COTSWOLD
District Council

Notification of Draft
Decisions Tuesday, 31 March 2026

Notice of Draft
Decisions of Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning
Decision Meeting -
Tuesday, 31 March 2026

1. Introductions

Councillor Juliet Layton, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning, welcomed the public to the meeting and introduced the responsible officer.
The purpose of the meeting was to consider five neighbourhood plans at various stages.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest from the Cabinet Member or Officers.

4. Officer Overview of the Report

The Officer provided a brief verbal summary of the report with key details for each of the five Neighbourhood Plans to be considered and provided updates which needed to be considered by the Cabinet Member when taking their decision.

The following neighbourhood plans were considered:

1. Mickleton Neighbourhood Plan: The proposal was to approve the designation of Mickleton parish as a Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of Neighbourhood Planning, and the Parish Council as an appropriate Qualifying Body.
   It was reported that Mickleton Parish Council had expressed an interest in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. An initial meeting had been held to outline the benefits and challenges of producing a plan, following which the Parish Council confirmed its wish to proceed.

The Parish Council indicated that it would undertake initial community scoping work to identify key issues and opportunities.
The submitted designation form (Appendix A), duly completed and signed, confirmed that consideration had been given to a multi-parish approach. However, it was concluded that there would be no benefit in extending beyond the existing parish boundary, as the settlement did not straddle neighbouring parishes. A single-parish designation was therefore considered the most straightforward and appropriate approach.

2. Siddington Neighbourhood Plan: The officer updated the Cabinet Member on Siddington Neighbourhood Plan progress, including likely Reg. 14 consultation dates.
It was reported that no decision was required in respect of Siddington at this stage. The item had been included on the agenda in anticipation of the Regulation 14 consultation commencing; however, the Parish Council was not yet ready to proceed. It was noted that the consultation was expected to begin within the next month or two and that good progress was being made.

3. Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan: The officer updated the Cabinet Member on the progress of the Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan and confirmed that the NDHA map had now been published, with a view to getting approval for the submission of the Neighbourhood Plan and the start of a Reg. 16 consultation. It was reported that Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan had been in preparation for a number of years and that significant progress had been made over the past year. Following the Regulation 14 consultation undertaken the previous year, the Town Council had worked with its planning consultant to review and address comments received and to prepare the submission documents.

   Although there had initially been some outstanding policy maps, including those relating to non-designated heritage assets, (NDHA) these had now been completed and published as a supplementary document. Officers confirmed that the submission met the statutory requirements and recommended that the Plan proceed to Regulation 16 consultation.

4. Cirencester Neighbourhood Plan: The officer explained that this item concerned the resubmission of Cirencester Neighbourhood Plan, which now included a policies map, and a few minor amendments.
   It was reported that the Cirencester Neighbourhood Plan had originally been submitted in February 2025 but had been delayed. During review, it was identified that a comprehensive policies map had not been included. Given the scale and complexity of the Plan, officers worked closely with the Town Council steering group to identify and prepare the necessary mapping, including detailed mapping of non-designated heritage assets (NDHA) and their curtilages.

   All required maps had now been completed and included within the appendices to the report. Minor textual amendments had also been made to improve clarity and correct small errors. It was noted that these did not alter the scope or intent of the policies. In order to ensure a clear audit trail and full compliance with statutory requirements, the Plan had been resubmitted in its entirety for approval to proceed to a Regulation 16 consultation. Approval was sought to start a Reg. 16 consultation running from Thursday 16 April for 6 weeks until 5pm on Friday 29 May.

5. Chipping Camden Neighbourhood Plan: The officer updated the Cabinet Member on Chipping Campden Neighbourhood Plan examination.
   It was reported that no decision was required in respect of the Chipping Campden Neighbourhood Plan, which had already been approved to proceed to examination following Regulation 16 consultation.

   The independent examiner, previously appointed, had commenced the examination, undertaken a site visit, and issued a clarification note to the Town Council. The principal area of contention related to the proposed designation of four Local Green Spaces, which were opposed by two landowners. In light of these differing positions, the examiner had requested an in-person hearing to explore the matters further and seek common ground. The hearing was scheduled to take place at Chipping Campden Town Hall on 14 April 2026, with invited participants including the District Council, the Town Council, and the relevant landowners. The Town Council would represent itself at the hearing.

It was noted that, as the Plan had reached examination stage, associated costs, including the examiner's time and hearing venue, were the responsibility of the District Council, as previously acknowledged. It was also confirmed for clarity that once a Neighbourhood Plan is adopted, the local community becomes eligible to receive 25% of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts for development in the area, an increase from the default 15% prior to plan approval.

5. Confirmation of Comments

6. Public Questions

There were no public questions.

7. Cabinet Member Questions

Mickleton Neighbourhood Plan:
There were no questions for clarity.

Siddington Neighbourhood Plan:
Councillor Layton welcomed the update and sought clarification on whether the Regulation 14 consultation would be brought back for consideration. The officer confirmed that, in line with previous practice, draft consultation responses would be presented for review.

Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan:
It was clarified that the Regulation 16 consultation would be managed by Cotswold District Council and would include making documents available online and in hard copy at Moreton Town Council offices, the local library, and the District Council offices. The consultation was scheduled to commence on 16 April 2026.

Cirencester Neighbourhood Plan:
Officers confirmed to the Cabinet Member that the submission met the necessary requirements and proposed that the Regulation 16 consultation commence on 16 April for a six-week period, ending at 5.00pm on 29 May. It was confirmed that

consultation materials would be made available online and in hard copy at the District Council offices, Cirencester Town Council offices (including the Local Information Centre), and Cirencester Library.

Chipping Campden Neighbourhood Plan:
There were no questions for clarity.

General clarification was provided on public access to documentation: meeting papers could be found via the Council's website under Cabinet Member decision meetings, and all neighbourhood plan documents would also be available on the dedicated Neighbourhood Planning webpages, organised by settlement and stage in the process.

8. Decision

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning confirmed the following decisions:

Mickleton Neighbourhood Plan:
Councillor Layton noted that this represented the beginning of the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan process and welcomed the early engagement.
The officer's recommendation to designate Mickleton as a Neighbourhood Area and Mickleton Parish Council as the qualifying body was accepted by Councillor Layton and she wished the Parish Council well in progressing the Neighbourhood Plan.
Recommendation APPROVED.

Siddington Neighbourhood Plan:
No formal decision was required at this stage.
The update was NOTED.

Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan:
Councillor Layton welcomed the progress made and accepted the officers recommendation for the commencement of the Regulation 16 consultation on 16 April 2026, emphasising the importance of promoting the consultation widely to encourage public engagement.
Recommendation APPROVED.

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Cirencester Neighbourhood Plan:
Councillor Layton welcomed the thorough review undertaken, accepted the officer's recommendation to commence the Regulation 16 consultation, and expressed her support for wide public engagement in the process.
Recommendation APPROVED.

Chipping Camden Neighbourhood Plan:
No formal decision was required at this stage.
The update was NOTED.

Date of Publication: 31 March 2026
Closing Date for Call-In: 10 April 2026
Action Embargoed until: 11 April 2026