

# A Neighbourhood Plan for Maidenhead

“After designation: next steps”

Forum meeting, Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

M a i d e n h e a d   N e i g h b o u r h o o d   F o r u m

# 1) Welcome and Update

Andrew Ingram

# 2) Next steps – what we need to do

Ian Rose

# 3) Public engagement – first stage

Ian Rose

# 4) Questions and answers

Andrew Ingram

# 5) Resourcing and Way Forward

Andrew Ingram

# 6) Any other business

Andrew Ingram

# Welcome & introduction

- Any housekeeping; please sign in
- Meeting minuted
- Includes Q & A, 20 minutes
- Intended duration 60-90 minutes



## Maidenhead: Green light to draft Neighbourhood Plan

# Major progress in representation

By Shay Bottomley  
shayb@baylismedia.co.uk  
@ShayB\_BM

The Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum has been given the go ahead to start preparing a draft Neighbourhood Plan to help guide future development across Maidenhead's unparished areas.

Neighbourhood Plans allow communities to put in place planning policies for a specific neighbourhood area, adding detail to the policies already set in the Borough Local Plan, and are used to help decide planning applications.

It follows an application for official designation by MNF last year, which was followed by a six-week consultation on the group's proposals.

Now that the council's planning department has given the thumbs up following

### Speed read...

**Proposals for a neighbourhood plan for Maidenhead took one step closer to fruition last week after Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum was given the go ahead to start creating a blueprint for localised planning policy in unparished areas.**

'overwhelming support', MNF can now begin the process of community engagement and consultation to shape a draft Neighbourhood Plan covering the wards of Belmont, St Mary's, Riverside, Furze Platt, Pinkneys Green, Boyn Hill and Oldfield.

Councillor Phil Haseler, cabinet member for planning, parking, highways and transport, said: "We would like to thank everyone who shared

your views in this consultation, which the planning department has carefully considered alongside the national legal requirements in making this positive decision on the group's proposals.

"This decision is purely to give the green light to the proposals put forward by the community group to designate Maidenhead's seven unparished wards as one neighbourhood and formally designate the group itself as the neighbourhood forum to lead the neighbourhood planning process for the area.

"The forum's role now is to engage widely with the rest of the community to prepare a draft Neighbourhood Plan, which will itself be subject to public consultation and independent examination. We look forward to continuing to work with and support the group



The Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum team. Ref:135006-2

during the next stage of the process."

Andrew Ingram, chair of the forum, said: "MNF will be holding an initial public engagement session before Easter, when all members of the forum area (people who live or work within the seven unparished wards of Maidenhead) will have their opportunity to have a say about what they think would help

make the town a better place in the future.

