

## Decision Statement

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**On behalf of West Dorset District Council, 7 December 2017**

At the meeting of the Full Council on 7 December 2017, West Dorset District Council has taken the decision to make the Buckland Newton Neighbourhood Plan (as modified in accordance with the Examiner's recommendations) part of the development plan for the Buckland Newton neighbourhood area.

## Reasons

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In January 2016 Buckland Newton Parish Council submitted its neighbourhood plan and supporting evidence to West Dorset District Council. An independent examiner was appointed, and their report was received in June 2017. In summary, the examiner's report concluded that the Buckland Newton Neighbourhood Plan, subject to some modification, would meet the Basic Conditions and other legal requirements.

West Dorset District Council considered each of the recommendations and modifications contained in the examiner's report at its Strategy Committee on 12 September 2017. In considering the conclusions of the independent examiner, the Council agreed that the legal requirements and basic conditions had been met.

The district council held a referendum on 2 November 2017. More than half of those voting in the referendum voted in favour of the plan. No other issues have come to light which would suggest that the council should decline to make the plan.

### The area covered by the Buckland Newton Neighbourhood Plan

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The neighbourhood plan area covers the entirety of the parish of Buckland Newton.

### What this means for the Buckland Newton Neighbourhood Plan area

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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 West Dorset District Council. 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 Buckland Newton parish area alongside the adopted West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland joint local plan.

The policies in the neighbourhood plan are in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan. Therefore the policies contained in the Buckland Newton Neighbourhood Plan will take precedence over the non-strategic policies in the adopted Local Plan when decisions are being made on development proposals.

Where to find more information...

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Copies of this decision statement and the adopted Buckland Newton Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed online at <https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/Buckland-Newton-Neighbourhood-Plan> and in the district council offices at South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1UZ during standard opening hours (8.30am to 5pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am to 4.30pm Friday).

*A copy of this statement is automatically sent to the parish council who submitted the plan and anyone who has asked to be notified of this decision.*