

KNIGHTSFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

At the meeting of Cabinet on 9 September 2025, Dorset Council took the decision to make the Knightsford Neighbourhood Plan part of the development plan for the Knightsford neighbourhood area.

In October 2024, Knightsford Parish Council submitted the Knightsford Neighbourhood Plan and supporting material to Dorset Council. An independent examiner was appointed, and his report was received in March 2025. In summary, the examiner's report concluded that the Knightsford Neighbourhood Plan would meet the basic conditions and other legal requirements, subject to modifications.

The Council held a referendum in the neighbourhood area on 24 July 2025. In the referendum a majority (88%) voted in favour of the plan. No other issues have become known that would suggest that the Council should decline to make the plan.

The area covered by the Knightsford Neighbourhood Plan

The neighbourhood plan area covers the civil parishes of Tincleton, West Knighton, West Stafford and Woodsford.

What this means for the Knightsford Neighbourhood Plan area

In England, development plans are used to set out the planning policies for the development and use of land. Planning applications are determined by local planning authorities such as Dorset Council. Planning decisions are made in accordance with the adopted development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The neighbourhood plan forms part of the development plan for the civil parishes of Tincleton, West Knighton, West Stafford and Woodsford, which also includes the West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland Local Plan (adopted October 2015).

The policies in the neighbourhood plan are in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan. Therefore, when decisions are being made on development proposals, the policies contained in the Knightsford Neighbourhood Plan will take precedence over the non-strategic policies in the West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland Local Plan.

Where to find more information

This decision statement and the made (adopted) Knightsford Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed online at: [Knightsford Neighbourhood Plan - Dorset Council](#)