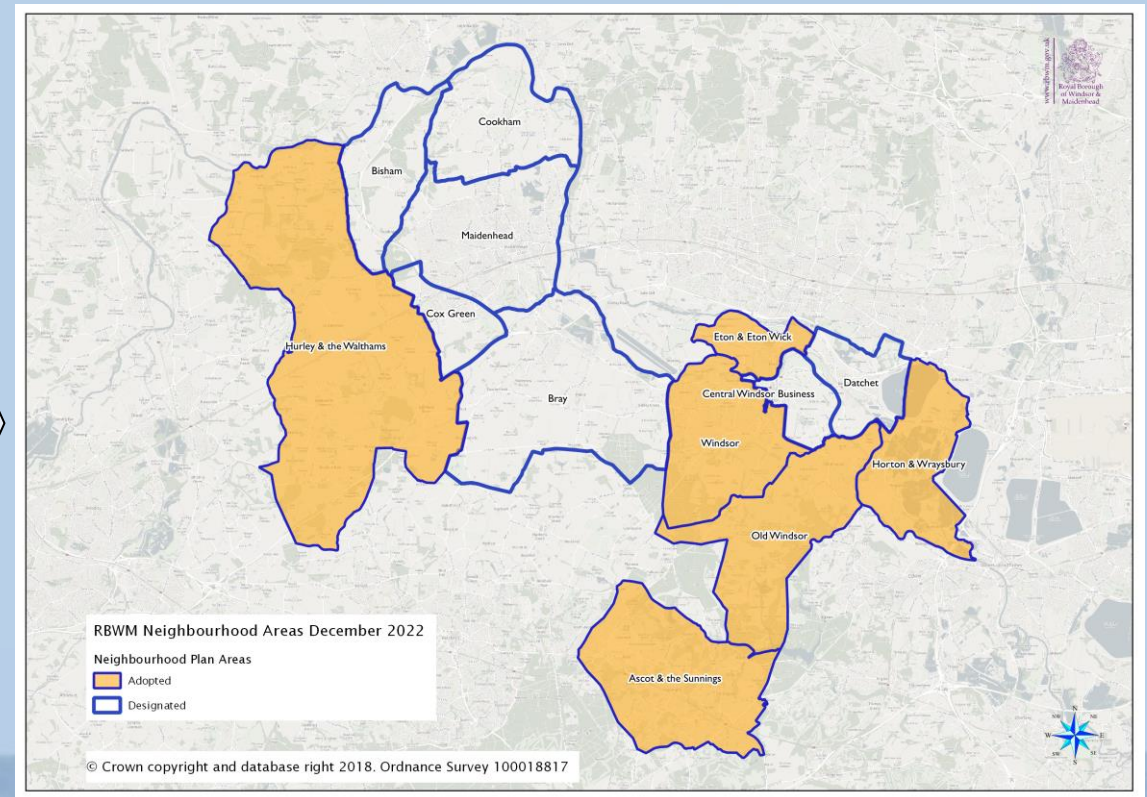
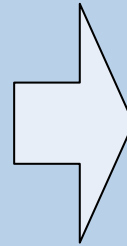
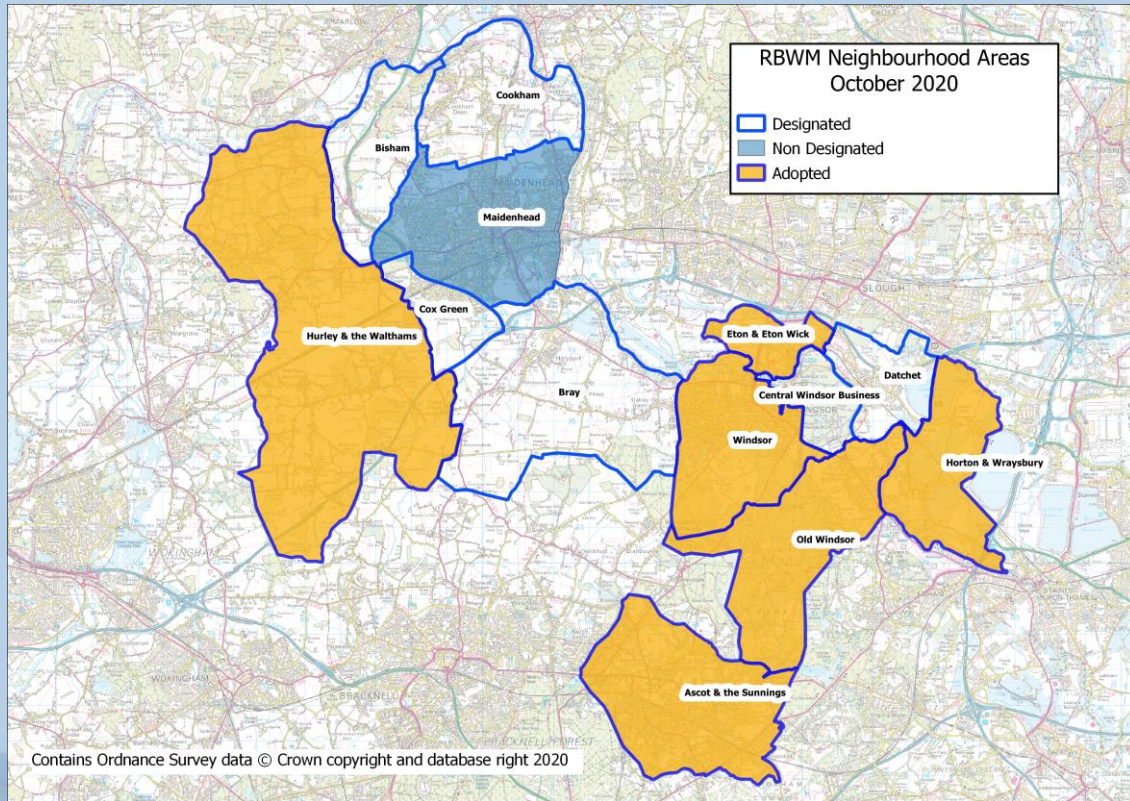
"To develop and deliver a draft Neighbourhood Plan which will eventually be voted on in a local referendum, MNF will need help.

"Please visit the website to join up and find out more about our work at [mnf.org.uk](http://mnf.org.uk) or on Facebook.

