

Littlemore Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement (Regulation 18(2))

Summary

1. Following an independent examination undertaken by written representations, Oxford City Council now confirms that the Littlemore Neighbourhood Plan will proceed to a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum.
2. This decision statement will be available on the city council's internet page and main offices. The Decision Statement will also be available in Littlemore Library, Oxford Academy Campus, Sandy Lane West, Littlemore, Oxford.

Background

3. On 15 August 2017, Oxford City Council formally designated the area shown at Appendix 1 as the Littlemore Neighbourhood Area. The neighbourhood area application was submitted by Littlemore Parish Council. As a parish council, it is considered a 'relevant body' to make a neighbourhood area application and to lead the production of a neighbourhood plan (in accordance with Section 61G(2) of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Localism Act 2011).
4. Following the submission of the Littlemore Neighbourhood Plan to Oxford City Council the plan was publicised and representations were invited. The publicity period ended on 9th December 2024.
5. The City Council appointed an independent Examiner, Andrew Ashcroft BA (Hons), MA, DMS, MRTPI to examine whether the Littlemore Neighbourhood Plan met the basic conditions as set out in Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and whether the Littlemore Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to a referendum.
6. The Examiner's Report recommended a number of modifications so that the Littlemore Neighbourhood Plan is able to comply with the 'basic conditions' and other relevant statutory provisions, and that the draft plan as modified can be submitted for referendum.
7. The Examiner's Report (1 August 2025) concludes by stating:

"On the basis of the findings in this report, I recommend to Oxford City Council that subject to the incorporation of the modifications set out in this report that the Littlemore Neighbourhood Development Plan should proceed to referendum."

Recommendations, Decisions and Reasons

8. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Regulation 18 requires the local planning authority to outline what action to take in response to the recommendations of an examiner made in a report under paragraph 10 of Schedule 4a to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as applied by Section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).
9. Having considered the recommendations made by the examiner's report, and the reasons for them, Oxford City Council has agreed to accept the modifications made to the draft plan under paragraph 12(6) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in response to the Examiner's recommendations/ modifications.
10. To meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 a referendum which poses the question, '**Do you want Oxford City Council to use the Littlemore Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in the Littlemore Neighbourhood Area**¹?' will be held in the area formally designated as the Littlemore Neighbourhood Area.
11. The referendum is expected to take place in late January 2026.

¹ [Neighbourhood Planning \(Referendums\) Regulations 2012 \(As amended\)](#)

Appendix 1: Map of Littlemore Neighbourhood Area



Littlemore Civil Parish



Scale: 1:12,500 (A4)

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