

# **COTHERSTONE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

## **Submission Draft Version**

**Commencement of Examination Procedural Note**  
**Cotherstone Neighbourhood Plan**  
**by Independent Examiner, Rosemary Kidd**

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NPIERS Independent Examiner  
21 January 2022

## Cotherstone Neighbourhood Plan

I am writing to confirm that I have commenced the examination of the Cotherstone Neighbourhood Plan. All contact will be through a named representative of the Local Planning Authority. They will be responsible for forwarding all correspondence (except for contractual matters) to the representative of the Qualifying Body. All correspondence between myself, the Local Planning Authority and the Qualifying Body (except for contractual matters) should be placed on the Local Authority's website to ensure that the examination is conducted in an open and transparent manner.

From my initial appraisal of the submitted documents I consider that it is unlikely that a hearing will be necessary, provided that I receive satisfactory answers to any questions and matters for clarification.

I have undertaken a detailed appraisal of the background documents to check that the legal requirements have been satisfied and that adequate consultation has taken place to meet the requirements of the Regulations.

The Basic Conditions Statement summarises the findings of the Screening Opinions for the SEA and HRA. However, I do need to see the full Screening Opinions on the submission draft Plan. I note the responses from Natural England and the Environment Agency to the consultation on them. Would you provide the full report to me.

Otherwise, I am satisfied that the legal requirements have been met. There are a few matters that have been raised in the representations that I would welcome comments from the Qualifying Body and / or Local Planning Authority and these are set out in my separate list of questions. I would appreciate your response by 14 February, if possible.

I have undertaken a detailed appraisal of the Plan and the policies to ensure that they satisfy the Basic Conditions, taking account of any representations. I have undertaken an unaccompanied site visit. I have set out my questions and matters for clarification separately.

- I will present my Examination Questions and matters for clarification to the Local Planning Authority by 21 January 2022. This will also seek agreement to any significant wording changes to policies.
- I will allow 3 weeks for a response by the Local Planning Authority and Qualifying Body. (14 February 2022)
- Following receipt of responses to my questions and matters of clarification, I will prepare my draft Examination Report for fact checking.
- I will allow 7 days for a response by the Local Planning Authority and Qualifying Body.
- I anticipate that I will issue my final report to the Local Planning Authority and Qualifying Body by mid March.

All dates are indicative at this stage and may be revised, if necessary, should significant issues or additional questions arise or extensions of time be requested by the Local Planning Authority and/or Qualifying Body.