

Report of	Meeting	Date
Chief Executive (Introduced by Executive Member (Planning and Development))	Council	Tuesday, 24 January 2023

Mawdesley Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	No
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Purpose of the Report

- To inform Members of an application from Mawdesley Parish Council for the designation of the whole of the parish of Mawdesley as a Neighbourhood Plan area and request its designation as a Neighbourhood Plan area.

Recommendations

- To approve the designation of the Neighbourhood Plan area for Mawdesley as shown at Appendix 1.

Reasons for recommendations

- The Council is required to designate the whole of the area applied for by the Parish Council as a Neighbourhood Area in accordance with Regulation 5A of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016.

Other options considered and rejected

- No other options have been considered because in circumstances where a Parish Council applies to designate the whole of the Parish area then the Council is required to designate the area applied for.

Corporate priorities

- The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Housing where residents can live well	A green and sustainable borough
An enterprising economy with vibrant local centres in urban and rural areas	Healthy, safe and engaged communities

Background to the report

4. Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. The designation of a neighbourhood plan area is the first step in preparing a neighbourhood plan. Mawdesley Parish Council wishes to develop a neighbourhood plan and requested the Parish area be designated as a Neighbourhood Plan area.
5. A Neighbourhood Plan should support the delivery of strategic policies set out in the local plan or spatial development strategy and should shape and direct development that is outside of those strategic policies. The Neighbourhood Plan should contain policies for the development and use of land and, if successful at Examination and Referendum, will form part of the statutory development plan. Applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the statutory development plan.

Justification for Designation

6. This designation is in accordance with Regulation 5A of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) and The Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016. These regulations included an amendment whereby if a neighbourhood area application from a parish council equates to the whole of the parish area, consultation prior to the designation of the neighbourhood area is no longer required. The qualifying body is Mawdesley Parish Council.
7. A map showing the extent of the designated neighbourhood area and a covering letter from the Parish Council which explains why the designated area is considered to be appropriate are available to view on the Council's website.

Next Steps

8. Once approved, the Council is required to publish on its website and in such other manner as they consider is likely to bring the designation to the attention of people who live, work or carry on business in Mawdesley:
 - a) The name of the neighbourhood area;
 - b) A map which identifies the area; and
 - c) The name of the relevant body who applied for the designation.
9. Mawdesley Parish Council will then prepare an evidence-based draft Neighbourhood Plan. This will be subject to consultation and an independent check.

Climate change and air quality

10. The work noted in this report has an overall positive impact on the Councils Carbon emissions and the wider Climate Emergency and sustainability targets of the Council.
11. In particular the report impacts on the following activities:
 - a. net carbon zero by 2030,
 - b. energy use / renewable energy sources
 - c. waste and the use of single use plastics,
 - d. sustainable forms of transport,
 - e. air quality,

- f. flooding risks,
- g. green areas and biodiversity.

12. Developing a neighbourhood plan offers a unique opportunity for communities to proactively set out a positive and ambitious vision for the future and increase the community's resilience in the face of the challenges associated with climate emergency.
13. One of the basic conditions that the Neighbourhood Plan must meet if it is to proceed to referendum and become 'made' is that it must contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

Equality and diversity

14. There are no implications of designating the neighbourhood area.

Risk

15. There is no risk with approving the designated area boundary. In a designated neighbourhood area which contains all or part of the administrative area of a town or parish council, the town or parish council is responsible for neighbourhood planning. Where a parish or town council chooses to produce a neighbourhood plan it should work with other members of the community who are interested in, or affected by, the neighbourhood planning proposals to allow them to play an active role in preparing a neighbourhood plan.

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

16. There are no direct financial implications of this report.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

17. The Regulations applicable to the Designation are referred to in the body of the report.

Background documents

There are no background papers to this report

Appendices

Appendix A – Mawdesley Boundary Map

Appendix B – Letter from Mawdesley Parish Council requesting designation of a neighbourhood area

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