

NOTES on NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

DECEMBER 2014

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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING CONTINUES TO GROW

A series of neighbourhood planning events will begin on Monday 8th December.

The week of events will celebrate the success of the growing neighbourhood planning movement. It is also about encouraging more communities to take up the challenge of shaping development in their area, because we want as many people as possible to benefit from neighbourhood planning powers.

As even more communities decide to begin their own neighbourhood plan and set about getting designated, so increasing numbers of plans move successfully through the referendum stage and are made into law.

To date, 1,258 communities across England have begun the process of developing a neighbourhood plan. This means that more than 5.2 million people live in an area where the community is working together to create a neighbourhood plan. That's almost 10% of the population.

Throughout the week there will be opportunities to join conversations about neighbourhood planning with Brandon Lewis, Minister for Housing and Planning, and the Neighbourhood Planning team at DCLG, and share what inspires you about neighbourhood planning.

See next page for details about what's happening and how you can get involved.

REFERENDUM NEWS



Malmesbury – photo by Robert Peel

Since the previous Notes on Neighbourhood Planning, the number of successful referendums has risen from 35 to 37, with Malmesbury and St Eval the latest plans to pass the public vote. The results were as follows:

- St Eval (Cornwall)
 - Result - 93% YES
 - Turnout - 34%
- Malmesbury (Wiltshire)
 - Result - 90% YES
 - Turnout - 32%

Next week will also see a number of plans going to popular vote, with neighbourhood plan referendums due to be held in Ferring, Marsh Gibbon and Cerne Valley between 10-11 December.

There will also be three more referendums in Ferring at the same time, on three different Community Right to Build proposals- the first such referendums

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

December 8-12th 2014

Monday 8th – Week of neighbourhood planning events begins

Keep an eye on Twitter [@communitiesUK](#) for exciting news and updates throughout the week.

Tuesday 9th – Facebook chat with the minister

Join in the chat here on [Facebook](#) with Brandon Lewis, Minister for Planning and Housing. You can start posting your questions now and Brandon will be here to answer them between 12.30-1.30pm. He's looking forward to some hard-hitting questions and your thoughts on the neighbourhood planning process.

Thursday 11th – 'Ask the expert' on Twitter

The Neighbourhood Planning team from DCLG will be on Twitter [@communitiesUK](#) 1.00-2.00pm waiting for your questions on everything you wanted to know about neighbourhood planning but were afraid to ask. **#NeighbourhoodPlanning**

Friday 12th – Portsmouth Workshop

DCLG Minister Penny Mordaunt will be speaking at a workshop in Portsmouth exploring how people in the area and other coastal communities can use neighbourhood planning to shape future development.

In addition, Brandon Lewis and Stephen Williams, Minister for Communities are writing to every MP in England to let them know about neighbourhood planning progress in their constituency and prompting them to do more to engage their communities. They are also writing to the Chief Executives of all Local Authorities to provide them with the national picture, and again encourage them to do more.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

Throughout the week 8 – 12th December

Talk to us on Twitter [@communitiesUK](#) **#NeighbourhoodPlanning**

Share what got you neighbourhood planning.

What have been your most memorable moments so far? Was it when you first received your area designation? Perhaps when your plan passed examination? Maybe it was having the chance to engage with your community and really find out what they want, or realising that you could do something about it?

Whatever your favourite moment was, let us know through Twitter.

We'd love to find out and help share your experiences with the neighbourhood planning and wider community.

HELP INSPIRE OTHERS

If you want to get involved in inspiring future neighbourhood planners, why not host a workshop? Grants of up to £2,000 are now available for you to host a workshop introducing new communities to the idea, and hopefully inspiring them to begin the neighbourhood planning process.

To find out more, please visit:

<http://ow.ly/EsSYA>

Previous editions of Notes on Neighbourhood Planning can be found at <http://ow.ly/zYNO4>

To contact the team, please email decentralisation@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Twitter: [@CommunitiesUK](#)