

# Helping you to make your neighbourhood a better place for all - Neighbourhood planning in Chapeltown, Harehills and Mabgate, Lincoln Green & Burmantofts

*This is the first in a series of updates on the progress of the neighbourhood planning pilot in your area. This first update is intended as a simple explanation of what the pilot is, what it is seeking to achieve and how you can be involved.*

## **What is Neighbourhood Planning?**

Neighbourhood planning was introduced in England in 2012 and allows local people to prepare a neighbourhood plan that gives a real say on where new development can take place, what new development should look like, protect local greenspace and heritage and to generally set out ways to make a neighbourhood more sustainable. Some neighbourhood plans also include community actions and projects.

## **The pilot in your area, in summary**

The Chapeltown, Harehills and Mabgate, Lincoln Green & Burmantofts areas are taking part in a national initiative (referred to as a 'pilot') which is looking at ways to simplify and make neighbourhood planning easier and more relevant to all communities.

The pilot aims to make neighbourhood planning easier, quicker and more effective for inner-city communities in Leeds and across the country. There are a number of communities around the country taking part in the pilot, but each one is exploring different ideas.

The Leeds Pilot will focus on the preparation of a 'Local Priorities Plan', which will set out the issues which are of interest and concern to local people, including ideas on how these can be addressed.

At the heart of the pilot is a commitment to inclusion, ensuring it is easy and fun for everyone to take part.

Lessons from this pilot will be used to influence how things are done across the country in the future.

## **What is the pilot hoping to achieve?**

Since 2012 over 2,000 communities have prepared neighbourhood plans in towns, villages and cities across the country. However, the majority of these plans have been prepared outside of inner-city areas, mainly in towns and villages and for many of those taking part the process has been too long and complicated. The Leeds pilot aims to change that by focussing on the specific needs of inner-city communities.

## **Which areas are taking part?**

Chapelton, Harehills and Mabgate, Lincoln Green & Burmantofts.

The Chapelton and Mabgate, Lincoln Green & Burmantofts pilots covers the areas shown on Plans 1 and 2 (these can be found at the end of this update). These areas are fixed but if you live outside of the boundary and wish to take part in the pilot then you will be able to.

The Harehills Interim Neighbourhood Forum are currently deciding where their boundary should be and a decision on that will be made by local people and the council later this year.

## **What support is available?**

Funding from Government will allow a community support officer to be employed to work closely alongside local people to help to make sure that everyone who wants to be involved can be.

Each group will receive financial support to help pay for meetings and events during the pilot. The details of this will agreed soon.

The Council will provide other support as necessary to help make each pilot a success.

## **How long will the pilot last?**

The official pilot will last for 1 year/18 months, with findings reported to the Government May-November 2023.

After the pilot ends the Council and others will continue to work with each area to focus on the issues that have been identified by local people as important.

## **How will success be measured?**

### **Success will be measured in two ways:**

**1** Completion of key documents relating to how local people will be encouraged to be involved (the 'Engagement Strategy'), evidence to support emerging ideas (the 'Ideas Statement') and a 'Local Priority Plan' (the main document, setting out neighbourhood planning and other priorities).

NOTE : support will be provided to write the key documents

**2** Local people will work with the Council to agree how the pilot should be measured. The factors for success could include things like:

- Involvement of different groups in the area
- The number of local people involved
- Satisfaction with the progress of the pilot
- The number of ideas being put forward by local people

### **What happens next?**

Meetings will be taking place locally to help explain what the pilot is about, to encourage people to get involved and to start to think about the issues of interest and concern to local people.

A community engagement officer will be appointed by the Council to work with local people. This temporary post will be advertised during June

Regular reports on progress will be made to the Government department providing the funding, the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)

### **Chapelton**

A steering group will help to coordinate activity.

Community meeting/drop-in during June.

Neighbourhood Forum to agree the election of a chair and others.

### **Harehills**

Neighbourhood Area boundary to be agreed and designated (this is the area that the neighbourhood plan will cover).

A steering group will help to coordinate activity.

Community meeting/drop-in during June.

Neighbourhood Forum to agree the election of a chair and others.

### **Mabgate, Lincoln Green and Burmantofts**

A steering group will help to coordinate activity.

'Summer School' to raise awareness and engage with local people.

Neighbourhood Forum to agree the election of a chair and others.

## Contact

If you would like to know more about the pilot, be involved or make any suggestions please contact:

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# Plan 1 – Chapeltown Neighbourhood Area

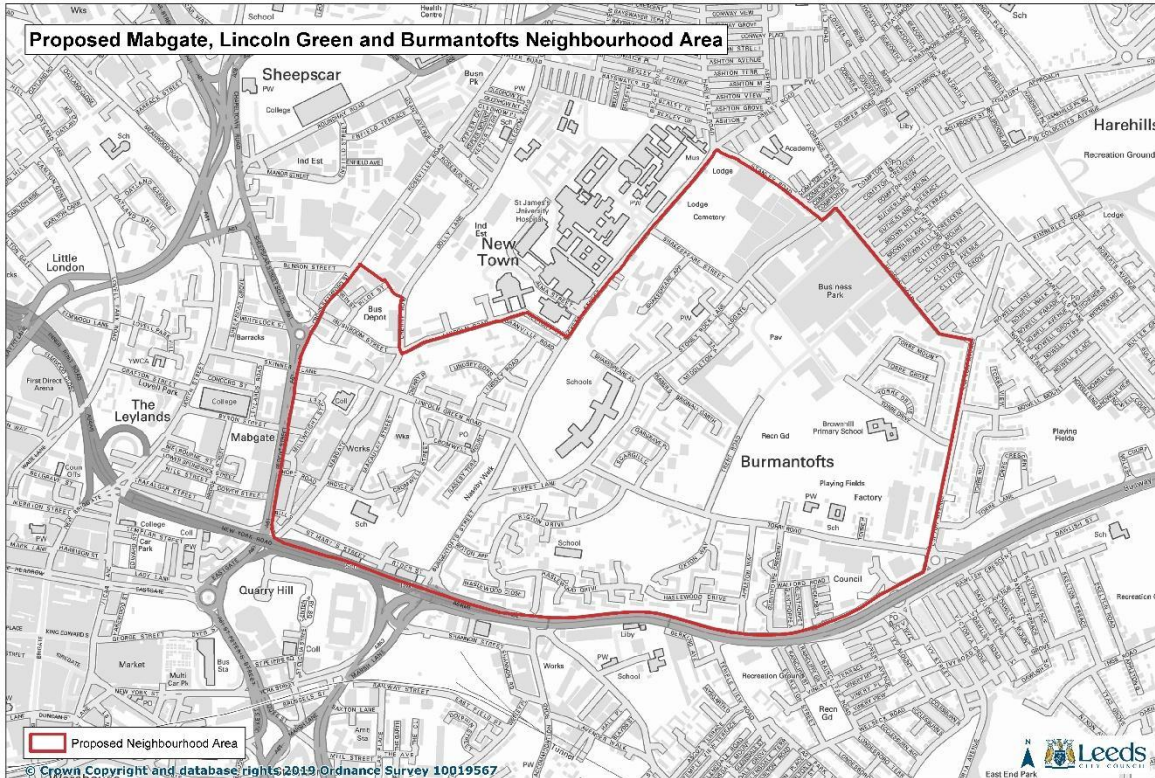


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## Plan 2 – Mabgate, Lincoln Green & Burmantofts Neighbourhood Area.



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The Harehills Neighbourhood Area is currently being considered by local people.