

Decision Statement published pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 Schedule 38A (9) and Regulations 19 and 20 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

At a full Council meeting on 7 December 2016 Maidstone Borough Council formally resolved to make (adopt) the Staplehurst Neighbourhood Development Plan under Section 38(a) (4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). This means the Staplehurst Neighbourhood Development Plan has now been brought into legal force, forming part of the statutory development plan for Maidstone Borough. Consequently the plan will be used to determine planning applications in the Staplehurst plan area.

Reasons for decision:

The Staplehurst Neighbourhood Development Plan meets the basic conditions and is compliant with legal and procedural requirements. Paragraph 38A (4) (a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to make the Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting in the referendum upon the plan have voted in favour of the plan being used to inform planning applications in the area. The Plan was endorsed by more than the required threshold in the referendum held on 3 November 2016.

This statement and the Staplehurst Neighbourhood Development Plan (adopted version) can be viewed on the Maidstone Borough Council website

<http://www.maidstone.gov.uk/residents/planning/local-plan/planning-guidance>

Hard copies can be viewed at:

Maidstone Borough Council

Maidstone House

King Street

Maidstone

ME15 6JQ.