

Chief Executive Decision

The 'Making' of the Martock Neighbourhood Plan

Executive Portfolio Holder Val Keitch, Strategy & Housing
Director: Nicola Hix, Strategy & Support Services
Lead Officer: Jo Wilkins, Specialist (Strategic Planning)
Contact Details: jo.wilkins@southsomerset.gov.uk

Purpose of the Report

To confirm the recommendation of members of the District Executive relating to confirmation that the Martock Neighbourhood Plan be 'made', following a consultative meeting of District Executive on 3 June 2021.

Public Interest

At the meeting of Full Council on Thursday 15 April 2021 it was agreed to make the following changes to the Council's Constitution:

- a) To continue to enable members to hold remote, virtual meetings using available technology;
- b) To amend Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) of the Council's Constitution to allow those remote meetings to function as consultative bodies and delegate decisions, including Executive and Quasi-Judicial decisions, that would have been taken by those meetings if the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 had continued in force to the Chief Executive (or the relevant Director in the Chief Executive's absence) in consultation with those meetings and those members to whom the decision would otherwise have been delegated under Part 3 of the Constitution;
- c) The delegated authority given under (b) will expire on 31 July 2021 unless continued by a future decision of this Council;

Decision Taken

The Chief Executive, following a consultative meeting of the District Executive on 3 June 2021, made the following decision;

Approved the making of the Martock Neighbourhood Plan

Reason

To note the result of the Referendum in relation to the Martock Neighbourhood Plan and to confirm that the Plan be 'made' (adopted).

Background

To enable the decision making process to continue, it was agreed that Councillors continue to receive decision-making reports. They will form a view which will be communicated to the Chief Executive. The decision will be formally made by the Chief Executive (or relevant Director) during the current coronavirus restrictions.

Financial Implications

Under the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations, 15% of Community Infrastructure Levy receipts are generally passed directly to those parish and town councils (in England) where development has taken place. In England, communities that draw up a Neighbourhood Plan and secure the consent of local people in a Referendum, will benefit from 25% of the levy revenues arising from the development that takes place in their area.

The Council is able to claim a grant of up to £20,000 from the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government towards the costs of progressing the Neighbourhood Plan once the decision to hold a referendum has been made. A claim has already been made in relation to that at Martock.

There is no SSDC funding involved in the decision specifically referred to in this report.

Background Papers

<https://modgov.southsomerset.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=136&MId=2927&Ver=4>