

**West Lindsey District Council**  
**Regulation 18 - Decision Statement - Referendum**  
**Scotton Neighbourhood Plan**

1.1 Under Regulation 18 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, West Lindsey District Council has produced this 'Decision Statement' in relation to the Scotton Neighbourhood Plan submitted to them by Scotton Parish Council.

1.2 Following an independent examination of written representations, West Lindsey District Council now confirms that the Neighbourhood Plan will proceed to a neighbourhood planning referendum.

1.3 In accordance with the examiner's recommendation, the Neighbourhood Plan will proceed to a public referendum, to be held on 6 May 2021, based on the Scotton Neighbourhood Area as approved by West Lindsey District Council on 13 February 2017. Documents relevant to the neighbourhood plan can be viewed on the District Council's webpages below

<https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/my-services/planning-and-building/neighbourhood-planning/all-neighbourhood-plans-in-west-lindsey/scotton-neighbourhood-plan/>

#### Background

2.1 On the 6 December 2016, Scotton Parish Council submitted a request to West Lindsey District Council for the designation of the Parish of Scotton as a Neighbourhood Area. The approval of the Neighbourhood Area Designation, for the Scotton Neighbourhood Plan, was made on the 13 February 2017.

2.2 The Parish Council carried out consultation on the Draft pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan for Scotton in February/March 2019. Consultation on the Submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan was undertaken from November 2019 to January 2020.

2.4 An independent examiner was appointed to undertake the examination of the Submission version of the Scotton Neighbourhood Plan and the examiner's report was completed on 11 May 2020 and made available to the Parish Council and District Council.

2.5 West Lindsey District Council officers, under delegated powers, have determined that the recommended modifications to the Scotton Neighbourhood Plan meet the 'basic conditions' as set out in section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. West Lindsey District Council and Scotton Parish Council agreed that all of the recommended modifications made by the independent examiner be included and revised in the original Neighbourhood Plan in order for it to proceed to public referendum.

2.6 To meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, a referendum to be held on 6 May 2021, will pose the following question.

**"Do you want West Lindsey District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Scotton to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"**

2.7 In response to the COVID-19 situation the Government has updated current planning guidance to set out that where a decision statement has been made detailing the intention to send a neighbourhood plan to referendum, such as for the Scotton Neighbourhood Plan, that plan can be given significant weight in planning decision-making, so far as the plan is material to the application.