



DARLINGTON
Borough Council

Middleton St George Neighbourhood Plan 2022 – 2036

Regulation 19 Decision Statement

In line with Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 this Decision Statement has been prepared to inform people who live, work or carry out business in the Neighbourhood Area that Darlington Borough Council has 'made' (adopted) the Middleton St George Neighbourhood Plan. It now forms part of the statutory development plan for the neighbourhood area which comprises of Middleton St George parish, excluding land at Teesside International Airport. Decisions on planning applications must now be made in accordance with policies in the Middleton St George Neighbourhood Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The neighbourhood plan referendum was held on the 11th August 2022. The question which was asked was:

“Do you want Darlington Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Middleton St George to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

At the referendum there were a total of 769 votes cast with 716 (93.22%) voting in favour and 52 (6.77%) against. This means there has been a majority vote in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan. The electorate for the neighbourhood area is 3904 giving a turn out of 19.7%.

A detailed legislative framework for undertaking neighbourhood planning was introduced through the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Middleton St George Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared and is in conformity with these legal requirements. As such the local authority, following the positive vote at referendum, had a duty to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan to form part of the Development Plan for Darlington. This Decision Statement confirms that the Council has formally made the plan.

The independent examiner considered (at page nine of her report) that the EU and Human Rights obligations had been met in relation to the production of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The made Neighbourhood Plan is available on the Council's website: www.darlington.gov.uk



Ian Williams
Director of Economic Growth
8 September 2022