

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
LONG WHATTON AND DISEWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
DECISION STATEMENT PROCEEDING TO REFERENDUM

1. Summary

- 1.1 Following an independent examination, North West Leicestershire District Council can confirm that the Long Whatton and Diseworth Neighbourhood Plan will now proceed to a neighbourhood planning referendum subject to the modifications set out in **Appendix A**.
- 1.2 This decision statement can be viewed at North West Leicestershire District Council's **Customer Centre, Belvoir Road, Coalville LE67 3PD** (opposite Insomnia Coffee). Open Monday to Wednesday and Friday 09:00 to 17:00 and Thursday from 09:00 to 16:00.

It can also be viewed at:

Castle Donington Library, The Community Hub, 101 Bondgate, Castle Donington, Derby, DE74 2NR during its normal opening hours:

Monday	10:00-16:00
Tuesday	10:00-14:00
Wednesday	10:00-14:00
Thursday	10:00-14:00
Friday	10:00-16:00
Saturday	10:00-13:00
Sunday	Closed

Kegworth Community Library, High Street, Kegworth, Leicestershire DE74 2DA during its normal opening hours:

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	14:00-16:30
Wednesday	14:00-16:30
Thursday	14:00-16:30
Friday	14:00-18:00
Saturday	10:00-12:00
Sunday	Closed

It can also be viewed online at:

https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/long_whatton_and_diseworth_neighbourhood_plan

2. Background

- 2.1 Long Whatton and Diseworth Parish Council made an application to North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) for a neighbourhood area to be designated in September 2020. The application was approved by NWLDC and Long Whatton and Diseworth Parish was designated as a Neighbourhood Plan Area on 14 October 2020.
- 2.2 Following the submission of the Long Whatton and Diseworth Neighbourhood Plan to the Council, the Plan underwent a six-week public consultation from Monday 20 October to Monday 1 December 2025.
- 2.3 With the agreement of Long Whatton and Diseworth Parish Council, Andrew Freeman BSc (Hons) DipTP DipEM FRTPI was appointed as the independent examiner of the plan. The

purpose of the examination was to determine if the Long Whatton and Diseworth Neighbourhood Plan meets the 'basic conditions' required to proceed to a referendum.

3. Decision and Reasons

- 3.1 The examiner published his report on 20 May 2026, which recommended that, subject to a number of proposed modifications, the Long Whatton and Diseworth Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to referendum. A schedule of the examiner's proposed modifications is set out at **Appendix A**.
- 3.2 The Council has considered the examiner's recommendations in **Appendix A** and are of the view that the proposed modifications are appropriate.
- 3.3 With the incorporation of the modifications, officers conclude that the Neighbourhood Plan would meet the basic conditions as defined in the Localism Act 2011, Schedule 10 and Schedule 4B, 8 (2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 3.4 To meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 a referendum which asks:

'Do you want North West Leicestershire District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Long Whatton and Diseworth to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?'

will be held in the Long Whatton and Diseworth Neighbourhood Plan area.
- 3.5 The date on which the referendum will take place is agreed as **Thursday 10 September 2026**.

Appendix A

Schedule of Proposed Modifications (PM) Recommended in the Examiner's Report

Proposed modification number (PM)	Page no	Modification
PM1	Page 21	Substitute the following at the opening of Policy LW&D1: “The Countryside is defined as land outside the Limits to Development of Long Whatton (Map 19) and Diseworth (Map 20) as well as East Midlands Airport, SEGRO Logistics Park East Midlands and Donnington Park Services (Map 3). The Countryside will be protected for the sake of...”. In the last sentence of the policy, insert “and Neighbourhood Plan Policy LW&D30” after “Policy S3”. Show the SEGRO Logistics Park East Midlands in the key on Map 3.
PM2	Page 28	In the first sentence of Policy LW&D3, for “at Appendix 2”, substitute “shown on Maps 4 and 5 and illustrated in Appendix 2”. At the end of the policy, delete “as identified at Appendix 2”. On Maps 4 and 5, add to the various viewpoints the arc of vision that is of concern. For Viewpoint 08 on Map 5, exclude from the arc of vision any land that would fall within the Freeport area. Delete from the Plan, reference to viewpoints that would be affected by the Freeport development (Viewpoints 05, 06 and 07). Delete from the Plan reference to Viewpoint 14.
PM3	Page 35	In the opening paragraph of Policy LW&D5, delete “which include (as shown on Map 7)”. At the end of the paragraph, insert “as shown on Map 7”. In Clause B, for “in the upper catchment at Diseworth”, substitute “Long Whatton & Diseworth Flood Risk Mitigation & Resilience Improvement Project”. Provide a link to the relevant documents.
PM4	Pages 37 and 38	Within the Neighbourhood Plan, and for the following Local Green Spaces (Policy LW&D7), show the spaces on plans of an appropriate scale: 4. Sherwood Court Play Area, Long Whatton; 5. Cawdell Drive Playground, Long Whatton; and 21. Historic verges, Diseworth. In the Neighbourhood Plan, delete reference to Site 20, Paddock, Lady Gate, Diseworth. Replace the final paragraph of the policy with the following:

		“Decisions for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with national policy for Green Belts”.
PM5	Page 61	In Policy LW&D8, after “Diseworth’s Crofts” add “(Ref 17 on Map 9)”. To Appendix 5, add an assessment of Diseworth’s Crofts based on the material supplied to me on 24 March 2026 in answer to my questions. ¹
PM6	Page 63	In the opening sentence of Policy LW&D9, insert “residential” after “sustainable”.
PM7	Page 68	In Policy LW&D10, add a link to the Long Whatton and Diseworth Flood Risk Mitigation studies. Replace the sentence that includes reference to “100sq.m or more” with the following: “As proportionate to the nature and scale of the proposal, incorporate:”. In Clause D, after the words “..should be retained”, insert “as appropriate,”. At the end of Clause F, add “(bird strike)”.
PM8	Page 77	In Policy LW&D12, delete the sentence referring to Sport England’s guidance notes on villages and community halls. At the end of the policy, add a new requirement: “D. Flood Risk Assessment.”
PM9	Page 86	In Policy LW&D15, insert the words “Within the neighbourhood area,” before “New major development”.
PM10	Page 90	In Policy LW&D16, delete “have the potential to raise issues of disturbance”. Replace with “would, potentially, give rise to adverse effects from noise”. Replace Clause A with the following: “New buildings within Use Classes E and F and changes of use to uses within those classes.” At the end of Clause D, add: “, but excluding active solar technology (photovoltaic and solar water heating)”.
PM11	Page 94	In Policy LW&D18, change the wording so that it refers to “a minimum of 13 dwellings at each of the villages of Long Whatton (Policy LW&D20) and Diseworth (Policy LW&D21)”.
PM12	Page 97	At the end of Policy LW&D19, add the following: “and which include the sites allocated under Policies LW&D20 and 21”.

¹ View at:

PM13	Page 98	In Clause B of Policy LW&D20, after “The provision”, insert “,within the total,”. In place of “relevant regulations”, insert “Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010”.
PM14	Page 99	In Clause B of Policy LW&D21, after “The provision”, insert “,within the total,”.
PM15	Page 101	Replace criterion B iv in Policy LW&D22 with the following: “In calculating the need for affordable housing (Policy LW&D24), and in determining housing mix (Policy LW&D23), the total number of homes on the site shall be reduced by the number of self-build and custom housebuilding plots.”
PM16	Page 104	In Policy LW&D23, after “up to date evidence of housing need”, insert “and subject to viability”.
PM17	Page 108	Replace the first paragraph of Policy LW&D24 with the following two paragraphs: “New affordable housing shall not be occupied other than by those with a local connection, as defined in the accompanying text. “In the event that there are no applicants who fulfil the local connection criteria, housing shall be occupied by other persons in accordance with the District Council’s allocation procedure or those of an affordable housing provider, as appropriate.” In the accompanying text, add a definition of “local connection” in accordance with the Parish Council’s answers dated 2 March 2026 to my questions. Modify the definition to exclude workers at East Midlands Airport and Gateway Industrial Cluster.
PM18	Page 112	In Clause D of Policy LW&D28, insert “net” before “loss”.
PM19	Page 115	At the end of Policy LW&D29, add a new paragraph saying: “Although the site is included within Long Whatton’s Limits to Development, alternative development including windfall housing is not supported under the policy.”
PM20	Page 118	In Clause B of Policy LW&D30, after “(Appendix 1)”, add “unless satisfactory mitigation can be demonstrated”.