"Alternatively, please email [chair@mnf.org.uk](mailto:chair@mnf.org.uk)"

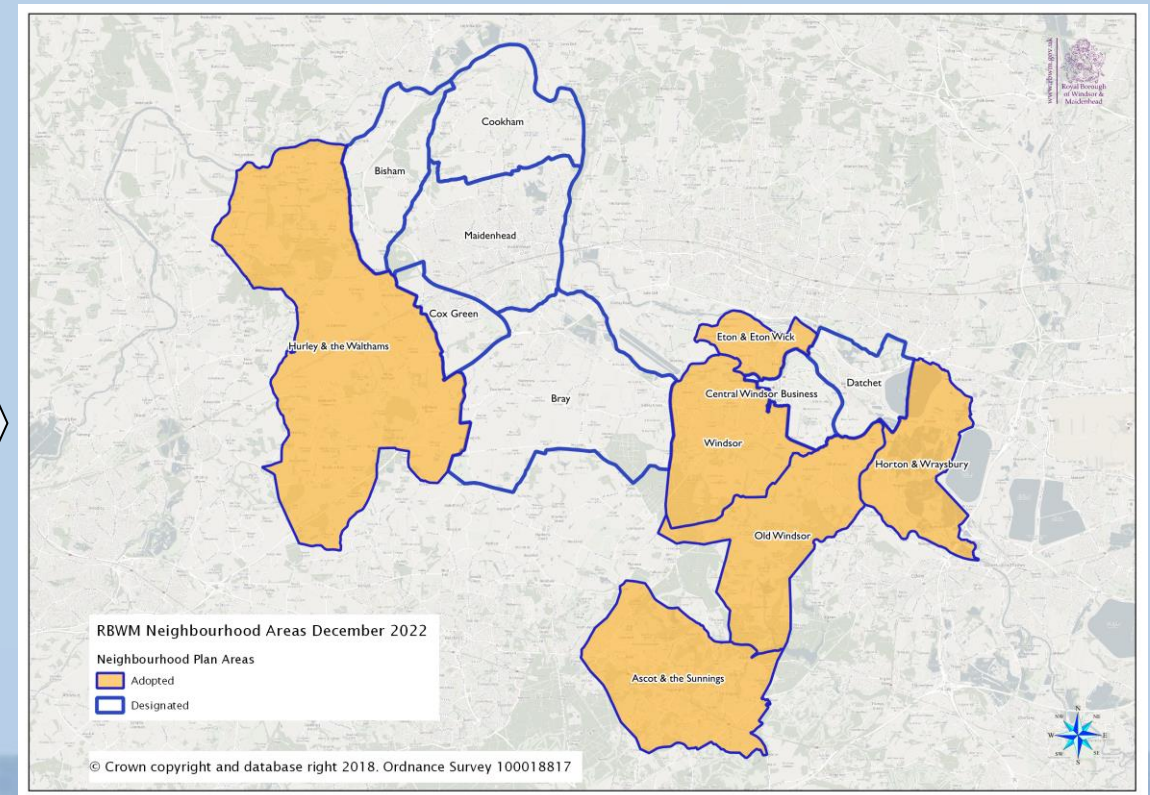
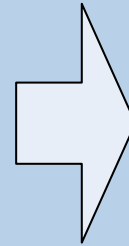
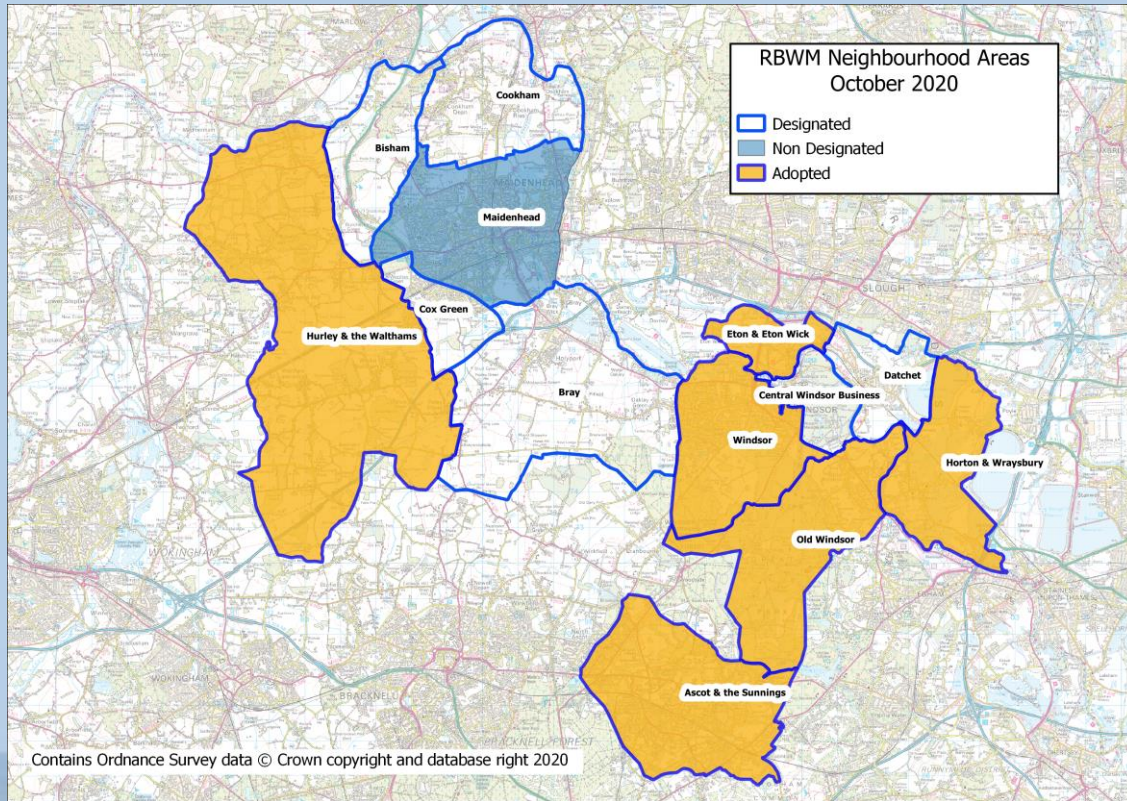


