



**Saint Anne's on The Sea
Neighbourhood Development Plan
Referendum**

INFORMATION STATEMENT

Information Statement

This statement has been prepared to meet regulation 4(3)(a) of the Neighbourhood Planning (Referendum) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

A Referendum relating to the adoption of the Saint Anne's on The Sea Neighbourhood Development Plan will be held on **Thursday 04 May 2017**.

This Information Statement explains more about the referendum that will be taking place.

The question which will be asked at the Referendum is:

Do you want Fylde Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Saint Anne's on The Sea to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

The Referendum area is identified on the map which is included with this Information Statement. The Referendum area is identical to the area which has been designated as the Saint Anne's on The Sea Neighbourhood Area.

You vote by putting a cross (X) in the 'Yes' or 'No' box on the ballot paper.

If more people vote 'yes' than 'no' in the Referendum, (50% plus one vote) then Fylde Borough Council will use the Saint Anne's on The Sea Neighbourhood Development Plan to help it to decide planning applications within St. Annes.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan once adopted will then become part of the Development Plan used by the Local Planning Authority (Fylde Borough Council).

If more people vote 'no' than 'yes', in this Referendum or there is a tied vote, then planning applications will continue to be decided without reference to the Saint Anne's on The Sea Neighbourhood Development Plan as part of the Development Plan for the local area.

What is Neighbourhood Planning?

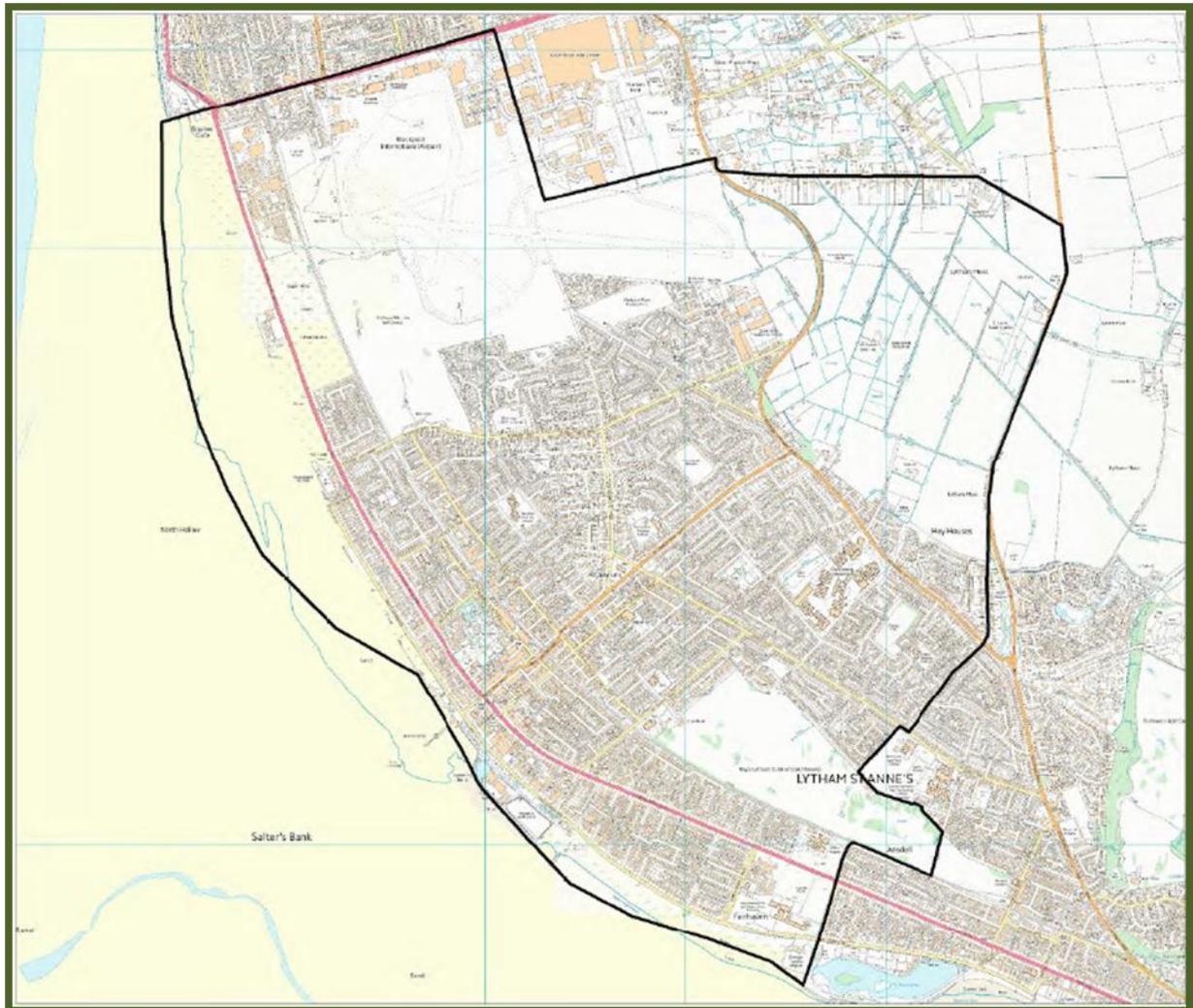
Neighbourhood planning was introduced under the Localism Act 2011 to give local communities more control in the planning of their neighbourhoods. It introduced new rights and powers to allow local communities to shape new development in their local area. It enables communities to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and deliver the sustainable development they need through planning policies relating to the development and use of land.

