on the 20th December 2018 and now forms part of the Development Plan for Hartlepool.

The independent examiner considered (at page nine of his report) that the EU and Human Rights obligations had been met in relation to the production of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Made Rural Neighbourhood Plan is available on the Council’s website.