

# DCLG – Notes on Neighbourhood Planning (March 2014)



## Referendum News

Congratulations to Broughton Astley and Cringleford, the latest communities to have their neighbourhood plans pass referendum and come into force.

Broughton Astley, Harborough  
Referendum date: 16 January 2014

- Votes for: 2,451 (89%)
- Votes against: 292 (11%)
- Turnout: 2,747 (38%)

[www.harborough.gov.uk/site/scripts/news\\_article.php?newsID=532](http://www.harborough.gov.uk/site/scripts/news_article.php?newsID=532)

The Broughton Astley 'Big Plan' allocates sites for over 400 homes, aimed at providing homes for the community's needs, protecting green space and improving leisure and employment facilities.

Cringleford, South Norfolk

Referendum date: 24 January 2014

- Votes for: 741 (93%)
- Votes against: 57 (7%)
- Turnout: 799 (30%)

[www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/democracy/6514.asp](http://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/democracy/6514.asp)

The Cringleford Neighbourhood Plan allocates sites for over 1,200 homes with further policies around local heritage and economy.

Cringleford is in South Norfolk, where the Council will be implementing the Community Infrastructure Levy from 1 May 2014. Parishes with a neighbourhood plan in force will receive 25% of any Community Infrastructure Levy arising from developments in their area.

## Planning Policy Guidance

On 6 March 2014, Nick Boles announced the launch of the final version of the planning practice guidance on a streamlined and accessible website.

[planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk](http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk)

This follows the Beta test of the site launched in August 2013, thanks to everyone for their input into this process.

You can find more information in the full Written Ministerial Statement at:

[www.gov.uk/government/speeches/local-planning](http://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/local-planning)



Snapshot from the Planning Practice Guidance website

The guidance is a key part of the reforms to make the planning system simpler, clearer and easier.

The section on neighbourhood planning should make helpful reading to everyone working on plans for their area.

[planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning/](http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning/)

## Examination Report

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17 plans have now been through examination, with details of the latest plans shown below. More links can be found at: [pinterest.com/nplanning/](https://pinterest.com/nplanning/)

### Sprowston

[bit.ly/1g2vTRb](https://bit.ly/1g2vTRb)

Referendum: 20 March 2014

### Ascot, Sunningdale and the Sunnings

[bit.ly/1gaWMQS](https://bit.ly/1gaWMQS)

Referendum: 27 March 2014

### Woodcote

[bit.ly/1I5kO2I](https://bit.ly/1I5kO2I)

Referendum: 3 April 2014

### Edith Weston

[bit.ly/1mYeoqn](https://bit.ly/1mYeoqn)

Referendum: 3 April 2014

### Arundel

[bit.ly/1ccitT4](https://bit.ly/1ccitT4)

Referendum: 8 April 2014

### Kirdford

[bit.ly/1favhV6](https://bit.ly/1favhV6)

Referendum: 1 May 2014

### Rolleston

[bit.ly/1icOnOf](https://bit.ly/1icOnOf)

Referendum: *to be confirmed*

### Much Wenlock

[bit.ly/1fKo7gp](https://bit.ly/1fKo7gp)

Referendum: *to be confirmed*

### Slaugham

The independent examiner has asked for some further work on certain aspects of the plan. The examiner's report sets out modifications that should make useful reading to anyone producing a neighbourhood plan.

[bit.ly/1jUCZb4](https://bit.ly/1jUCZb4)

Planning Aid have posted an interview with examiner Ann Skippers online which helps to explain the decisions. [bit.ly/1gevwza](https://bit.ly/1gevwza)

## In the City

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Neighbourhood planning is underway in urban areas across the country addressing issues from housing and retail provision to solutions for crime and deprivation.

In Bristol...

Old Market Quarter have published a draft plan whilst four other forums are also progressing well with their plans. [bit.ly/1ojY8LX](https://bit.ly/1ojY8LX)

In Leeds...

