Referendum Information Statement for Kingston St Mary Neighbourhood Development Plan (KSM NDP)

A neighbourhood planning referendum will be held for the Kingston St Mary Neighbourhood Development Plan on Thursday 2 May 2024.

The question to be asked in the referendum is “Do you want Somerset Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Kingston St Mary to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

The Referendum area is identical to the area which has been designated as the Kingston St Mary Neighbourhood Plan Area. That is, the parish of Kingston St Mary, see attached map.

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

To vote in a local government election you must:

- be registered to vote
- be 18 or over on the day of the election (‘polling day’)
- be a British, Commonwealth or EU citizen
- be resident at an address in the area you wish to vote in
- not be legally excluded from voting

Number of persons entitled to vote in the referendum is: 815

For queries about election procedures please contact the electoral services team on electionswest@somerset.gov.uk or 01984 635272

The referendum expenses limit that will apply in relation to the Kingston St Mary Neighbourhood Development Plan has been calculated at £2,362 plus 0.059p for each person entitled to vote, making the limit: £2,410.08. The total referendum expenses incurred or, treated as incurred, must not exceed the referendum expenses limit. The relevant statutes and guidance must be adhered to by all (individual or body by whom, or on whose behalf, are) connected with a campaign conducted with a view to promoting or procuring a particular outcome in relation to the question to be asked in a referendum.

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

The referendum documents can be viewed on SWT's website at:
Ruishton and Thornfalcon Neighbourhood Plan (somerset.gov.uk)

Hard copies are also available to view at:

Somerset Council Offices:

- Deane House, Belvedere Road Taunton, Somerset, TA1 1HE; reception hours Mon-Thurs 08:30-17:00, Fri 09:30-16:30.

The referendum specified documents are:

- Referendum Information Sheet (including map of the Neighborhood Area);
- Revised Kingston St Mary Neighborhood Development Plan;
- Independent Examiners Report;
- Summary of Representations at Regulation 16;

- Statement of Compliance with the Basic Conditions: Statement that LPA are satisfied the draft plan meets those basic conditions and complies with the provision made by or under sections 61E (2), 61J and 61L of the 1990 Act and sections 38A and 38B of the 2004 Act;
- Statement setting out general information as to the Town and Country Planning Act (including neighbourhood planning) and the referendum, which is prepared having regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
- Obligations Statement: This includes the effects of the Plan on the environment and European sites, ether alone or in combination with other plans or projects. The Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment;
- Notice of the Referendum;

05 March 2024