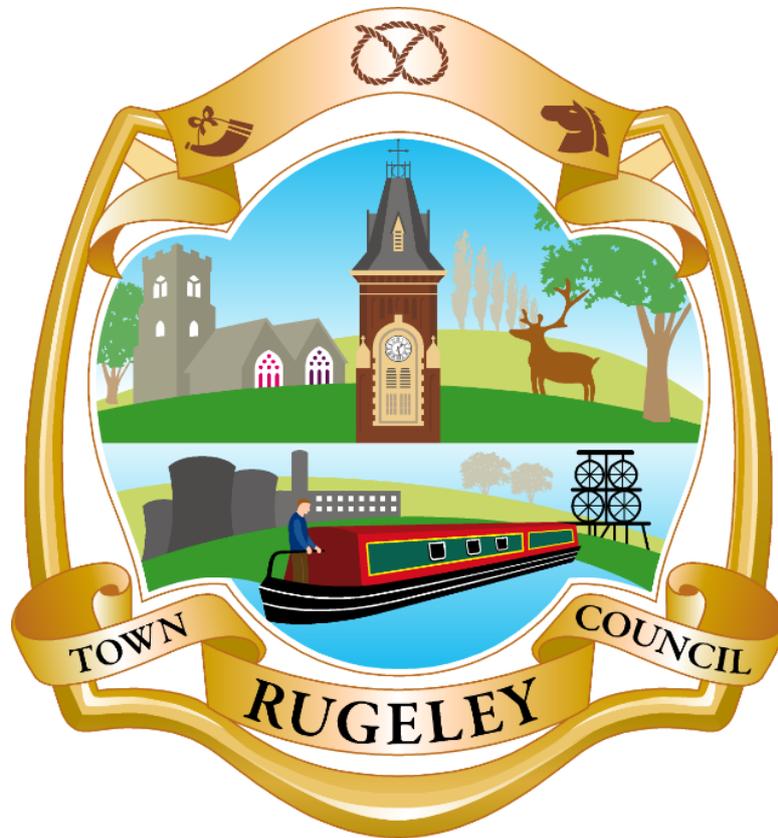


Rugeley Neighbourhood Plan



**Application for Designation of a
Neighbourhood Plan Area.**

Introduction

Rugeley Town Council in Staffordshire was formed in 1988. It lies within Cannock Chase District Council area but has boundaries with Lichfield District Council and Stafford Borough Council. Rugeley Town Council has four wards: Western Springs North, Western Springs South, Hagley and Etchinghill.

Geographically Rugeley lies between Cannock Chase Forest to the west, and the River Trent and Trent & Mersey canal to the east. To the south lies Brereton and Ravenhill settlement. As a consequence, Rugeley has a very tight settlement boundary with a population of around 18,000.

Rugeley Regeneration

Rugeley Town Council developed a Strategy for 2018/2019. The strategy set out the broad vision and ideas and aimed to provide a framework within which the town council, community and other partners could work. During this time period, consultation took place on the redevelopment of Rugeley Power Station. Through this, a community action group called Power for All has been developed. The Power for All group held a number of separate consultation events over the past year to develop ideas and objectives which have come from this wider consultation. It will be the Power for All group which will form the Neighbourhood Plan action group. Rugeley Town Council will have seats on this group and ultimate decisions will be taken by the Town Council.

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan will need to link to the Cannock Chase District Plan, within which sits the Rugeley Town Centre Area Action Plan. However, it is proposed that the Neighbourhood Plan area will cover the entire geographical area covered by Rugeley Town Council as identified on the attached plan.

Objectives

The keys policies to be considered in the plan would be:

Infrastructure: Education provision; community leisure facilities; retail/commercial outlets; public transport.

Housing: type; tenure; density and appearance of dwellings to include affordable homes and senior living.

Environment: canal system and opportunities surrounding it; rural landscape; protection of green boundary.

Transport: the A51 and A460 and their arterial significance; increased use and condition of minor roads.

Economy: Enabling increased access to employment opportunities; opportunities from redevelopment of power station; regeneration of Rugeley town centre as local hub.

Funding

The Town Council agreed to work to develop a Neighbourhood Plan at its meeting on 8th January 2020 and has allocated funds to the development of the Neighbourhood Plan preparation. When the Neighbourhood Plan application is approved by Cannock Chase District Council, the town council will be able to apply for a grant from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) delivered via Locality. Rugeley Town Council also has some limited resources to use as match funding.

Application

The application for the designation of Rugeley Town Council Area as a Neighbourhood Area includes:

1. A map defining the area of the application (attached)
2. A statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area
3. A statement that the body making the area application is a relevant body for the purposes of 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act.

Statement to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area

Rugeley Town Council believes that it is appropriate that the complete and well-established town boundary is designated as a Neighbourhood Area. The Town Council understands that the residents, businesses and workers in the town and surrounding residential and commercial areas wish the issues and interests to be co-ordinated.

Statement that the body making this application is a relevant body

In accordance with section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, the body making the application to designate Rugeley as a Neighbourhood Area is Rugeley Town Council, as a town council established in pursuance of the Local Government Act 1972.

Map showing Rugeley Town Council boundary – outlined in black.

