



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

**Statement of Community Involvement
December 2017**

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1 INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT?

- 1.1 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, as the Local Planning Authority (LPA), will engage and consult the public and stakeholders in preparing the **Local Plan** and associated documents, and when dealing with **planning applications**.

WHY IS AN SCI NEEDED?

- 1.2 The National Planning Policy Framework requires Local Plans to be prepared with meaningful engagement and collaboration with neighbourhoods, local communities & organisations and businesses. The final Plan should aim to be a 'collective vision and a set of agreed priorities for sustainable development of the area.'

- 1.3 The Council's commitment to involving its communities and stakeholders in decisions is one of its [Corporate Plan](#) values. To help communities and stakeholders become more involved in planning, the SCI provides information on:

- How and when communities and stakeholders can become involved in planning matters
- How and when community and stakeholder involvement will be taken into consideration and used in decision making
- How we will feedback on the way involvement has influenced decision making

Links to other council strategies

- 1.4 The Council has other strategies and policies which guide and promote community engagement. These include the [Corporate Plan](#), [Community Plan](#) and the [Borough Council Constitution](#). Hard copies of these can be requested if required by contacting the Council using the details on 12.

2 PLANNING POLICY CONSULTATION

- 2.1 The Council recognise that good plan making significantly benefits from early and meaningful engagement with individuals, neighbourhoods, local organisations and businesses. We will seek to involve as wide a cross section of the community as possible.
- 2.2 Over the coming years, the Council will produce planning documents (as described below). The graphics on pages 6 to 8 set out the points during document preparation that the public will be consulted. Comments received during these consultations will be taken into consideration in the production of documents and incorporated where appropriate. Neighbourhood plans are produced by communities rather than the Council; however there will still be opportunities to get involved with their production, as discussed in the section on NDPs below.

3 WHAT IS THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME?

- 3.1 The LDS is a project plan which sets out the programme and timescales for the preparation of the new Local Plan. It explains how the documents that form the local plan fit together and the key stages for their preparation and management. It also sets out the overarching policy framework in which the new Local Plan and associated documents will be produced. The current LDS can be found at the following link: http://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/downloads/file/5544/local_development_scheme_2016-2020_final_document.

4. WHAT IS THE LOCAL PLAN?

- 4.1 The Local Plan sets out the Council's overall strategy for development. This means it allocates sites for housing and employment development, as well as allocating sites to be protected from inappropriate development, such as play and open space. It also sets policies which the Council use to determine planning applications. At present it consists of the following documents:

Development Plan Documents (DPDs)

- 4.2 Development Plan Documents (DPDs) outline the Borough Council's policies for development. Whilst the NPPF encourages the delivery of a single 'Local Plan', a number of documents can comprise the Local Plan where any DPDs are justified, where existing DPDs or 'saved' policies remain in force.
- 4.3 Examples of DPDs comprising the Hinckley and Bosworth Local Plan are the Core Strategy, Site Allocations and Development Management

Policies, the Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan and the Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan.

- 4.4 In terms of who will be consulted at the various stages of plan preparation, the Regulations outline who should be consulted as a minimum. The Council will consult those required by the Regulations as a minimum and will consider consulting beyond this at any stage in the plan preparation process where this would be considered to add value to the process.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

- 4.5 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are documents which add further detail to the policies in the Local Plan. They can be used to provide further guidance for development on specific sites, or on particular issues, such as design. SPDs are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but do not form part of the development plan.
- 4.6 As regulations do not set out exactly who should be consulted at the various stages of SPD production, the Council will use its best judgement. We will normally directly consult those individuals on our consultation database who we consider would have the most interest in the SPD in questions. This means that consultees for different SPDs may vary. We may also hold consultation events where appropriate, to raise awareness of the SPD being prepared.

Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs)

- 4.7 Statutory Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) were introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and further strengthened through the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017. NDPs enable local people to use neighbourhood planning powers to establish general planning policies, as long as they comply with the Local Plan Strategic policies. Through NDPs communities can set out their vision for the future of a neighbourhood, locate sites and identify policies to guide the siting and design of new homes, shops, offices and other development, in the area they live and work in. NDPs form part of the Local Plan once adopted.
- 4.8 While it is the role of the LPA to agree the (geographical) neighbourhood planning area; provide advice and assistance; hold an examination; and make arrangements for a referendum, NDPs are community led/prepared plans, and parishes/neighbourhood forums are responsible for ensuring that local people are consulted throughout the preparation of the plan.

5. WHAT IS THE DUTY TO COOPERATE?

- 5.1 In addition to the requirements set out above, LPAs are also subject to a 'duty to cooperate.' This requires LPAs to engage with neighbouring

councils and other statutory bodies (such as the Environment Agency and Highways England) constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis when preparing planning documents which relate to strategic matters or which could have a strategic impact (an impact which affects areas outside of Hinckley and Bosworth).

- 5.2 The duty to cooperate is not a 'duty to agree,' however, local planning authorities are required to make every effort to secure the necessary cooperation on strategic cross boundary matters before they submit their local plans for examination. Local planning authorities must show how they have complied with the duty to cooperate at the independent examination of their local plan. If a LPA cannot show that it has complied with the duty then the local plan will be found unsound.
- 5.3 We are committed to meeting this duty through working closely with the relevant organisations. Constructive ongoing consultation with these bodies is essential, and will be undertaken through the plan-making process.

6 WHAT IS THE STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN?

- 6.1 The Leicestershire Authorities (including Leicester City Council and Leicestershire County Council) are in the process of producing a county wide Strategic Growth Plan (SGP). This plan will set the overall strategic direction which will be incorporated into the emerging plans of all the Leicestershire local planning authorities, including setting targets for housing and employment to be delivered through local plans.
- 6.2 There will be consultation held as part of the preparation of the plan – further information on this can be found at the website of the SGP - <http://www.llstrategicgrowthplan.org.uk/>

7. WHAT IS THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL?

- 7.1 Development Plan documents are required by law to be assessed in terms of their impacts on sustainability. Put simply, this means assessing the likely environmental, social and economic impacts of the policies and strategies within them.
- 7.2 The Sustainability Appraisal (which incorporates the Strategic Environment Assessment) will be made available at the key stages of the consultation on the Development Plan Document which it relates to, and will therefore be available to be commented on.
- 7.3 Consultants will be carrying out the Sustainability Appraisal on behalf of the Council. The consultants will be requested to carry out any consultation as may be necessary in accordance with the principles set out in this SCI and any relevant legislative requirements.

Figure 1 - Stages of Development Plan Document/Local Plan preparation

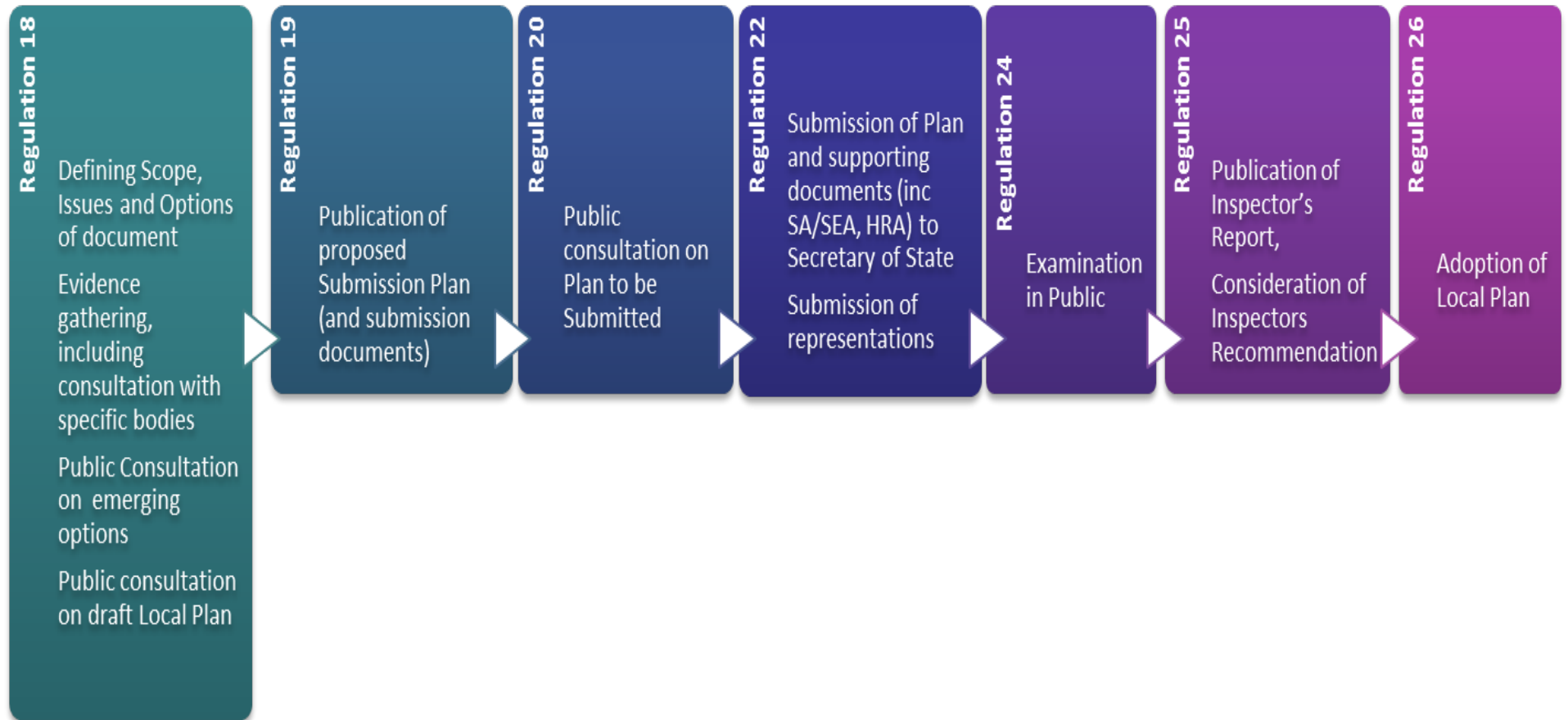


Figure 2 - Stages of Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) preparation

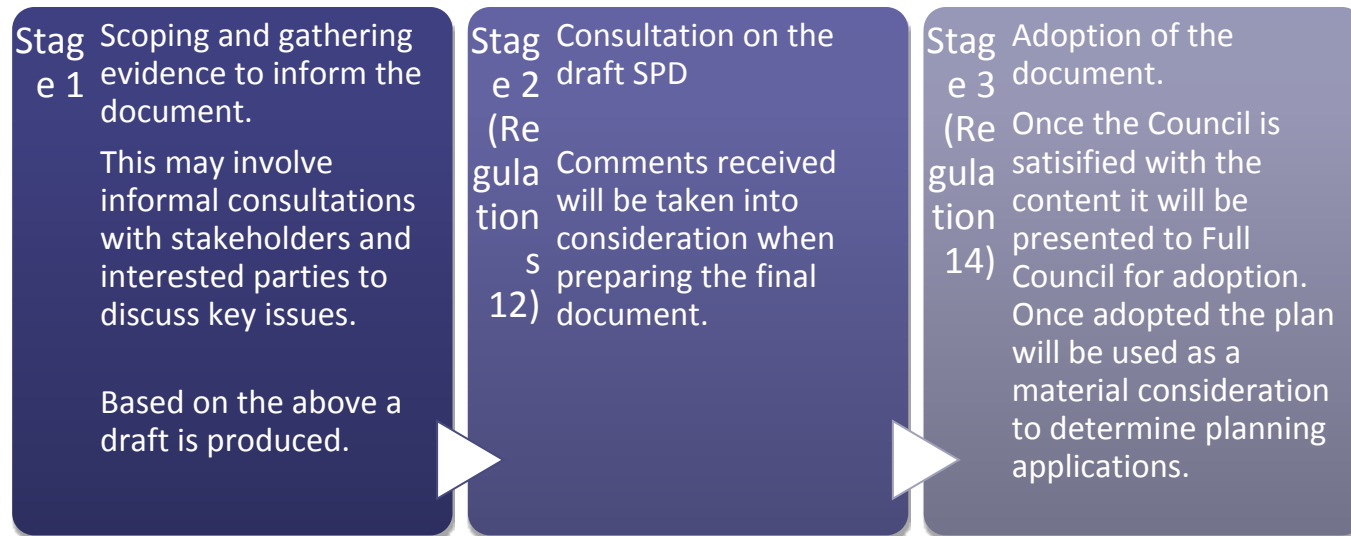


Figure 3 - Stages of Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) preparation