# We have been designated!





# We have been designated!



Extract from the Officer's decision: *“Overall, it is considered that the supporting statement, taking account of the response to the public consultation, has justified the designation of the Maidenhead Neighbourhood area, as proposed in the application.”*



# Last battle was The Area

- Is Maidenhead a “logical” or “appropriate” area for a Neighbourhood?
- We asked our Members and Supporters, and they overwhelmingly said “yes”

News 01628 680680

## Survey ‘supports forum proposal’

**Maidenhead: Group wants neighbourhood plan for town**

By Shay Bottomley  
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@ShayB\_DM

A survey undertaken by Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum has found that more than three-quarters of respondents disagree with splitting the town into several neighbourhood plans.

The survey was launched after the Royal Borough dismissed a draft submission of a proposed plan by the forum as ‘not appropriate’ and said it ‘would be useful to understand what conversations [and] consultation has taken place to support this designation’.

The draft plan, proposed last year, sought to cover seven unparished wards in the town under one neighbourhood plan, and is designed to set out planning policy in further detail and on a more local level than the Borough Local Plan.

With the survey completed, the forum has released the results following more than 120 responses.

On the question ‘Can you think of a way to divide Maidenhead into two or three sub-areas of about the same size, which are appropriate and logical’, and which have ‘clear local connections, supported by evidence?’, 97 of 126 respondents answered ‘no, I can’t’.

Of those who responded ‘yes, or maybe’, suggestions included divisions along roads such as the A4 or the A308, split up by electoral wards or a divide between the town centre and the rest of Maidenhead.

Andrew Ingram, co-chair of the forum, said: “Over three-quarters of respondents said they could not

think of a way to sub-divide the town like this – it didn’t make sense for them.”

The survey also asked respondents: ‘How do you view your local connections?’

In total, 120 people said their local connection was to Maidenhead. Of those who did not, one said their local connection was a sub-area of the town (Riverside), whilst others either said places just outside the town, such as Bray and Cookham, or cited the place they were originally from.

Andrew said: “This supports our belief that the town of Maidenhead is both rational and appropriate as an area for a neighbourhood plan, particularly since Maidenhead will be allocated 70 per cent of the new homes in the borough.

“The residents’ responses differ from the RBWM advice, and we have asked for a meeting with RBWM to discuss.”

A spokesperson for the Royal Borough said: “Planning officers have been offering informal advice to the forum on justifying a suitable neighbourhood plan area.

“Our advice has been that robust evidence would be needed to justify any proposal that the entire town of Maidenhead can constitute a suitable single neighbourhood planning area. Officers look forward to discussing the results of the survey with the forum as part of continued constructive engagement.”

**Speed read...**

**Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum has released the results of a survey after the council revealed it deemed a draft neighbourhood plan to be inappropriate due to its size. The proposed plan sought to cover seven unparished electoral wards in Maidenhead.**



A map of the proposed neighbourhood plan area.



# The long march



- Communication from RBWM Planning
- Meeting with RBWM Planning

(last updated 24 June 2022)





## Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum

★ Favourites · 27 November 2021 · 🌐

"WHAT ABOUT THE INFRASTRUCTURE???"

With the population of Maidenhead set to rise by around 40% over the next ten years, people often ask about the plans for new infrastructure to support this growth – schools, surgeries, roads etc. The plans are to be found in RBWM's Infrastructure Delivery Plan if you know where to look, but it's a lengthy and complex document.

So the Forum has created this series of short summaries to help residents understand what is planned.

