



# Information For Voters

Falmouth  
Neighbourhood Development  
Plan Referendum

12 July 2021

## **About this booklet**

On Thursday 19 August, there will be a referendum on a neighbourhood development plan for your area. This booklet explains more about the referendum that is going to take place and how you can take part in it. In this booklet you can find out about:

- The referendum and how you can take part
- The neighbourhood area
- The neighbourhood plan
- The development plan [of which neighbourhood plans are part]

## **Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan**

A referendum asks you to vote 'yes' or 'no' to a question. The question which will be asked in the Referendum is:

**“Do you want Cornwall Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Falmouth to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”**

## **How do I vote in the referendum?**

You vote by putting a cross (X) in the 'Yes' or 'No' box on your ballot paper. Put a cross in only **one** box or your vote will not be counted.

If more people vote 'yes' than 'no' in this referendum, then Cornwall Council will use the Neighbourhood Development Plan to help it decide planning applications in Falmouth.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan once adopted will then become part of the Development Plan.

If more people vote 'no' than 'yes', then planning applications will be decided without using the Neighbourhood Development Plan as part of the Development Plan for the local area.

### **What is Neighbourhood Planning?**

Neighbourhood planning aims to help local communities play a direct role in planning the areas in which they live and work.

A community can prepare a neighbourhood plan. This plan can show how the community wants land to be used and developed in its area.

### **What is a neighbourhood area?**

A neighbourhood area can cover single streets or large urban or rural areas. The boundaries of a neighbourhood area are put forward by:

- Town or Town councils
- A neighbourhood forum (a group of at least 21 people in areas without Town councils)

In Falmouth, the boundary of the neighbourhood area was determined by Cornwall Council and covers the Town of Falmouth, as originally designated in the neighbourhood plan.

### **Who can prepare a Neighbourhood Plan?**

Neighbourhood plans are prepared by the community, led by town or Town councils, or neighbourhood forums. In this case, the Falmouth Neighbourhood Development Plan was prepared by Falmouth NDP Steering Group.

### **What is a Development Plan?**

In England, planning applications are determined by local planning authorities in accordance with the Development Plan. A Development Plan is a set of documents that set out the policies for the development and use of land across the entire local authority area. Within Cornwall, the local planning authority is Cornwall Council.

### **Neighbourhood Planning in Falmouth**

The Referendum area is identified on the enclosed map as the Town of Falmouth, as originally designated in the neighbourhood plan. The Referendum area has been designated as the Falmouth Neighbourhood Development Plan area.

### **Who is the Planning Authority?**

Cornwall Council is the lead authority for Neighbourhood Planning matters in the area, including Neighbourhood Planning Referendums.

**Referendum expenses**

Expenses can be incurred by an individual or body during the period of the Referendum for referendum purposes.

The Referendum expenses limit that will apply in relation to the Referendum is **£3409.07**. The number of persons entitled to vote in the Referendum, by reference to which that limit has been calculated, is **17747**.

