

# **Sutton**

# **Neighbourhood Plan**

Decision Statement (June 2021)

**A great place to live and work.**

## Summary

Following an Independent Examination and Referendum, Central Bedfordshire Council now confirms that the Sutton Neighbourhood Plan ('the Plan') forms part of the Development Plan for Central Bedfordshire and the policies in the Plan can therefore now be given full weight when assessing planning applications that affect land covered by the Plan.

This Decision Statement and the Plan can be viewed at the following places:

[Sutton Neighbourhood Plan website](#)      [Central Bedfordshire Council website](#)

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions hard copies of this Decision Statement and the final Neighbourhood Plan are not available to view at our offices. Arrangements for this service, on a request basis, will be made in due course once current restrictions are lifted.

## Background

Sutton Parish Council, as the relevant body, applied for the parish of Sutton to be designated as a Neighbourhood Plan Area for the purpose of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan Area application was approved by Central Bedfordshire Council ('the Council') on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018 in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

Following the submission of the Plan to the Council in January 2021, the Plan was publicised and representations were invited under the formal Regulation 16 consultation. This consultation period was for 6 weeks, from **14<sup>th</sup> January to 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021**.

The Council, with the agreement of Sutton Parish Council, appointed an Independent Examiner, Mr David Kaiserman BA DipTP MRTPI, to review whether the Plan met the Basic Conditions set out in legislation and should proceed to Referendum.

The Examiner's Report concluded that, subject to making the modifications proposed by the Examiner, the Plan met the Basic Conditions set out in legislation and should proceed to a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum.

## Decisions & Reasons

The Council accepted the contents and proposed modifications in the Examiner's Report and that the Sutton Neighbourhood Plan (as modified) should proceed to Referendum. The modifications proposed by the Examiner have been made by Sutton Parish Council.

A Referendum took place on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021**. The results showed that **97.58%** of those who voted were in favour of the Plan.

On 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021, the Director of Development Infrastructure made the delegated decision, pursuant to Section 38A(4) of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, to 'make' the Sutton Neighbourhood Plan as more than half of those voting voted in favour of the Plan. This Decision Statement and the Plan have been published on our website. This information has also been brought to the attention of people who live, work or carry out business in the Neighbourhood Area via the Parish Council.