Importantly, the 2019 Infrastructure Delivery Plan is a "living document" which is continually updated, with new projects, new cost estimates and new proposed timings. The full RBWM Planning documents can be found at: <https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/.../evidence-base-and-m.../evidence-base>

If you would like to read our short summaries of the plans, go to [www.mnf.org.uk](http://www.mnf.org.uk). If you would like to comment on the plans, please do that on social media - Facebook or NextDoor.com



### Performance for your post

2,954 People Reached

47 Reactions, comments & shares ⓘ

28 Like      6 On post      22 On shares

1 Wow      0 On post      1 On shares

13 Comments      3 On Post      10 On Shares

5 Shares      5 On Post      0 On Shares

297 Post Clicks

34 Photo views      45 Link clicks ⓘ      218 Other Clicks ⓘ

#### NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

0 Hide post      0 Hide all posts  
0 Report as spam      0 Unlike Page

Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts






 Edit



## Maidenhead Neighbourhood Forum

@mnf.org.uk · Community group

 Edit Sign Up

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### ABOUT

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#### GENERAL

 806 people like this

 881 people follow this

 [Community service](#)



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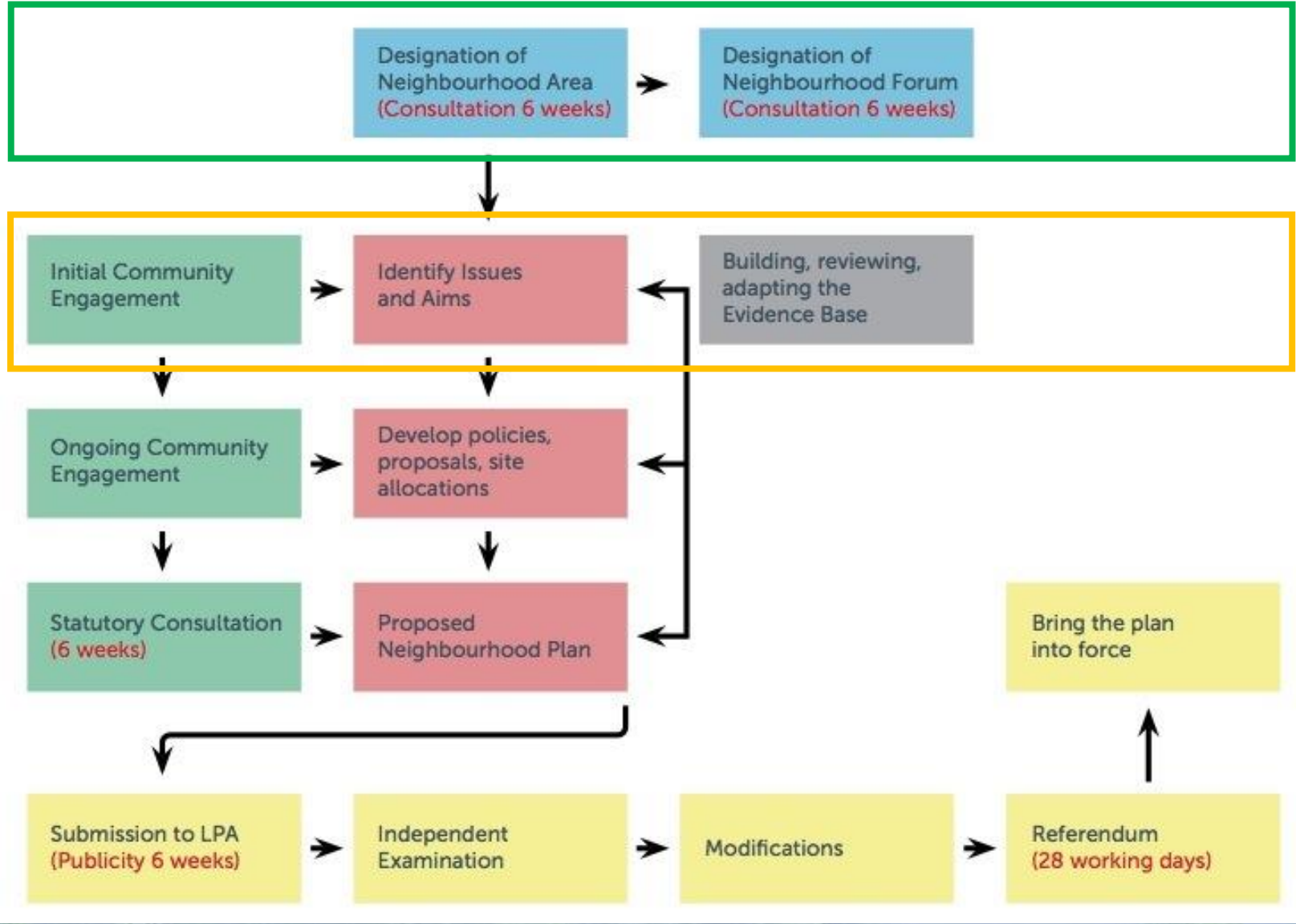
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# Process Diagram *from Locality*

