



Regulation 19 Decision Statement:

Edenfield Neighbourhood Development Plan

Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and
The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Regulation 19 Decision Statement

1. Summary

- 1.1 In line with Regulation 19 of the regulations set out above, Rossendale Borough Council has produced this Decision Statement in relation to the Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2036.
- 1.2 Following a positive result at the referendum held on Thursday 20 February 2025, Rossendale Borough Council has now 'made' (brought into legal force) the Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2036. The Neighbourhood Plan now forms part of the statutory development plan for Rossendale and will be used to help determine planning applications in the designated Edenfield neighbourhood plan area.

2. Decisions and Reasons

- 2.1 An independent examination of the Plan, carried out by Andrew Freeman BSc (Hons) DipTP DipEM FRTPI, through consideration of written representations, has taken place. The Examiner concluded that, subject to a number of modifications, the Plan meets the basic conditions set out by law and that the Plan, as modified in line with the recommendations, should proceed to referendum with a recommended voting area of designated Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan Area.
- 2.2 On 11 December 2024 Rossendale Borough Council met to consider the Examiner's report and recommendations. The Council agreed to each of the modifications recommended by the Examiner and the reasons put forward for them. A number of minor modifications, including typographical errors, which had been previously agreed with the Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum, were also supported. It was agreed that, as modified, the Plan meets the basic conditions and other relevant requirements, and that the Plan should proceed to a referendum of electors in the designated neighbourhood plan area). Further information on the decision to proceed to referendum can be found in the Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 18 Decision Statement available on the Council's website at: <https://www.rossendale.gov.uk/local-plan/neighbourhood-plan/3>

- 2.4 A referendum was held on Thursday 20 February 2025 within the designated Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan Area and posed the following question: “Do you want Rossendale Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for the Edenfield Neighbourhood Area to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”
- 2.3 Paragraph 38A (4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) requires that the Council must make the Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the Plan.
- 2.4 On the day of the referendum 95.6% voted ‘yes’, therefore more than half of those voting were in favour of the Plan.
- 2.5 Following this outcome, on 2 April 2025, Rossendale Borough Council agreed that the Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2036 is formally made and approved this Decision Statement for publication.

3. Inspection of Regulation 19 Decision Statement

- 3.1 A copy of this Decision Statement is being sent to:
- The qualifying body that prepared the Plan (Edenfield Community Neighbourhood Forum); and
 - Any person who asked during the Regulation 16 consultation to be notified of the decision.
- 3.2 This Decision Statement, the made Edenfield Neighbourhood Plan and other supporting documents can be inspected:
- By appointment at the Council’s Office, Futures Park, Bacup, OL13 0BB.

Please phone 01706 252418 / 252415 or email forwardplanning@rossendalebc.gov.uk
 - Or viewed on the Council’s website at:

<https://www.rossendale.gov.uk/local-plan/neighbourhood-plan/3>
- 3.3 For more information please contact: forwardplanning@rossendalebc.gov.uk or phone 01706 252418 / 2415
- 3.4 This Decision Statement is dated 3 April 2025 (day after Council meeting)