ADOPTION STATEMENT – BELGRAVIA NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Regulation 19 Decision Statement

Summary

1.1   Following an independent examination of the draft Belgravia Neighbourhood Plan, Westminster City Council recommended that the draft Belgravia Neighbourhood Plan (Regulation 16 submission version) was modified as set out in the Decision Statement dated 18th December 2023, and then proceeded to local referendum.

1.2   The council agreed with the Examiner's recommendation that the referendum area for the Belgravia Neighbourhood Plan (as modified) should be the approved Belgravia Neighbourhood Area which is set out in the Decision Statement dated 18th December 2023.

1.3   In accordance with the Decision Statement dated 18th December 2023, this Adoption Statement sets out that the Belgravia Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the statutory Development Plan and will be used alongside Westminster City Plan 2019-2040, and the London Plan (2021), when determining planning applications within the Belgravia Neighbourhood Area.

Background

1.4   The Belgravia Neighbourhood Plan was subject to a referendum on 22 February 2024. The referendum held met the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012; it was held in the Belgravia Neighbourhood Area and posed the question:

> "*Do you want Westminster City Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Belgravia to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?*"

1.5   The plan was successfully approved by 94% of voters who took part in the referendum.

1.6   Section 38A (4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) requires that the council must 'make' the neighbourhood plan if more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the plan, unless under Section 38A(6), this would breach, or would otherwise be incompatible with an EU obligation or any of the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998).

1.7   Under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), the council should declare if it decides to make (i.e. adopt) the plan within 8 weeks of the referendum result.

1.8   Prior to the adoption of the plan, the council and the Belgravia Neighbourhood Forum mutually agreed to make a minor non-material modification to the plan (as voted on). This comprised adding page references to the list of policies and non-

policy actions on Page 6 of the plan.

Decision

1.9   The council considers that the Belgravia Neighbourhood Plan meets the 'basic conditions' set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), its promotion process was compliant with legal and procedural requirements and it does not breach the legislation as set out in Section 38A(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

1.10   In accordance with Regulation 19 and 20 Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) and Section 38A (4) and (5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, notice is hereby given that Westminster City Council adopted the Belgravia Neighbourhood Plan on 7th March 2024.

1.11   In accordance with Regulations 19 and 20 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, the following documents have been made available on the council's website and can be inspected upon request[1] at Westminster City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP:

        i.   Belgravia Neighbourhood Plan; and
        ii.   This Adoption Statement.

A copy of the documents listed above can be viewed on the council's website at:

https://www.westminster.gov.uk/planning-building-control-and-environmental-regulations/planning-policy/neighbourhood-areas-forums-and-plans

If you require further information, please email neighbourhoodplanning@westminster.gov.uk
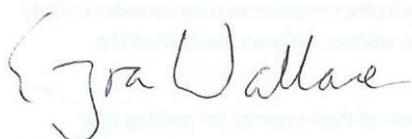
Ezra Wallace
Director of Policy and Projects
Corporate Services (formerly Innovation and Change)
Westminster City Council

7th March 2024

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[1] Please email neighbourhoodplanning@westminster.gov.uk to book an appointment.