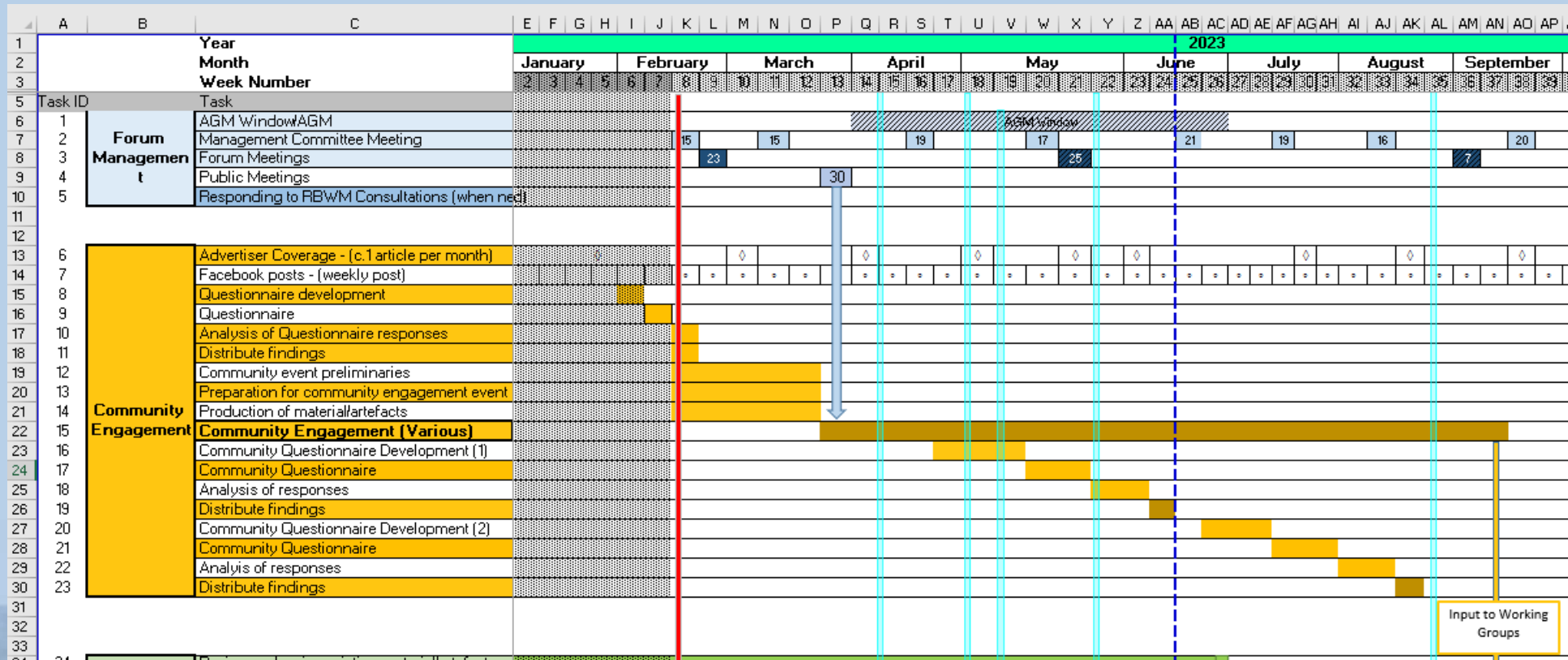


Designation – done!