8. WHO WILL BE CONSULTED IN PLANNING POLICY CONSULTATIONS?

- 8.1 Depending on the type of planning document being produced, there are specific bodies that the Council is required to consult and invite to participate. Beyond the minimum requirements, we will consider broadening the scope of who is consulted, where it considers this would be appropriate.
- 8.2 We will maintain a database of individuals, groups and other interested parties who wish to be kept informed about stages of plan preparation (including when documents are published or updated). This database will be kept updated, and requests to be removed from the database can be made to planning policy. Data storage and processing will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant data protection requirements.
- 8.3 The list of consultees in the database will be amended should any of the organisations or individuals on the lists request to be removed, because, for example, they are no longer interested in the process, or if letters are returned to sender following consultation mail outs etc.. Amendments will also be made to existing customers or new customers added following such requests.
- 8.4 It should be noted that legislation and regulations are frequently updated and the list of consultees below may change over time and must be checked against the requirements set out in any new regulations. Details of who must be consulted in relation to Local Plan development and Neighbourhood Plan development can be found by following the link below
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/767/regulation/2/made>.
- 8.5 We are committed to involving as wide a range of individuals and organisations in the plan-making process as possible, including 'seldom-heard' groups whose views, for a variety of reasons, may be under represented in the planning process. Examples of some of these seldom heard groups include:
- Young people;
 - Gypsies and Travellers;
 - Elderly people;
 - People aged between 18 and 45;
 - Black and Minority Ethnic groups;
 - People with disabilities;
 - People with learning difficulties/communication impairments;
 - Rural communities.
- 8.6 These groups can be discouraged from being involved in the planning process for a variety of reasons. Barriers to involvement include: consultation and engagement media, accessibility of venues, language, childcare and lack of time, amongst others.
- 8.7 We will make all reasonable efforts to make the planning process as accessible and transparent as possible to everyone. It is our aim to provide these groups and individuals every opportunity to be engaged and encouraged to participate in the preparation of planning policy documents.

9. HOW WILL CONSULTATION HAPPEN?

- 9.1 Legislation sets out minimum requirements for public participation when preparing Local Development Documents (Local Plans) and SPDs. This includes making information available on our website. Where possible and appropriate, the council will go beyond these requirements to promote greater community participation and to meet the needs of our different communities. Therefore, a variety of methods are likely to be used at various stages of the plan making process. These include, but are not limited to:

Method of consultation	Description
Direct notifications to appropriate organisations and individuals	Emails or letters (where no email) will be sent to statutory bodies, relevant groups and to those on our consultation database who have requested to be contacted.
Publish on the Borough Council's website	Progress on planning documents will be publicised on the Council's website. Notifications of upcoming consultations will also be available on the website, highlighting the times and dates of consultation, how to make representations and how to view the associated documents. The website will also enable the download of evidence bases, consultation reports and comment forms (where applicable).
Deposit venues	Hard copies of the documents will be made available for public viewing during formal public consultation at the Borough Council's offices and local libraries within the borough.
Social networking sites	Information on consultation events will be advertised on our corporate Facebook page and Twitter feed.
The Borough Bulletin	Where feasible, the quarterly Borough Bulletin, a council publication distributed to every household in the borough, will provide notifications of consultation events.
Local media	Where appropriate advertisements for formal consultations will be placed within local media such as the local newspaper.

The Planning Policy E-newsletter	Where feasible, the quarterly Planning Policy E Newsletter, a publication distributed to all Parish Councils and Borough Councillors, will provide updates on plan preparation and provide notifications of consultation events.
Exhibitions	Public displays for local residents to follow progress of plan preparation and/or contribute representations for consultation.
Council meetings	Where appropriate, plans will be taken to relevant council meetings in line with the Borough Council's constitution for feedback and approval from elected local members.
Member workshops	Group meetings will disseminate information to elected local members on plan preparation and primarily gather locally specific information to inform plan preparation. Workshops will usually involve groups using plans, models and other visual materials.
Surveys and questionnaires	These may be used to canvass views on key issues, options, proposals and documents

10. WHAT ARE THE CONSULTATION TIMESCALES?

- 10.1 The timescales for the statutory stages of consultation on planning policy documents are set out in the Regulations. Where there are no prescribed timescales for statutory consultation or we run consultations over and above the statutory stages, we will consider what the timescales for these should be and advertise accordingly. We will endeavour to avoid running key consultations over established busy holiday periods (primarily Christmas, Easter and the summer holidays). However, it may not always be possible to avoid these time periods due to the need to produce documents in a timely manner. In these situations, we will seek to extend consultation timeframes to account for this, where we are able to do so in accordance with the Regulations.
- 10.2 We will ensure that the time periods of consultations are clearly publicised, with a particular focus on ensuring that stakeholders and consultees are aware of when consultations will end. It is important that responses are made within the formal time periods. We will keep late responses on file but these will be unlikely to influence the content of documents, and will not be considered to be 'duly made.'

11 HOW WILL RESPONSES BE CONSIDERED AND PUBLICISED?

- 11.1 We will consider all responses received during the formal consultation period. While we cannot guarantee to amend documents to incorporate all comments we receive, we will seriously consider all responses and make changes where appropriate.
- 11.2 Following consultation periods, we will publish a Consultation Statement which will set out how we have addressed responses received during consultations. This will be made available on our website and also be available to view in person during office hours. Any responses which contain offensive language will be redacted prior to being published.
- 11.3 Details of respondents to consultations will be kept on a database (subject to Data Protection requirements) and these respondents will then be kept notified of the development of documents they have previously commented on (unless they request otherwise).

12 THE REGISTER OF CONSULTEES

- 12.1 If you no longer wish to remain on our database and be consulted on future documents you can contact using the details below, quoting your name, address and reference number (this can be found on the top right of your most recent consultation letter).

Email: planningpolicy@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk

Telephone: 01455 238141

Address: Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Hinckley Hub, Rugby Road, Hinckley LE10 0FR

13 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Introduction

- 13.1 The Borough Council deals with approximately 1,500 planning applications each year, ranging from householder and minor applications to major applications for new housing, employment and retail developments. Most planning applications are determined under powers that have been delegated to officers. Major and/or controversial applications are determined by planning committee. Decisions are taken having regard to the councils adopted Local Plan, which is the legal basis for all decisions, unless other material considerations can be shown to override these policies.
- 13.2 The process of deciding planning applications is often of great public and local interest and comments from the local community are welcomed. Publicity is therefore carried out on all planning applications. As a general rule, the larger and more complex (major) planning applications are publicised more widely than proposals that are small scale and/or routine.
- 13.3 When deciding which applications are classed as major applications and therefore subject to wider community consultation, the government sets out the following criteria:
- Residential developments comprising 10 or more homes
 - A site area of 0.5 hectares or more where the number of homes is unknown
 - The provision of a building(s) where the created floor space is 1,000 square metres or more
 - Development carried out on a site having an area of 1 hectare or more
- 13.4 The government sets targets for the time taken to determine planning applications. These are currently 13 weeks for major applications and 8 weeks for all others. If an Environmental Impact Assessment is required by the scale of development then this period will extend to 16 weeks. Before a decision is made, the case officer will prepare a report with a recommendation.
- 13.5 The recommendation will take into account the policies within the adopted Local Plan, as well as the National Planning Policy Framework, Planning Practice Guidance as well as any consultation comments received. The Borough Council can only take into account comments relating to material considerations. Guidance on material considerations can be found on the Planning Portal www.planningportal.gov.uk.

14. PLANNING APPLICATION CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 14.1 The level of consultation carried out for planning applications will depend on the type and scale of planning application being determined.
- 14.2 Planning legislation requires that for certain types of applications, such as works to listed buildings or planning applications that are accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment, the application must be advertised in the local press. For most types of applications, site notice(s) and/or letters will be appropriate.

Statutory minimum publicity requirements

- 14.3 The regulations set out in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015, the planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Regulations and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, state that all planning applications need to be publicised, either by site notice or individual neighbour notification. A press notice and site notice is also required for the following types of application:
- Erection of 10 or more dwellings or a site area of 0.5 hectares or more
 - Erection of 1000 square metres of floor space, or site area of 1 hectare or more
 - An application subject of an environmental assessment
 - An application that would affect a right of way, under part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act
 - Development affecting listed buildings
 - Development affecting the character or appearance of a Conservation Area
 - Departures from the Local Plan

Individual letters

- 14.4 Letters will only usually be sent to those properties that will be directly affected by a proposal. This typically includes an adjoining owner or occupier. For example, letters will normally be sent to adjoining neighbours where residential properties adjoin a common boundary with the application site.
- 14.5 Parish and Town Councils will be consulted on planning applications within their parish boundaries. Ward Councillors will also be given the opportunity to submit comments.

