

EXECUTIVE

LEADER: Cllr Gordon Hook

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Cllr Gary Taylor

DATE: 6th June 2019

REPORT OF: Simon Thornley
Business Manager Strategic Place

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

PART I

RECOMMENDATION

That members adopt the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) 2019 as attached to this report.

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To seek approval for the adoption of the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) following a period of consultation and review.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The SCI explains how the Council will involve local communities, businesses and other interested parties when it prepares planning policy documents and determines planning applications.

2.2 The SCI is a requirement of Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004¹ (as amended). The Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017² also requires SCIs to set out how the Council will support groups undertaking neighbourhood planning.

2.3 The current Teignbridge SCI was adopted on 21 February 2011 and sets out the Council's policies and processes for engaging and consulting with communities on planning policy documents and planning applications.

2.4 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 Regulation 10A introduced a requirement to review the SCI every 5 years. In May 2018, the Council consulted on a draft review of the SCI alongside the Teignbridge Local Plan Review 2020-2040: Issues Consultation

¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents>

² <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/20/contents/enacted>

TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

and a final version of the document is now brought before the Executive to seek approval for its adoption.

- 2.5 The Teignbridge SCI does not contain consultation policies for planning applications that are dealt with by Devon County Council³ (such as those for minerals and waste developments), nor for those relating to Dartmoor National Park⁴.

3. MAIN IMPLICATIONS

Purpose of the SCI

- 3.1 The SCI effectively sets out the legal requirements of the Council when preparing statutory planning documents and consulting on planning applications. It highlights the commitments we will make when engaging with communities and the processes available for when and how people can get involved. The Council is bound by the requirements we set down in our SCI and must adhere to them when we carry out these duties.
- 3.2 Different plans will require different types and levels of engagement, depending on the topics they cover and the area affected. As such, it is not appropriate to include lots of detail within the SCI about specific consultation and engagement arrangements. Instead, the SCI includes reference to preparing a bespoke Consultation and Engagement Plan for any Development Plan Documents we prepare, which will be tailored to the specific circumstances and locations to which the plan relates.

Changes to Legislation

- 3.3 Since the adoption of the current SCI in 2011 there have been a number of changes to planning legislation which have needed to be considered through its review. The updated SCI meets these additional requirements and provides a ‘fit for purpose’ document on which to progress future consultations on planning policy documents and planning applications.
- 3.4 A principle change has been through The Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 which introduced a requirement for SCI’s to set out how the Council will provide advice and assistance to neighbourhood planning groups. This requirement is set out in Section 3 of the SCI attached as Appendix A.

4. GROUPS CONSULTED

- 4.1 There is no statutory legal requirement to consult on the SCI. However, seeking the views of the community and statutory consultees on the SCI was seen as a valuable exercise and therefore a draft SCI was consulted on for an 8 week period alongside the Teignbridge Local Plan Review 2020-2040: Issues Consultation in May 2018.

³ <https://www.devon.gov.uk/navigation/planning-and-development/>

⁴ <http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/living-and-working/planning/planning-policy>

TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

- 4.2 A total of 22 organisations and individuals sent comments to the Council in the consultation period relating to the SCI. A summary of the issues raised are included in the Statement of Public Participation attached at Appendix B, together with how the issues raised have been addressed in the revised SCI, where relevant.

5. TIME-SCALE

- 5.1 If approved, the SCI will come into effect on 14th June 2019 and will be applied to all relevant future planning making and planning application duties.

6. JUSTIFICATION

- 6.1 Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004⁵ (as amended) places a legal requirement on Local Planning Authorities to have an adopted SCI. The 2017 amendments to the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations have also introduced a requirement to review the SCI every 5 years.

Simon Thornley
Business Manager, Strategic Place

Wards affected	Applicable to all wards
Contact for more information	Rob Kelley (Senior Planner) 01626 215872 rob.kelley@teignbridge.gov.uk
Background Papers (For Part I reports only)	N
Key Decision	N
In Forward Plan	Y
In O&S Work Programme	N
Appendices attached:	A. Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) 2019 B. Statement of Public Participation.

⁵ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents>