



Council name	Cotswold District Council
Name and date of Committee	CABINET MEMBER FOR THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT
Report Number	ALLOCATED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES
Subject	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING: REPRESENTATION TO THE REGULATION 16 CONSULTATION ON THE SOUTH CERNEY NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Wards affected	South Cerney Village and Siddington and Cerney Rural directly
Accountable member	Councillor Rachel Coxcoon, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Forward Planning, Tel: 01285 623000 Email: rachel.coxcoon@cotswold.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Joseph Walker, Community Partnerships Officer Tel: 01285 623146 Email: joseph.walker@publicagroup.uk
Summary/Purpose	To agree a representation from the Council to the Regulation 16 consultation on the South Cerney Neighbourhood Development Plan.
Annexes	Annex A: South Cerney Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Submission: A1) Regulation 16 Draft plan; i) Draft Plan ii) Appendices A-M iii) Appendix N A2) Basic Conditions Statement; A3) Consultation Statement; A4) Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report Annex B: Cotswold District Council Draft representation
Recommendation/s	<i>a) That the Cabinet member considers the draft representation, and subject to any amendments, agrees it for submission to inform the review by the Independent Examiner.</i>
Corporate priorities	The Council has a duty to support neighbourhood planning. 'Ensure that all services delivered by the Council are delivered to the highest standard.'
Key Decision	No
Exempt	No
Consultees/ Consultation	The plan has been consulted on by the Parish Council, and is currently subject to a consultation carried out by this Council. Local residents, businesses and a range of statutory and non-statutory organisations



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	<p>have been informed of the consultation. It should be noted that the consultation does not present an opportunity to add to or alter the plan directly – but is instead an opportunity for consultees to raise concerns with the examiner to inform the decision on whether the submitted plan meets the Basic Conditions – the legal requirements for a Neighbourhood Development Plan to proceed to referendum.</p>
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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1.** South Cerney Parish Council (SCPPC) applied to this Council in early 2016 to designate a neighbourhood area. The area applied for, and subsequently approved, was the entirety of South Cerney Parish. Since that point, a steering group consisting of local residents, supported by a planning consultant, has consulted locally, reviewed and developed a local evidence base, and drafted a plan, the South Cerney Neighbourhood Development Plan (SCNDP). This plan was duly consulted upon in 2020 – a consultation to which this Council responded – and representations have been considered in preparing a submission draft. Following the submission of this draft to the Council, consultation was launched on 21 May 2021, closing on 2 July 2021.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1.** This consultation gives Cotswold District Council a further opportunity to seek to influence the content of the plan. Should a neighbourhood plan proceed through examination, and subsequent referendum, and be made by this Council, it will become part of the Local Development Framework through which planning applications are determined. As the Local Planning Authority making those determinations, it is in the Council's interests to ensure that so far as possible, neighbourhood plans meet the necessary legal standards and provide a useful framework for decision-making.
- 2.2.** The representation attached at Annex B has been prepared and reviewed by a number of officers who have an involvement within Development Management, Planning Policy and Neighbourhood Planning. Through informal discussions with members of the SCNDP steering group, and through the Council's representation to the Regulation 14 consultation earlier this year, the Council has had opportunity to share its perspective on the policies proposed by the SCNDP. This consultation provides an opportunity to share that perspective with the independent examiner, to inform their judgement on whether the plan should proceed to referendum, and if so, with what modifications.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1.** None – this decision purely concerns the response to the current consultation.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1.** None – this decision purely concerns the response to the current consultation, and informs the independent examiner's review of the submitted SCNDP.

5. RISK ASSESSMENT

This is a low risk decision, but mitigates the risk of the SCNDP being examined without the District Council's concerns being taken into account.

6. EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 6.1.** Not required for this decision.

7. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1.** None directly for this decision, as it is purely a consultation response. The SCNDP encourages energy efficiency and renewable energy measures, and promotes active travel, as well as supporting nature conservation.



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8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 8.1.** The Council could choose not to submit a representation, but would thus miss the opportunity to communicate its views to the independent examiner.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1.** None