

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE (COMMUNITY DIRECTION)



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

A Borough to be proud of

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of the report is to seek approval to consult on the updated Statement of Community Involvement

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council;

- Approve the publication of the updated Statement of Community for public consultation.

3. **BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

3.1 The Hinckley and Bosworth Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted in November 2006 and sets out how the Borough Council will engage and consult during plan-making and for planning applications.

3.2 Since the adoption of the SCI in 2006 there have been a number of significant legislative and regulatory changes which establish the procedures to be followed during plan making and for planning applications. These include items not previously identified in the 2006 SCI such as Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

3.3 The following legislative and regulatory amendments have been reflected in the updated SCI:

- The Localism Act in 2011 which introduced Neighbourhood Development Plans
- The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 which updated how, when and who is to be consulted during Local Plan preparation.
- The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 introduces the stages of NDP preparation and how, when and who is to be consulted through its preparation.
- The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2014 (as amended) introduces the process and stages for NDP referendums which include public notifications and engagement.
- The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) introduced the charge and establish how, when and who is to be consulted through it preparation.
- The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010 reduces consultation and publicity requirements established in the 2006 SCI.

3.4 The amendments to The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and The Town and Country Planning (Development Management

Procedure) (England) Order 2010 both reduce the consultation requirements placed upon local authorities through plan making and for planning applications.

3.5 These amendments have been reflected within the updated SCI. In addition the updates also remove the requirement for an SCI to be subject to an examination.

3.6 These slimmed down statutory changes in legislation and regulation simplify the requirements for local authorities to follow, reduce the administrative costs of consultation and, potentially speed up the process of plan making and determination of applications.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (SJE)

4.1 The Planning Policy department has a current budget allocation of £628,300, including supplies & services budgets for consultations.

4.2 It is currently estimated that a six week public consultation will incur postage costs in the region of £1,500 - £2,000. There is sufficient budget available to fund this level of activity across the various supplies & services budgets (due to underspendings to date) and, if necessary, a budget virement would be requested to fund this spending.

4.3 In the situation that additional costs are anticipated (maximum cost is expected to be no higher than £4,000) a supplementary budget would be requested to fund this.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (MR)

5.1 Set out in this report.

6. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

6.1 This is in line with the key corporate objective for regenerating the Borough in particular the SCI contributes to the aim of empowering communities.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation was undertaken between August and September 2013 on the update to development management process only within the 2006 SCI, reflecting amendments to The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010 only. Consultation responses received commented that the SCI should be updated in its entirety, reflecting all regulatory changes since 2006.

7.2 The Council has had regard to these findings and has now fully updated the SCI to reflect regulatory changes since 2006.

7.3 Upon agreement, the SCI will be subject to a six week public consultation followed by a consultation statement summarising responses received. Public consultation is due to run from 2 June 2014 for six weeks ending 14 July 2014. These consultation dates have been arranged to avoid the European Election Purdah period.

8. RISK IMPLICATIONS

It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project

have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (Net Red) Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner
Failure to adopt the SCI could result in non-compliance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004	Adopt the updated SCI	David Kiernan

9. **KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The Statement of Community Involvement will continue to provide a framework for how the Borough Council will engage and encourage community participation from communities across the Borough.

10. **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications – None arising from this report
- Environmental implications – None arising from this report
- ICT implications – None arising from this report
- Asset Management implications – None arising from this report
- Human Resources implications – None arising from this report
- Planning Implications – Contained within the body of the report
- Voluntary Sector – None arising from this report.

Background papers: None

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