

Chichester District Council

THE CABINET

9 January 2018

Statement of Community Involvement

1. Contacts

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2. Recommendation

That the Council be recommended to adopt the Statement of Community Involvement.

3. Background

- 3.1 It is a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 for a Local Planning Authority to produce a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). An SCI sets out the Council's approach to engage the public and other stakeholders in all planning policy and development management matters to ensure that as many people as possible are able to have a say in planning decisions that affect them.
- 3.2 The document provides guidance on how the planning system works and sets out how the Council will inform, consult and involve people in both the preparation of planning policy documents and decisions on planning applications. It also sets out guidance on the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans.
- 3.3 On 16 May 2017, the Council approved the SCI for a 6 week public consultation. In addition, authority was delegated to the Head of Planning Services following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning Services to enable minor amendments to be made to the document prior to and following public consultation.

4. Outcomes to be Achieved

- 4.1. Appropriate engagement of all stakeholders in planning related matters.

5. Proposal

- 5.1 That following the minor amendments made as a result of public consultation the SCI is adopted.

6. Summary of the Statement of Community Involvement Content

- 6.1 The SCI contains:

- A demonstration in simple terms of the Council's commitment to ensure that community and stakeholder engagement is effective, involvement is genuine, and that planning decisions are accountable.
- An explanation of how these principles will be applied to strategic plan-making and development management decisions.
- A description of the different types of planning policy documents and the processes involved in their adoption.
- A diagram demonstrating the three stages of planning policy document production, and explanation of the statutory regulations relating to the production process.
- A list of statutory consultees.
- Information on support provided for neighbourhood planning with referenced links to guidance documents such as 'Support for Neighbourhood Planning Groups' which has been updated accordingly.
- Development Management consultations and decision making.

- 6.2 The below amendments were made following Cabinet held on 9 May 2017 and the Council held on 16 May 2017:

- Amendment of paragraph 2.9 clarifying that the processes shown within the diagram, within Section 2, apply to Development Plan Documents. An additional paragraph has been added explaining the process for a Supplementary Planning Document.
- Insertion of two paragraphs after paragraph 3.7, stating that communities can engage at the independent examination stage by, in certain circumstances, giving evidence. Reference has also been made to this within the diagram within Section 2.

7 Alternatives Considered

- 7.1 The alternative is not to proceed with updating the SCI however this may result in the current document being out of date.

8 Resource and Legal Implications

- 8.1 There are no significant resources or legal implications arising from the adoption of the SCI.

9 Consultation

- 9.1 The SCI was the subject of formal public consultation for six weeks between 25 May 2017 and 6 July 2017. Four representations were received. The

representations received and the minor amendments made to the document are included in Appendix 2 of this report.

- 9.2 The Development Plan and Infrastructure Panel considered the representations and revisions to the SCI at its meeting in December 2017. It agreed that the SCI should be considered by the Cabinet and the Council for adoption.

10. Community Impact and Corporate Risks

- 10.1 Once adopted the SCI will continue to provide transparency in the Council's approach to engaging the public and other stakeholders in all planning policy and development management matters. It will form a commitment that will need to be considered by Planning Services when undertaking consultations.

11. Other Implications

Crime and Disorder	None
Climate Change	None
Human Rights and Equality Impact	None
Safeguarding and Early Help	None

12. Appendices

- 12.1 Appendix 1 – Revised SCI
- 12.2 Appendix 2 – SCI representations and corresponding amendments.

13. Background Papers

- 13.1 None