

MARNHULL NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2024 to 2038

At the meeting of Cabinet on 21 April 2026, Dorset Council took the decision to make the Marnhull Neighbourhood Development Plan 2024 to 2038 part of the development plan for the Marnhull neighbourhood area.

In July 2025, Marnhull Parish Council submitted the Marnhull Neighbourhood Development Plan 2024 to 2038 and supporting material to Dorset Council. An independent examiner was appointed, and his report was received in January 2026. In summary, the examiner's report concluded that the Marnhull Neighbourhood Development Plan 2024 to 2038 would meet the basic conditions and other legal requirements, subject to modifications.

The Council held a referendum in the neighbourhood area on 19 March 2026. In the referendum a majority voted in favour of the plan (615 voted 'yes' compared to 55 who voted 'no'). No other issues have become known that would suggest that the Council should decline to make the plan.

The area covered by the Marnhull Neighbourhood Development Plan 2024 to 2038

The neighbourhood plan area covers the civil parish of Marnhull.

What this means for the Marnhull 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 Marnhull Neighbourhood Development Plan 2024 to 2038 forms part of the development plan for Marnhull, along with the North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 (adopted January 2016).

The policies contained in the neighbourhood plan will take precedence over existing non-strategic policies in the local plan, where they are in conflict, unless they are superseded by other policies that are adopted subsequently.

Where to find more information

This decision statement and the made (adopted) Marnhull Neighbourhood Development Plan 2024 to 2038 can be viewed online at: www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/marnhull-neighbourhood-plan