Next steps:  
Engagement and Scope

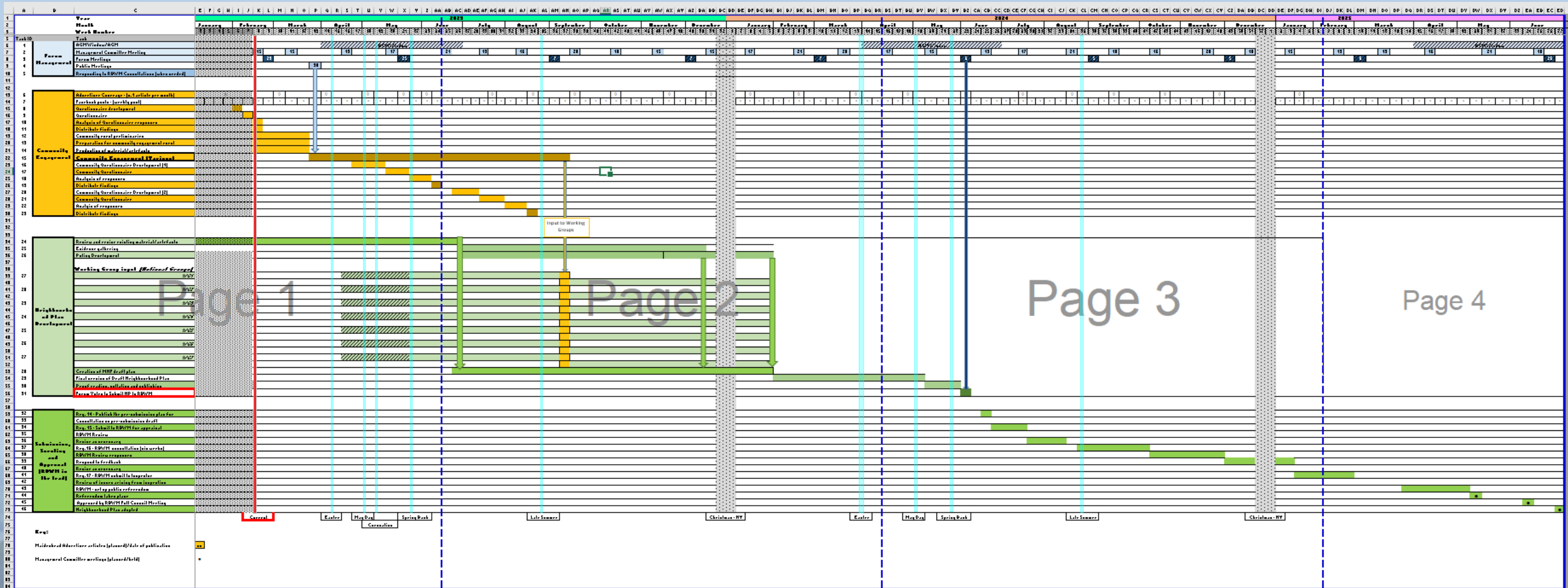


# Next steps – how we start moving





# The whole process - outline

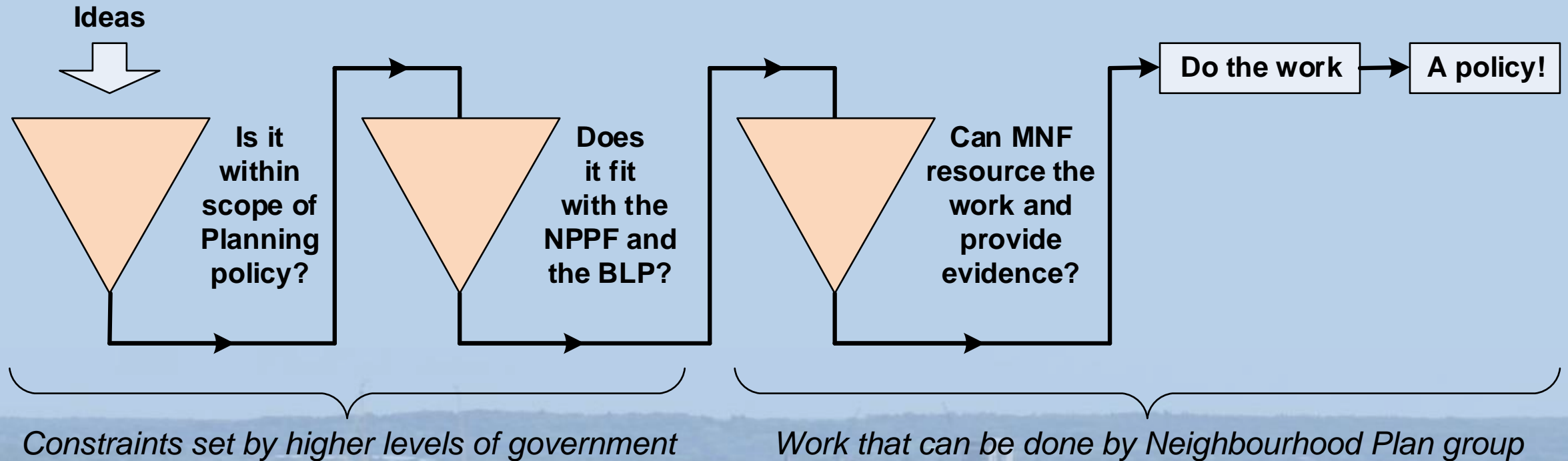




# Deliverables from Engagement and Scope

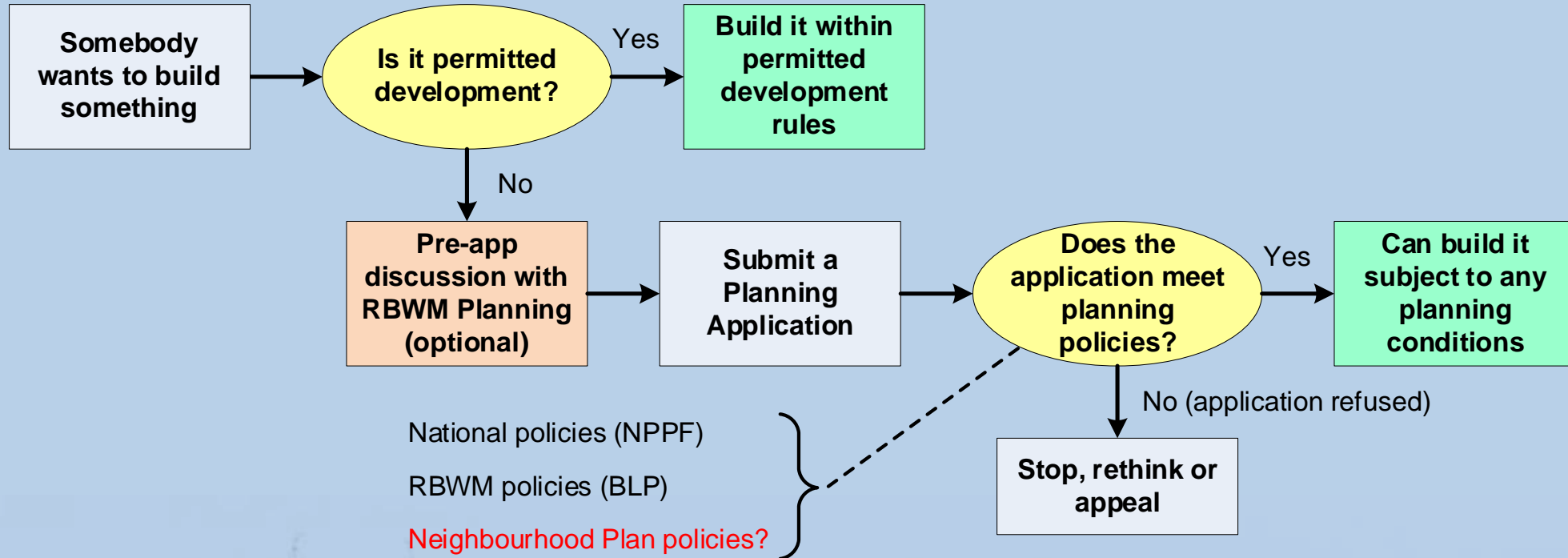
- A record of what local people want planning policies on
  - *This is a key part of the engagement*
- A filtered list of policy topic candidates
  - *MNF will need to assess the ideas to see what could be in scope*
- Possible topic groups to develop policies
  - *It would make sense to group the policy candidates into related topics*
- A view of what MNF can realistically resource
  - *We can only move forward where MNF members are willing to do the work*

# Ideas, policies and filtering





# What do policies do?



# Funding and support

- Our source of funding has been a grant from Locality of £5500
- Any money unspent by 31-Mar-23 has to be returned to Locality
  - ..and money we do spend has to be on things taking place up to 31-Mar-23
- So we're aiming to have a public engagement meeting on 30-Mar
  - This meeting will require posters, leaflets, venue hire..
- After 31-Mar we'll need to apply for a new grant
  - ..assuming Locality makes Neighbourhood Planning grants available again
- There is also money available via RBWM, but..
  - The part available now would have to be spent by 31-Mar-23
  - The major part of £20,000 is only available when the plan goes to referendum – much later on



