

The Next Stages for WNF

Following the formal consultation from October to November, resident and stakeholder responses will be analysed and categorised, in order that they can be taken into account during the re-formulation of the Plan Policies.

There will also be a need to check all Policies with the Oxford City Planning Department, who are currently developing their 2016 - 2036 Local Plan. This is to ensure, where possible, that the policy approaches align.

We will also need to ask the City Council for a formal screening opinion on the Plan, as to whether it needs a Strategic Environmental Assessment (I would not expect that it would require this)

Following this, the Neighbourhood Plan will be ready for submission to the Oxford City Council.

The documents required for this submission are:

- The 'Plan'
- Any 'Character Assessments' as a separate Appendix to the Plan.
- The 'Consultation Statement', a comprehensive explanation of the entire consultation process.
- The 'Basic Conditions Statement', a document that sets out how the Plan meets the requirements of each basic condition and other legal tests.

We would expect the following timetable:-

- (1) Review of consultation responses and use them to re-formulate the Plan – Dec 17
- (2) Carry out a policy approach check with the City Council – Jan 18
- (3) Ask for a formal screening opinion in relation to SEA – Jan 18
- (4) Submission to the Oxford City Council at which point the City Council takes over the process – Feb 18 (*changed to Mar 18 by Project Manager*)
- (5) Once the City Council accepts the submission it will conduct its own 6 week public consultation – May 18
- (6) Following this the Plan will be reviewed by an Independent Inspector who might ask for clarifications or additional information – Aug 18
- (7) The Inspector then issues a report with binding recommendations which must be implemented before a Referendum – Sep 18
- (8) Once final approval is given by the City Council, they will organise the Referendum process and timescale. This point is now expected to be reached at the end of 2018.
- (9) During the Referendum the Final Neighbourhood Plan is voted on by all eligible residents of the Wolvercote Neighbourhood Area.

Adam Symons

31/10/17