What is a Development Plan?

In England, planning applications are determined by Local Planning Authorities in accordance with the Development Plan. A Development Plan is a set of documents that set out the policies for the development and use of land across the entire local authority area, including the Local Plan.

Saint Anne's on The Sea Neighbourhood Area

The Referendum area is identified on the map below as the parish area of Saint Anne's on The Sea and is the same as the area which has been designated as the Saint Anne's on The Sea Neighbourhood Development Plan area.



Referendum Campaign Costs

An individual or body can incur costs during the period of the Referendum for the purposes of campaigning in association with the Referendum.

The Referendum expenses limit that will apply to the Saint Anne's on The Sea Neighbourhood Development Plan is $£2362 + 0.059 \times 20,772$ (electorate as of 1 March 2017). The number of people entitled to vote in the Referendum by reference to which this limit has been calculated is £3587.55.

Specified Documents

The following specified documents can be inspected on the Council's website at:

<http://www.fylde.gov.uk/council/planning-policy--local-plan-/neighbourhood-planning/st-annes-sea-town-council-neighbourhood-plan/>

Paper copies of the specified documents are also available to view at:

- The Town Hall, St. Annes Road West, St. Annes, Lancashire, FY8 1LW
Monday-Friday during office hours.
- St. Anne's on the Sea Town Council Office, West Lodge, 5 St. George's Road, St. Anne's on the Sea, FY8 2AE Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am – 2pm.
- St. Annes Library, 254, Clifton drive South, St Annes on Sea, Lancashire, FY8 1NR
Monday to Saturday 9am - 6pm, Tuesdays 9am – 1pm.

The specified documents are:

- Saint Anne's on The Sea Neighbourhood Development Plan;
- The Independent Examiner's Report;
- Decision Statement by Fylde Borough Council (sets out how the Council consider the draft Plan meets the basic conditions);
- Statement of Consultation (summary of the representations submitted to the Independent Examiner);
- This Information Statement (which also contains information for voters).

Who Can Vote?

The Referendum will be conducted in accordance with procedures similar to those used at local government elections.

A person is entitled to vote if at the time of the Referendum, they meet the eligibility criteria to vote in a local election for the area and if they live in the Referendum area. The eligibility criteria are:

- You are registered to vote in local government elections; and
- You are 18 years of age or over on Thursday 18 August 2016

If you are not registered, you won't be able to vote. You can check if you are registered by calling the Elections Office on 01253 658542/658549.

If you are not registered to vote, you can go online to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote with your national insurance number by midnight on Thursday 13 April 2017. If you do not have access to the internet please call the Elections Office on 01253 658542/658549.

How to Vote - there are three ways of voting:

In person on Thursday 04 May 2017 at your local polling station. You will receive a poll card confirming your polling station for this Referendum. Polling stations are open from 7am to 10pm.

By post

- If you have a postal vote already, you will receive a poll card confirming this.
- If you want to vote by post, you will need to complete an application form and send

it to the Electoral Registration Officer, Town Hall, Lytham St Annes, FY8 1LW, to arrive by 5pm on Tuesday 18 April 2017 at the address below.

- Postal votes can be sent overseas but you need to think about whether you will have time to receive and return your completed postal vote by 18 August 2016.
- You should receive your postal vote approximately 10 days before polling day. If it doesn't arrive in time, you can ask for a replacement up to 5.00pm on 04 May 2017 by contacting the Elections Office on 01253 658542/658549.

By proxy

- If you have a proxy vote already, you will receive a poll card confirming this.
- If you can't get to the polling station and don't wish to vote by post, you may be able to vote by proxy. This means allowing somebody that you trust to vote on your behalf.
- If you want to vote by proxy, you will need to complete an application form and send it to the address below to arrive by 5.00pm on Tuesday 25 April 2017 at the address below.
- Postal and proxy vote application forms are available from Fylde Borough Council for more information visit: <http://www.fylde.gov.uk/council/elections-and-electoral-registration/postal-voting/> or you can call the Elections Office on 01253 658542 / 658549 or email: electoral@fylde.gov.uk and request an application form.

How to find out more

- For queries about planning issues and neighbourhood planning in general, please contact planningpolicy@fylde.gov.uk
- You can find specific documents on Saint Anne's on The Sea Neighbourhood Development Plan at www.fylde.gov.uk/council/planning-policy--local-plan-/neighbourhood-planning/st-annes-sea-town-council-neighbourhood-plan/
- For more information about voting and the arrangements for this Referendum, please contact the Elections Office on 01253 658542 / 658549 or email: electoral@fylde.gov.uk

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Proper Officer
Fylde Borough Council
The Town Hall
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St. Annes
Lancashire
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