



Report of:	Meeting	Date
Councillor Michael Vincent, Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder and Marianne Hesketh, Corporate Director Communities	Cabinet	21 April 2021

Wyre Borough Council Statement of Community Involvement

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1** To seek approval of the Statement of Community Involvement for public consultation and subsequent adoption.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1** An adopted Statement of Community Involvement will set out how the council will consult all sections of the community in the planning process.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1** That the Statement of Community Involvement be approved for public consultation.
- 3.2** That the Head of Planning Services be authorised to make amendments and corrections to the Statement of Community Involvement as a result of the public consultation for consideration by the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development.
- 3.3** That adoption decision is determined by the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development and powers be delegated to the Head of Planning Services to make minor editorial amendments and corrections if necessary to any adopted Statement of Community Involvement to reflect amendments to planning legislation and changing circumstances within the planning system.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Statement of Community Involvement sets out how Wyre Council intends to involve all sections of the community in the planning process through the preparation of planning policy documents such as the Local Plan and during the consideration of planning applications.
- 4.2 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) require the council to prepare and update a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) every five years. The current SCI is out of date and a revised and updated SCI has been prepared (Appendix 1).

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1 The SCI is a document which is concerned with the process rather than the policy. The key issue to be considered is whether the SCI document sets out an adequate framework for consulting and engaging with the community in the planning process.
- 5.2 The actions set out within the document represent the minimum consultation requirements that are specified within relevant regulations and guidance for the planning process. Additional consultation activity may be considered to be necessary depending on the scale and impact of what is being consulted upon to ensure that a comprehensive public consultation has been undertaken. This may include targeted consultation where the proposal is specific to an area or theme.
- 5.3 There is no requirement for the SCI to be subject to public consultation before it is adopted by the council. However it is considered best practice to seek the communities' views on how they will be consulted on the planning process. A four week public consultation is therefore proposed.
- 5.4 Representations received during the consultation will be considered and where appropriate, the SCI will be amended and corrected prior to adoption.
- 5.5 There may be from time to time the need to make minor editorial amendments and corrections to the SCI to ensure that it reflects changes in planning legislation and changing circumstances within the planning system. This could for example include a technical amendment to the planning regulations or temporary emergency planning measures related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Where the revisions may alter the principles and engagement techniques, it may be appropriate to undertake a review and carry out further proportionate public consultations on the proposed revisions.

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	The cost of the consultation will be met from the existing Local Plan revenue budget.

Legal	Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 provides that a local planning authority must prepare a statement of community involvement and regulations require five yearly review. On adoption, a statement of community involvement is a local development document.
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Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
sustainability	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
climate change	x
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

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List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None		

List of appendices

Appendix 1 Wyre Borough Council Statement of Community Involvement