

Adoption of the Sproughton Neighbourhood Plan 2018 - 2037

Dated: 28 November 2023

Sproughton Parish Council and members of the local community have prepared the Sproughton Neighbourhood Plan 2018 – 2037 (the 'Plan'). They have been aided by a planning consultant and have also been supported by officers at Babergh District Council.

The Decision:

Following a referendum held on Tuesday 21 November 2023, in which more than half of those who voted did so in favour of the Plan, Babergh District Council has decided to 'make' (adopt) the Sproughton Neighbourhood Plan as part of its development plan.

Reason for the decision:

The Sproughton Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in accordance with the relevant regulations. It has been independently examined by Ann Skippers BSc (Hons) MRTPI FHEA FRSA AoU. In her final report, published in July 2023, she concluded that subject to certain modifications the Plan meets the basic conditions and that it should proceed to a referendum.

On 16 August 2023, Babergh District Council published a statement in which they agreed to accept all of the modifications. Subject to the satisfactory completion of that task, they also agreed to take this Plan to a local referendum.

The declared referendum result was as follows:

Referendum question	No. of 'Yes' votes	No. of 'No' votes
Do you want Babergh District Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Sproughton to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?	298 (92.26%)	24 (7.43%)

The result means that Babergh District Council must now 'make' (adopt) the Sproughton Neighbourhood Plan unless it considers that it would be in breach of any EU obligations or any of the Convention Rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998). The District Council is satisfied that the Sproughton Neighbourhood Plan is not in breach of these obligations.

Other information:

This Decision Statement, the adopted Sproughton Neighbourhood Plan, and other relevant documents can all be viewed online at:

<https://www.babergh.gov.uk/web/babergh/w/sproughton-neighbourhood-plan>