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

**Specified documents**

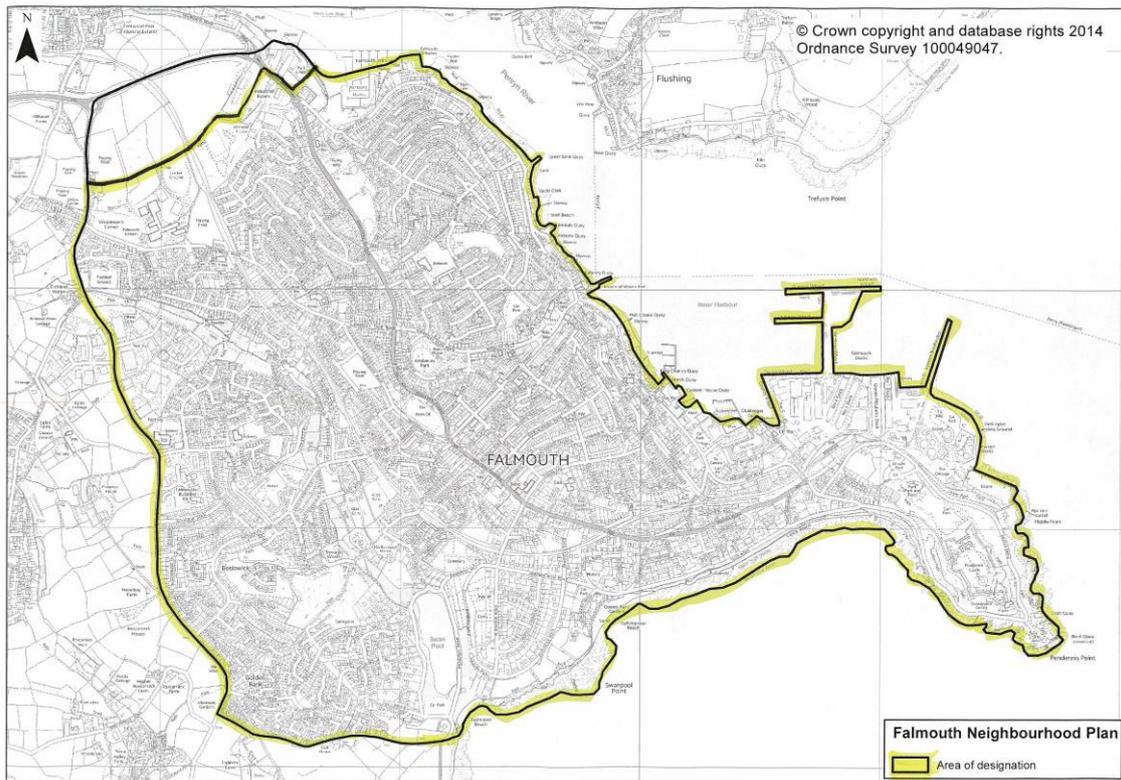
The documents are available for public viewing on the Council's website at:

[Neighbourhood planning in Cornwall - Cornwall Council](#)

The specified documents are:

- Falmouth Neighbourhood Development Plan
- Falmouth NDP Examiner's Report
- Falmouth NDP Officer Report
- Falmouth NDP Decision Notice
- Falmouth NDP Basic Conditions Statement
- Falmouth NDP Consultation Statement
- Copies of the written representations submitted to the independent examiner
- A Decision Statement of the Local Planning Authority's satisfaction that the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan meets the basic conditions specified by statute and complies with the provision made by or under Section 38A and 38B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
- A statement that sets out general information as to town and country planning including neighbourhood planning and the referendum
- Map of the Falmouth Neighbourhood Development Plan area

Figure 1: Map of the Falmouth Neighbourhood Development Plan area



## Can I vote?

You can vote in the referendum if you live in the Town of Falmouth, as originally designated in the neighbourhood plan:

- you are registered to vote in local council elections; and
- you are 18 years of age or over on 19 August 2021.

You have to be registered to vote by Tuesday 3 August 2021 to vote in the referendum. You can check if you are registered to vote by calling our Helpline on 0300 123 1115.

The referendum will be conducted based on procedures which are similar to those used at local government elections.

## Ways of voting

There are three ways of voting:

