



CABINET

4TH SEPTEMBER 2014

AGENDA ITEM (8)

COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Accountable Member	Councillor NJW Parsons Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Forward Planning
Accountable Officer	Georgina Wood Principal Planning Policy Officer 01285 623000 georgina.wood@cotswold.gov.uk

Purpose of Report	To seek the Cabinet's approval to adopt the Statement of Community Involvement following public consultation
Recommendation	That, subject to any amendments by the Cabinet, the Statement of Community Involvement be adopted and published.
Reason(s) for Recommendation(s)	The preparation of the Statement of Community Involvement is a statutory requirement

Ward(s) Affected	None directly affected
Key Decision	Yes
Recommendation to Council	No

Financial Implications	The Local Plan earmarked reserve is already in place to support the any such necessary document production
Legal and Human Rights Implications	The legal implication of this report is that the Local Plan will be subject to Tests of Legal Compliance; having conducted the Local Plan consultations in accordance with an adopted Statement of Community Involvement is one of the tests at Examination
Environmental and Sustainability Implications	None directly arising from this report
Human Resource Implications	None directly arising from this report
Key Risks	None directly arising from this report
Equalities Impact Assessment	An Equalities Impact Assessment has been prepared and highlighted no issues

Related Decisions	Cabinet 1 st May 2014 - Cotswold District Council Statement of Community Involvement (Minute CAB.120(1))
Background Documents	Cabinet Report 1 st May 2014
Appendices	Appendix 'A' - Statement of Community Involvement (September 2014) Appendix 'B' - Equalities Impact Assessment

Performance Management Follow Up	N/A
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Background Information

1. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted by the Council in January 2007. Subsequent minor amendments were made in May 2010 to Section 13 in order to bring the SCI up-to-date and to correct minor errors.
2. In light of changes to the on-line planning service to allow representations made in respect of planning and similar applications to be viewed on the Web Site, a further minor amendment was made to the SCI in January 2012.
3. In order to take account of recent changes to the planning system, and the publication of new guidance, a comprehensive review of the SCI has been undertaken.
4. A copy of the revised SCI is attached at **Appendix 'A'**. It complies with the National Planning Policy Framework and the new National Planning Practice Guidance, as well as reflecting the most up-to-date consultation methods and practices used by the Council for Development Management and Local Plan matters. A copy of the Equalities Impact Assessment is attached at **Appendix 'B'**.
5. Due to the extensive changes to the adopted SCI, a six-week period of public consultation has taken place. 116 representations were received from over 30 different consultees. A detailed response has been prepared to address the comments and identify changes to be made to the document. The response report runs to approximately 90 pages and a copy will be placed in the Members' Room.
6. As a result of the feedback received, minor changes have been made to the document such as additions to the consultee list, added explanation and removal of some sentences to make the document more user-friendly.
7. Changes to legislation mean the SCI is no longer subject to an Examination process with the Planning Inspectorate. The final document is being presented to the Cabinet for consideration of adoption.

(END)