

Adoption of the Diss & District Neighbourhood Plan 2021 - 2038

Dated: 16 October 2023

Diss Town Council and the surrounding parishes of Burston & Shimpling, Roydon and Scole (in South Norfolk), and Brome & Oakley, Palgrave and Stuston (in Mid Suffolk) have worked together to produce the Diss & District Neighbourhood Plan (the DDNP). They have been supported by officers at South Norfolk Council and Mid Suffolk District Council, with South Norfolk acting as the lead local authority.

The Decision:

Following a referendum held on Thursday 28th September 2023, in which more than half of those who voted did so in favour of the Plan, South Norfolk Council and Mid Suffolk District Council have decided to 'make' (adopt) the Diss & District Neighbourhood Plan as part of the Development Plan in each District.

Reason for the decision:

The DDNP has been prepared in accordance with the relevant regulations. It has been independently examined by Mr Andrew Ashcroft BA (Hons) MA DMS MRTPI. In his final report, published in May 2023, he concluded that subject to certain modifications the DDNP meets the basic conditions and that it should proceed to a referendum.

On 26 July 2023, the two Councils published a joint statement in which they agreed to accept all of his proposed modifications.

The referendum took place on 28th September 2023. The declared result was as follows:

Question in referendum	No. voting 'Yes'	No. voting 'No'
Do you want South Norfolk Council and Mid Suffolk District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Diss and District to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?	1,790 (84.43%)	324 (15.28%)

This result means that the two Councils must now 'make' (adopt) the Diss & District Neighbourhood Plan as soon as reasonably practical, unless they consider that it would be in breach of any EU obligations or any of the Convention Rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998). Our statement issued in July 2023 confirms that this Plan is not in breach of those obligations.

Copies of the DDNP and its supporting evidence can be viewed on our websites at:

- www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plans
- <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/diss-district-neighbourhood-plan>

Printed copies of the DDNP can also be made available on request.