

# Gloucester City Council

<b>Meetings:</b>	<b>Planning Policy Sub-committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>18 June 2015</b>
	<b>Council</b>		<b>23 July 2015</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Statement of Community Involvement</b>		
<b>Report Of:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning</b>		
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Budget/Policy Framework:</b>	<b>No</b>
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<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>1. Statement of Community Involvement</b>		
	<b>2. Schedule of comments received</b>		

## FOR GENERAL RELEASE

### 1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update on the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) following its public consultation and to seek approval for its formal adoption.

### 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Planning Policy Sub-committee is asked to **RECOMMEND** that the minor revisions made to the draft SCI following public consultation be endorsed.
- 2.2 The Council is asked to **RESOLVE** that the SCI attached at Appendix 1 be formally adopted for planning policy and development control purposes.

### 3.0 Background: Statement of Community Involvement

- 3.1 The Council is obliged to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement (the SCI) pursuant to Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The SCI sets out who, when and how Gloucester City Council will engage with communities and key stakeholders during the planning process. This includes the preparation of development plan documents such as the Gloucester City Plan and consulting on planning applications.
- 3.2 The Council's last SCI was adopted in 2005. As a consequence, it is now out-of-date in that the secondary legislation around the preparation of development plan documents has been replaced by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The existing SCI does not take account of the Council's legal obligations under the Localism Act 2011 or other changes in development management practice.

- 3.3 An updated draft SCI was approved by Council for consultation purposes on 22 January and delegated authority was given to the Head of Planning in consultation with Head of Legal and Policy Development to make any minor changes to this statement arising from comments received during the consultation period.
- 3.4 The consultation ran from 2 February to 16 March 2015 and during this time 11 responses were received of which two related to budget issues. These two representations have been redirected to Head of Finance. The remaining nine responses were either supporting/commenting on the SCI with no objections received. A schedule of comments and officer responses are provided at Appendix 2 of this report and this has resulted in a number of small amendments being made to the SCI. The revised SCI can be found at Appendix 1 and is being presented to Council for adoption as Council policy for planning policy and development control purposes.

#### **4.0 Alternative Options**

- 4.1 There are no alternative options relevant to this matter.

#### **5.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 5.1 This report has been prepared because Council approval is required in order to adopt the SCI.

#### **6.0 Future Work and Conclusions**

- 6.1 There is no additional work required.

#### **7.0 Financial Implications**

- 7.1 No financial implications.

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report).

#### **8.0 Legal Implications**

- 8.1 The SCI is a statutory requirement under Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

(Legal Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report).

#### **9.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications**

- 9.1 The risk of being judicially reviewed in connection with the out-of-date SCI is minimal but it is expedient that this document is updated before the Gloucester City Plan is progressed.

#### **10.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA):**

- 101 A PIA screening review was undertaken. It identified that the aim of the SCI is to clarify how the Council will consult the public and how local peoples' views will be

taken into account in the plan making and planning application decision processes. The solutions identified are both cost effective and appropriate to the various communities in the city, having built on existing local practice.

- 10.2 The PIA Screening Stage was completed and did not identify any potential or actual negative impact, therefore a full PIA was not required.

## **11.0 Other Corporate Implications**

### Community Safety

- 11.1 None.

### Sustainability

- 11.2 None.

### Staffing & Trade Union

- 11.3 None.

## **Background Documents:**

None.