

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 13 December 2018

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Physical Environment

SUBJECT: Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Local Plan Document

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 Approval is sought to publish the draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) 2018 for a six week period of public consultation.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the draft SCI (Appendix A) is approved by the Executive Board for the purposes of a six week public consultation.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Statement of Community Involvement, or SCI, sets out the way the Council will involve the local community, stakeholders and statutory bodies in the preparation and revision of Local Plans.

3.2 The duty to engage the community in planning matters arises from the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (section 18) (as amended by the Planning Act 2008, the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017). This legislation requires the Local Planning Authority to prepare a statement covering how it will involve those with an interest in development in the area in the preparation and review of the Local Plan, Supplementary Planning Documents, Neighbourhood Plans/Orders, Community Infrastructure Levy, and the consideration of planning applications.

3.3 The SCI informs the community about how and when they can get involved. The procedures contained with an adopted SCI must be followed for consultation on all Local Plan documents, Neighbourhood Plans/Orders, Community Infrastructure Levy and all planning applications within Halton. The SCI is also guided by the Government's Consultation Principles: Guidance (2016) which provides guidance on how consultations should be conducted in general, by adopting a more proportionate and targeted approach.

- 3.4 The council's first SCI was adopted in 2007, and revised in 2013. It is being updated in 2018 because there have been a number of legislative changes to the way that planning documents are prepared. In addition, technological advances have seen the emergence of online and electronic communication as the preferred media for many individuals and organisations.
- 3.5 Following the public consultation, a final version of the SCI will be presented to the Executive Board for formal adoption of the document by the Council.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The SCI has been produced to ensure that the Local Planning Authority is in accordance with national planning policy and legal regulations.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no other implications.

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 6.1 No legal or financial risks arise from the preparation of the SCI.
- 6.2 Continuing with the original SCI entails minor financial risk as its requirements become increasingly out-of-date and out of step with modern communication practices impeding potential cost savings from electronic consultation.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

No equality and diversity implications have been identified.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004 as amended) Section 18	Municipal Building	Alasdair Cross
Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012(as amended)	Municipal Building	Alasdair Cross
Neighbourhood Planning	Municipal Building	Alasdair Cross

(General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) CLG (2010) The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations (as amended)	Municipal Building	Alasdair Cross
Halton Local Development Scheme	Municipal Building	Alasdair Cross