Sources of information on planning applications

14.7 Information on planning applications can be found in the following places:

The planning register

14.8 Applications for planning permission will be entered on a register. Maintaining a planning register is a statutory obligation and the information is available on the Borough Council's website or for inspection by arrangement during office hours.

14.9 Current planning applications including plans and drawings and some historical applications can be viewed online using the Borough Council's website. For those applications that are not available online, the documents can be made available for inspection by arrangement during office hours.

14.10 For those who do not have access to a computer the council provides access to the online system at the Borough Council's offices, Hinckley Hub, Rugby Road, Hinckley.

The weekly list

14.11 The Borough Council also produces a weekly list of all new applications registered the previous week. This weekly list is distributed by email to Borough Councillors and those registered to receive the list. It is also available to view on the Borough Council's website.

Website

14.12 The Borough Council's website is a useful tool for viewing planning applications and making comments online. The website includes weekly lists of applications received and decisions made. These can be searched by application number or by ward. The Hinckley and Bosworth Planning Online website allows copies of the application forms, plans, drawings, and statutory consultation comments to be viewed online.

Procedure for dealing with comments/viewing comments

14.13 All those wishing to comment on an application are encouraged to do so online using the Borough Council's website. Whilst we will accept written letters and emails, we are unable to send individual responses or acknowledge receipt.

Once comments have been received, they are placed on to our electronic filing system, where officers will read the comments and take them into account when evaluating the application. Comments from the public are not available online for public viewing. However, should you wish to view comments relating to a particular application you can contact us by the following methods:

Complete our online contact form: <https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/generalQ>

Write to: Development Services, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council,
Hinckley Hub, Rugby Road, Hinckley, Leics, LE10 0FR

Telephone Development Services on: 01455 238141

- 14.14 Any representation received forms part of the application documents and must be open for public inspection. Advice on personal or sensitive data is available on the Borough Council's website or contained within the notification letters or site notices.
- 14.15 Occasionally, the applicant will make changes to the submitted plans during the course of the consideration of the application, for instance to address concerns raised by local residents. If the scheme changes significantly, it may be appropriate to carry out additional publicity with affected residents. The extent, type and duration of any additional publicity will be decided on a case by case basis. If changes do not raise new or additional planning issues, further publicity will not normally be carried out.

Making decisions on planning applications

- 14.16 In the majority of cases applications will be determined under delegated powers. The major and more sensitive applications will tend to be dealt with by the Borough Council's Planning Committee. These arrangements are set out in the Scheme of Delegation which forms part of the Borough Council's constitution.
- 14.17 Where an application is being reported to Planning Committee, this will be stated on the Borough Council's website and those who have made a written representation to the application will be notified of the committee date. These arrangements are set out in the scheme of delegation which forms part of the Borough Council's constitution. The full committee report is available before the meeting and a copy will be available to download from the website.
- 14.18 At Planning Committee one representative speaking against an application and one speaking in favour are able to speak to the committee for up to 3 minutes. At the chairman's discretion, and where prior notification has been given, further objectors will be allowed to speak on particularly complex or controversial applications. Ward members may also speak on behalf of their constituents.

15 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE AND CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

- 15.1 A complaint is an expression of dissatisfaction, however made, about the standard of service, action or lack of action by the council or its staff, affecting an individual customer or a group of customers.
- 15.2 If you wish to make a complaint you can do so on the Council's website at the following link: <https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/onlineform?afname=bqkfUsuYoDV>

Alternatively, you can contact the Council by telephone on 01455 238141 or write to us at the following address:

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, Hinckley Hub, Rugby Road, Hinckley
LE10 0FR

- 15.3 If you wish to provide feedback on any other aspect of the service you have received from the Council you can do so at the following link:
<https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/feedback>

15 MONITORING AND REVIEW OF THE SCI

- 15.1 The SCI provides flexibility to allow for appropriate changes in our approach to community involvement. Comments received on the quality or effectiveness of our consultation will be considered and used to inform future practice. If significant changes are required to meet new circumstances or legislation, a review of the SCI will be undertaken.

GLOSSARY

Basic Conditions Statement

A written statement accompanying the submission of a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) to the Local Authority prior to examination into the plan. The statement explains how the NDP meets the conditions of Neighbourhood Development Plan preparation set out in regulations.