Over 20 areas in and around the city have started work on producing a neighbourhood plan. [bit.ly/1n1AvJ6](https://bit.ly/1n1AvJ6)

In Liverpool...

Three areas are under way, including Liverpool Innovation Park which is a Business Neighbourhood Area. [bit.ly/1pUJ8Yx](https://bit.ly/1pUJ8Yx)

Liverpool City Council hosted an event on 23 January which is showcased on this Tripline page: [bit.ly/1gUP3qb](https://bit.ly/1gUP3qb)

In Birmingham...

Balsall Heath are close to submitting their plan to examination. [bit.ly/1luBTpp](https://bit.ly/1luBTpp)

On January 31, the forum hosted Fishwick St Matthews from Preston to share ideas about their neighbourhood plans. The groups shared their trip on Twitter using #neighbourhoodplanning. Follow them at: @BalsallHeathF and @FishwickStMatts.



Fishwick St Matthews on the road to Balsall Heath

[#neighbourhoodplanning](https://twitter.com/neighbourhoodplanning)

## Student Involvement

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We have been hearing great stories of how planning students from different universities are helping communities to produce neighbourhood plans and deliver their other goals too.

For instance, students at the Bartlett School of Planning, University College London, have presented a map of businesses at the launch of the Unity Neighbourhood Forum in Brent; made a map of industrial and green spaces for Slade Green, Bexley; carried out a door to door survey of residents on the Carpenters Estate in Newham. Work is also underway with West Ealing Neighbourhood Forum.

Planning students from Oxford Brookes University have been researching different aspects of the area of Headington, from design to retail to transport, and presenting their findings to the neighbourhood forum.

Elsewhere, students from Newcastle University, Leeds Metropolitan and University of Gloucester are amongst those that have been providing assistance to groups producing neighbourhood plans.

In Exeter St James, where the neighbourhood plan is already in force, a university student 'green team' has been hard at work on improvements to Queens Crescent Garden, one of the projects featured in the plan now being brought to life by the forum and the wider community. [www.exeterstjamesforum.org/queen-s-crescent-garden-news](http://www.exeterstjamesforum.org/queen-s-crescent-garden-news)

We would love to hear what you are doing and whether you want to get involved, so please drop a line to [james.dadge@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:james.dadge@communities.gsi.gov.uk). We will report back in future editions of Notes. Watch this space.

## Going Digital

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In February, Nick Boles visited Heathfield Park and Tettenhall, in Wolverhampton, and was delighted to see the work of a local enterprise using digital skills to enhance the neighbourhood planning process.

Elsewhere, digital projects are being used in Knowle West, Bristol, and West Hampstead, Camden.



Nick Boles being shown the 3D printing model

## Green Space - Allotments

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Neighbourhood plans can be good for growth in more ways than one. At least 15 plans that have reached draft stage include policies for the creation or enhancement of allotments. To find out more, see this piece in Up Front, the Planning Aid neighbourhood planning e-bulletin: [bit.ly/1B6ce5](http://bit.ly/1B6ce5). Guidance on allotments was published in January, you can find it at: [bit.ly/MQMSua](http://bit.ly/MQMSua)

## The DCLG Team

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Please do share this content, but remember we are not responsible for content on external sites.<sup>1</sup> **Previous editions of 'Notes' can be found at:** [bit.ly/YrFyUh](http://bit.ly/YrFyUh)

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<sup>1</sup> The team provides help to local planning authorities and qualifying bodies through a new process. This is not a substitute for your own professional or legal advice.

# Around 1000

areas have begun the neighbourhood planning process



'Neighbourhood planning is proving to be one of the Government's most popular reforms.' – Nick Boles MP<sup>1</sup>

## Neighbourhood planning is spreading throughout England's communities

# Over 75

communities have produced a full draft plan for public consultation



# 7

plans have been 'made' becoming part of the local development plan



Department for  
Communities and  
Local Government



#neighbourhoodplanning



Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1ifehoz>

1. Hansard (2014) Oral Answers to Questions. Communities and Local Government. [03/03/14]