

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 Schedule 4B (as applied by s38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004) Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Final decision statement for Withersfield Neighbourhood Plan

Withersfield Parish Council have prepared a neighbourhood development plan. On 7 May 2026 a referendum was held in the designated neighbourhood area (see plan below), in which more than half of those who voted did so **in favour** of the referendum question:

"Do you want West Suffolk Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Withersfield to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"

Accordingly, on 14 July 2026 West Suffolk Council decided to '**make**' (adopt) the plan.

This decision statement confirms that as of 14 July 2026, the Withersfield Neighbourhood Plan as 'made' has become part of the statutory development plan for West Suffolk and will be used where relevant to help the council decide planning applications within the designated area, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Reasons for decision:

The plan has been independently examined and agreed by both the examiner and West Suffolk Council to meet the basic conditions; it has been endorsed by the community having been subject to a referendum and has otherwise complied with all the legal requirements of neighbourhood plan production. It is considered that the plan meets European legislation and is compatible with the European Convention on Human Rights within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998.

Availability:

The Withersfield Neighbourhood Plan along with this decision statement and other supporting documents may be inspected on the council's website at [Neighbourhood Planning in Withersfield](#).

Marie Smith Director (Planning and Growth)

**West Suffolk Council
15 July 2026**

Please note that all references to primary and secondary legislation are to those enactments as amended.

Withersfield Neighbourhood Plan area

