

## DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE	PLANNING COMMITTEE	11 MARCH 2020	4

### FYLDE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (SCI)

#### PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

#### SUMMARY

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the local planning authority to prepare a 'Statement of Community Involvement' (SCI). The SCI details the parties to be consulted, and the manner of consultation, both during the process of determining planning applications, and in formulating Development Plans. The current adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016. Regulations which came into effect on 6 April 2018 now require local planning authorities to review their SCI at least once every five years. This, combined with various changes in legislation mean it is now necessary for the Council to review and amend its SCI.

The SCI is a key document that sets out the Council's approach to consultation on Local Plan Reviews, Supplementary Planning Documents, Neighbourhood Plans and planning applications.

The report sets out the legislative changes that have taken place, and a summary of the impacts on and amendments made to the SCI in order to bring it up to date.

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Planning Committee agrees to adopt the updated Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

#### SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

The 2015 Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted by the Council on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

Fylde Council's initial Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted by the Council in July 2007. Due to changes in legislation an updated version of the SCI was approved in September 2011.

#### CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services ( <b>Value for Money</b> )	√
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council ( <b>Clean and Green</b> )	√
Working with all partners ( <b>Vibrant Economy</b> )	√
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live ( <b>A Great Place to Live</b> )	√
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit ( <b>A Great Place to Visit</b> )	√

## **REPORT**

1. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) demonstrates Fylde Council's commitment to engage with local people and other stakeholders on planning issues. It sets out how the Council are going to consult on the other documents that will make up the Development Plan. It provides a structured approach to engaging with local people and organisations across the Fylde Borough in the preparation of planning policy documents and the determination of planning applications.
2. The SCI describes the purpose of SCI's and Fylde Council's approach to community involvement in planning. It describes Development Plans and Local Plans, the register of consultees, methods of consultation that will be used, how the Council will respond to consultees, weight to be given to representations and resource implications. For Development Management it sets out consultation methods, time limits, weight to be given to representations, reporting back mechanisms, the scheme of delegation, and the workings of the Planning Committee and resource implications. The purpose of the SCI is to set out clearly what customers can expect to happen when they engage with the Local Planning Authority.
3. The Council's first SCI was adopted in 2007. This was updated in September 2011 and the current SCI was adopted in July 2016. This SCI was used to co-ordinate extensive community and stakeholder consultation on a number of planning policy documents that have since been adopted, including the Fylde Local Plan to 2032 and the Fylde Biodiversity and Fylde Healthy Living Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs).
4. Since the adoption of the current SCI in 2016 however, there has been a variety of new and amended legislation which have reshaped the planning system. The requirement that local planning authorities should review their SCI at least once every five years, and changes to the Regulations governing the production and review of Local Plans and changes to the 2019 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations means that the current SCI is now out of date.
5. For example, in regard to the consultations associated with the Local Plan, the Scoping, Issues and Options and Preferred Options Consultations (Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) have been consolidated and are now referred to as 'Preparation of a Local Plan'. Additionally, changes to the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations have seen the deletion of Regulation 123 consultation. For this reason, a number of amendments are considered necessary to reflect these changes and bring the SCI up-to-date.
6. A key objective of the SCI is to build on Fylde Council's strong foundation of community involvement and provide a transparent, user friendly and accessible platform to encourage and maximise public participation.

## **NEXT STEPS**

7. Subject to approval by the Planning Committee it is proposed that the Fylde Statement of Community Involvement will be adopted with effect from the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.
Legal	Production of an SCI is a legal requirement.
Community Safety	None
Human Rights and Equalities	The SCI sets out what can be expected from the consultation process.

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Fylde Statement of Community Involvement	11 <sup>th</sup> March	Council's website
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None	
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None	

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Attached documents:

Appendix 1: Fylde Statement of Community Involvement (March 2020)