



EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT COVER SHEET

Title of Report:	Revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	To be marked with an 'X' by Democratic Services after report has been presented
Meeting of:	Corporate Management Team (16th June 2020)	X
	Leader and Deputy Leaders [22/06/2020]	X
	Leader's / Leader of the Opposition's Advisory Group / Independent Alliance Advisory Group [01/07/2020 & 02/07/2020]	X
	Cabinet [13/07/2020] / Council [n/a]	
	Scrutiny Audit and Value for Money Council Services Committee [n/a] / Scrutiny Community Regeneration, Environment and Health and Well Being Committee [n/a]	



Is this an Executive Decision:	[YES/NO]	Is this a Key Decision:	NO
Is this in the Forward Plan:	[YES/NO]	Is the Report Confidential:	NO
If so, please state relevant paragraph from Schedule 12A LGA 1972:	[]		

Essential Signatories:

ALL REPORTS MUST BE IN THE NAME OF A HEAD OF SERVICE

Monitoring Officer: **Angela Wakefield**

Date Signature

Chief Finance Officer: **Sal Khan**

Date Signature

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

**Report to Cabinet
Date: 13th July 2020**

REPORT TITLE: Statement of Community Involvement (Consultation)
PORTFOLIO: Regeneration and Planning Policy
HEAD OF SERVICE: Sal Khan
CONTACT OFFICER: Clayton De Beauville Ext. No.1611
WARD(S) AFFECTED: All Wards

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To set out the revisions to the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (2013) and recommend that the Corporate Management Team agree that the SCI goes out to consultation.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted in September 2013 and forms part of the local development plan. The decision to revise the SCI is to ensure that the Council have an up to date SCI in place for planning applications and policy consultations. The review of the SCI requires both CMT and Cabinet approval (on requesting to consult for 6 weeks).

3. Background

- 3.1 There is considerable flexibility open to local planning authorities in local plan production. This flexibility also applies to the full or partial revision of plans, provided they comply with the specific requirements in regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, ('the Local Plan Regulations') on consultation, and with the commitments in their Statement of Community Involvement. It is in this framework that the SCI has been prepared.

3.2 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), pursuant to Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 sets out East Staffordshire's commitment to consult, and to meet the minimum statutory requirements for engaging communities, on plans and decision making. Planning legislation allows for the existing Statement of Community Involvement to be updated. However, all amendments require that the SCI undergo a formal consultation.

3.3 For the above reasons, it will be important to make clear, prior to taking a decision on whether to review the local plan, how the SCI revision and consultation fit with bringing transparency to the wider local plan process.

4. Contribution to Corporate Priorities

4.1 The revision is also of relevance to improving design through the Corporate Plan priorities and Targets: Improving Planning Guidance and Raising Design Quality (Targets CR06; CR07; CR08; CR09; CR10).

5. Financial Considerations

This section has been approved by the following member of the Financial Management Unit:

Anya Murray

5.1. There are no financial issues arising from this Report.

6. Risk Assessment and Management

6.2 Negative – There is a small risk that not reviewing the SCI could result in a less effective consultation process. This in turn could increase the timeframe and costs of the plan application and planning policy process.

6.1 The risks do not need to be entered in the Risk Register. Any financial implications to mitigate against these risks are considered above.

7. Legal Considerations

7.1 *This section has been approved by the following member of the Legal Team:*

Sherrie Grant.

7.2 *The main legal issues arising from this Report are as follows:*

7.3 *That the revised SCI goes out to consultation for a period of 6 weeks and that the comments received be incorporated into the revised Statement of Community Involvement, prior to adoption.*

8.0 Equalities and Health

8.1 Equality impact: An equality and health impact assessment is not required.

9.0 Human Rights

9.1 There are no Human Rights issues arising from this Report.

10.0 Sustainability (including climate change and change adaptation measures

10.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits): A review of the SCI encourages involvement and engagement with local communities which will allow for a more effective planning process.

10.2 Negative aspects: Not reviewing the Statement of Community Involvement may lead to a lack of transparency in decision and plan making.

11.0 Recommendation(s)

11.1 To allow the Revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) to go out to consultation for a period of 6 weeks.

12.0 Background Papers

12.1 Appendix 1: Existing Statement of Community Involvement (2013)

12.2 Appendix 2: Draft Statement of Community Involvement (as modified)

12.3 Appendix 3: Table of Changes to Statement of Community Involvement

12.4 Appendix 4: SCI Track Changes