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# Public engagement – first stage

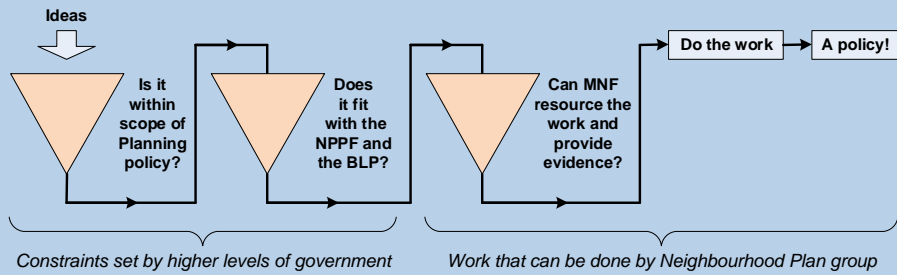


*Photo from Windsor NP public event*

- What we need for a public meeting
  - *Displays, maps, presentation, post-it notes*
  - *MNF members to welcome and discuss*
  - *+ Refreshments!*
  - *+ online method to input ideas*
  - *Wide reach of invitation*
- **Planned date 30-Mar-23**
  - *Set by funding constraints*
  - *Format: Presentation and ideas workshop*



# Public engagement – then what?



- **Analysis of responses**
  - *Collect what people said, at meeting & online*
  - *Apply the filtering process*
  - *Structure and group what comes out*
  - *Look at likely resourcing, form groups*
- **Distribute findings**
  - *Public should know the outcome*
  - *Engage those interested in specific topics*

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# This will need people (=you!)

- Can you help with:
  - *website management and development (WordPress)*
  - *mailings and database management (MailChimp)*
  - *social media posts (Facebook, NextDoor)*
  - *GIS mapping software*
  - *organising meetings*
- In particular, we need a Treasurer:
  - *Not very onerous*





# Proposed Way Forward

MNF Public Meeting, March 30<sup>th</sup>

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Thank you

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