Community Plan

A Community Plan sets out priorities for improving the quality of life in the borough, based on the views of local people and on research into the needs of the area. It is produced by local organisations and community representatives working together through the Local Strategic Partnership.

Consultation Statement

A Consultation Statement sets out who the council has consulted with in the preparation of planning documents, how these persons were consulted, a summary of the main issues raised and how those issues have been addressed.

Core Strategy

The Core Strategy is the key Development Plan Document (DPD) in the Local Plan 2006 - 2026 (formerly LDF) providing the vision and spatial strategy for the borough.

Development Management

The management or control of development proposals through the planning system.

Development Plan Documents (DPD)

Spatial planning documents which are subject to independent examination and together form a development plan or Local Plan for a local authority area.

Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan

This sets out the strategy for future development across Earl Shilton and Barwell. It allocates land for housing, employment, retail, recreation, open space and community facilities with two sustainable urban extensions north-west of Barwell and south-east of Earl Shilton.

Environmental Impact Assessment

A procedure to be followed for certain types of project to ensure that decisions are made in full knowledge of any likely significant effects on the environment.

Examination in Public (EIP)

A public examination into the soundness of a development plan document.

Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan

This is a key document of the Local Plan 2006 - 2026 (formerly LDF). It sets out the strategy for the future of the town centre and identifies sites for development.

Independent Examination

The purpose of an independent examination is to consider the ‘soundness of the plan’ by an independent inspector, appointed by the Secretary of State to conduct the examination to consider the document as a whole and determine its soundness. In assessing this, the inspector will consider all representations made of the submitted document and the changes that have been suggested by those making representations.

Local Development Document (LDD)

The collective term covering Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents comprising the Local Plan.

Local Development Framework (LDF) [now Local Plan]

The portfolio of planning policy documents which as a group provided the framework for delivering the spatial strategy for the area. The publication of the National Planning Policy Framework in April 2012 amended the term to Local Plan.

Local Plan (previously Local Development Framework)

The adopted planning policies setting out the strategic policy, detailed development management policies and site allocations for a local authority area.

Localism Act 2011

An Act of parliament that changes the powers of local government in England. The measures affected by the Act include the introduction of Neighbourhood Planning. The bill received Royal Assent on 15th November 2011.

Made

Refers to the final stage of Neighbourhood Development Plan preparation in which the NDP has successfully completed its examination, proceeded successfully through referendum and endorsed as an active planning document by the Local Authority.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

It sets out the government’s national planning requirements, policies and objectives. It replaces much of the national advice previously contained within planning policy statements, planning policy guidance and circulars. It is a material consideration in the preparation of Local Plan documents and when considering planning applications.

Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

A plan for a neighbourhood area which is prepared by an authorised community group. The plan must be in general agreement with the overall plan for the local authority area and can include general planning policies and allocations of land for new development.

Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

An Act which makes provisions relating to spatial development and town and country planning; and the compulsory acquisition of land.

The Planning Inspectorate

The Planning Inspectorate is an executive agency of the Department for Communities and Local Government. It deals with planning appeals, national infrastructure planning applications, examinations of local plans and other planning-related and specialist casework in England and Wales.

Scoping

The act of or involving an investigation or discussion to determine the effect a proposed policy or project would have on a community or the local environment.

Site Allocations and Development Management Policies

This document forms part of the Local Plan 2006 to 2026 (formerly LDF). It identifies specific sites for particular uses, such as housing, employment, retail, open space and community facilities that will deliver the aims and vision of the Core Strategy. It also contains 25 development management policies which will be used to assess planning applications over the Plan period.

Sound

The starting point for the examination is the assumption that the council has submitted what it considers to be a 'sound' plan. A Plan is considered 'sound' if it is:

- Positively prepared
- Justified
- Effective
- Consistent with national policy

Specific Consultees

Those individuals and organisations which are required to be consulted as a statutory obligation as part of plan preparation. Specific consultees are also known as statutory consultees.

Stakeholders

A person or organisation with an interest or concern in something.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

SEA is a process directed at providing a holistic understanding of the environment and social implications of the policy proposal. The intention of SEA is moving policies, plans and programmes towards sustainable outcomes.

Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

These documents contain policy guidance to supplement the policies and proposals in Development Plan Documents.

Sustainability Appraisal

An appraisal of the economic, social and environmental effects of a plan from the outset of the preparation process, so that decisions can be made that