### In person on 19 August 2021:

- At your local polling station. It is easy and a member of staff will always help if you are not sure what to do.
- In Falmouth, the polling stations are:
  - Emmanuel Baptist Church, Western Terrace, Falmouth TR11 4QJ
  - The Parish Church Hall, New Street, Falmouth TR11 3LQ
  - Princess Pavilion, Mevill Road TR11 4AR
  - Bosvale Community Centre, Off Hillside Road, (Rear of Shops), Falmouth TR11 4HQ
  - The Foyer, Dracaena Centre, Dracaena Avenue, Falmouth TR11 2ES
  - The Bourne Hall, Falmouth Methodist Church, Killigrew Street, Falmouth TR11 3PG
  - Falmouth Primary Academy Infant Site, Jubilee Road, Falmouth TR11 2BB
  - Athenaeum Club, Kimberley Place, Falmouth TR11 3QL
  - Budock Village Hall, Budock, Falmouth TR11 5DR
  - Laburnum Hall, Laburnum Drive, Falmouth TR11 2EP
  - Falmouth Bowling Club, Tregenver Road, Falmouth TR11 2EQ
  - Falmouth Town Social Club, Bickland Hill, Falmouth TR11 4PB
- You will receive a poll card confirming your polling station for this referendum.
- If you do not receive your poll card, you can contact our Helpline on 0300 123 1115 or email us on [voter-registration@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:voter-registration@cornwall.gov.uk) to find out where your polling station is.
- The polling station is open from 7am to 10pm.

**By post:**

- If you have a postal vote already, you will receive a poll card confirming this.
- To vote by post, you will need to complete an application form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer to arrive by 5pm on Wednesday 4 August 2021 at this address:

Electoral Services  
Cornwall Council  
3S County Hall  
Truro  
TR1 3AY

- Postal votes can be sent overseas but you need to think about whether you will have time to receive and return your completed postal vote by 19 August 2021.
- You should receive your postal vote about a week before polling day. If it doesn't arrive in time, you can ask for a replacement up to 5pm on 19 August 2021 by contacting our Helpline on 0300 123 1115.

**By proxy:**

- If you have a proxy vote already, you will receive a poll card confirming this.
- If you can't get to the polling station and don't wish to vote by post, you may be able to vote by proxy. This means allowing somebody that you trust to vote on your behalf.
- To vote by proxy, you will need to complete an application form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer to arrive by 5pm on Wednesday 11 August 2021 at this address:

Electoral Services  
Cornwall Council  
3S County Hall  
Truro  
TR1 3AY

- When you apply for a proxy vote, you must say why you cannot vote in person.
- Anyone can be your proxy as long as they are eligible to vote and are willing to vote on your behalf. You will have to tell them how you want to vote.

Postal and proxy vote application forms are available from our Helpline on 0300 123 1115 or by emailing [voter-registration@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:voter-registration@cornwall.gov.uk). You can also download application forms from Cornwall Council's website at: [www.cornwall.gov.uk/elections](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/elections).

### **Am I registered to vote?**

If you're not registered, you won't be able to vote. You can check if you are registered by calling our Helpline on 0300 123 1115.

If you are not registered to vote, you will need to apply by Tuesday 3 August 2021 You can apply online at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote).

Alternatively, you will need to complete a voter registration form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer to arrive by Tuesday 3 August 2021 at this address:

Electoral Services  
Cornwall Council  
3S County Hall  
Truro  
TR1 3AY

Registration forms are available from our Helpline on 0300 123 1115 or by emailing [voter-registration@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:voter-registration@cornwall.gov.uk).

### **How to find out more:**

- Further general information on neighbourhood planning is available at: [www.cornwall.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning).
- You can find specific documents on the Falmouth Neighbourhood Plan at: [www.cornwall.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning).
- For queries about planning issues and neighbourhood planning in general, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning Officer on 01872 324807 or e-mail [neighbourhoodplanning@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodplanning@cornwall.gov.uk)
- For more information about voting and the arrangements for this referendum, please contact our Helpline on 0300 123 1115 or email: [voter-registration@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:voter-registration@cornwall.gov.uk).

Prepared by:

### **Imogen Day**

Development Officer

and

### **John Simmons**

Electoral Services Officer

Cornwall Council

12 July 2021

If you would like this information  
in another format or language please contact:

**Cornwall Council  
County Hall  
Treyew Road  
Truro TR1 3AY**

Telephone: **0300 1234 100**

Email: **enquiries@cornwall.gov.uk**

**www.cornwall.gov.uk**