

Trowse with Newton Neighbourhood Plan - Reg. 16 Consultation FAQs

Who has produced the Neighbourhood Plan?

The Trowse with Newton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Draft) has been produced by a volunteer working group on behalf of Trowse with Newton Parish Council, in consultation with the local community and stakeholder bodies.

What area does the Neighbourhood Plan cover and what weight will the Plan have in decision-making?

The Neighbourhood Plan covers the entire parish of Trowse with Newton. It sets a framework for future development in this area up to 2038 and, if successful, will be one of the main considerations in determining planning applications in the area, alongside the Local Plans produced by South Norfolk Council and The Broads Authority.

What is the background to the Neighbourhood Plan?

In 2019 Trowse with Newton Parish Council submitted a Neighbourhood Area application for the purpose of developing a Neighbourhood Plan and this area was designated by South Norfolk Council and The Broads Authority. A volunteer working group was established to develop a draft Neighbourhood Plan, on behalf of the Parish Council, in consultation with the local community and other stakeholders.

Following pre-submission consultation, the working group submitted the proposed Neighbourhood Plan to South Norfolk Council and The Broads Authority in November 2023.

In accordance with Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, South Norfolk Council and The Broads Authority have now made an initial assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan and the supporting documents and are satisfied that these comply with the specified criteria.

The next step is for both local planning authorities to undertake a formal period of consultation on the submitted Neighbourhood Plan, as required by Reg. 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

How do I view the Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents?

South Norfolk Council and The Broads Authority have now published the submitted Neighbourhood Plan for public consultation. This consultation closes at **5.00pm on Friday 22nd March 2024**.

You can view and comment on the proposed Neighbourhood Plan in the following ways:

By visiting the Trowse with Newton Neighbourhood Plan webpage at.

www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plans

- By visiting one of the following locations to view a hard copy of the Plan:
 - **Norfolk & Norwich Millennium Library** – The Forum, Millennium Plain, Norwich, NR2 1AW
 - **South Norfolk Council** – The Horizon Centre, Broadland Business Park, Peachman Way, Norwich, NR7 0WF Appointments only – please contact (01508) 533805

If you have any difficulty accessing any of these documents online or at the above locations, then please contact South Norfolk Council on (01508) 533805.

How do I respond to the consultation?

Response forms are available to complete in each of the above locations and online at the aforementioned webpage. Comments on this proposed Neighbourhood Plan must be submitted in writing and received by South Norfolk Council no later than **5.00pm on Friday 22nd March 2024**.

Please send your completed response form to: neighbourhoodplans@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

Alternatively, you can post your response to: Place Shaping Team, South Norfolk Council, The Horizon Centre, Broadland Business Park, Peachman Way, Norwich, NR7 0WF

As part of your consultation response, you can also state whether you wish to be notified if and when the Neighbourhood Plan has been adopted by both local planning authorities.

What happens after this consultation period?

Once this consultation period has closed, South Norfolk Council and The Broads Authority will appoint a qualified, independent person to conduct an examination of the submitted Neighbourhood Plan. All comments received as part of this consultation will be forwarded, with the Neighbourhood Plan documents, to the examiner for their consideration.

What is the role of the independent examiner?

The examiner will produce a report setting out their findings and recommendations. The report will recommend that either the Neighbourhood Plan should be submitted to a referendum, that the Neighbourhood Plan should be subject to certain modifications before being submitted to a referendum, or that the Neighbourhood Plan proposal should be refused.

South Norfolk Council and The Broads Authority will subsequently consider the report and decide whether they are satisfied with the examiner's recommendations. The authorities will publish a decision

statement setting out whether or not the Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to a referendum, with or without modifications.

What happens at a referendum?

If the Neighbourhood Plan proceeds to a referendum then all those on the electoral roll in the neighbourhood area will be notified of the referendum details via polling card. Referendum information will also be available to view on the Neighbourhood Plan webpage on South Norfolk Council's website a minimum of 28 working days before the referendum date.

The referendum question will ask the voter whether they wish to see the Neighbourhood Plan being used to help determine planning applications in the neighbourhood area (requiring a 'yes' or 'no' answer).

How many people need to vote in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan in order for it to be successful?

If the referendum results in more than half those voting (i.e. greater than 50%) doing so in favour of the plan, then the Neighbourhood Plan will automatically become part of the statutory Development Plan for South Norfolk and The Broads Authority, meaning it will sit alongside both local authorities' Local Plan documents and will be used, with them, in the determination of planning applications in the neighbourhood area.

The local authorities will adopt the Neighbourhood Plan as soon as possible following the referendum, unless they consider it would breach or be incompatible with any EU obligation or the Human Rights.

For further information on the Neighbourhood Planning process, please visit the Government's Neighbourhood Planning Guidance webpage at www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2