

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Asset Management

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

1. Purpose of Report

To adopt the revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE that the revised Statement of Community Involvement at appendix 2 is adopted.

3. Detail

The SCI sets out the ways in which the Council involves all parts of the community in all aspects of planning work. Councils are required to have an SCI and to review it every five years. Broxtowe's SCI was last reviewed in 2017.

In line with government guidance, the proposed new SCI moves away from less effective means of communication, such as advertisements in newspapers, and towards more effective means, such as social media tools and online documents. It simplifies and adds flexibility to the previous version of the SCI.

The SCI was considered by the Jobs and Economy Committee in January this year and it was the subject of public consultation in May. A summary of the responses to the consultation is given at appendix 1. Some minor changes have been made in light of the consultation responses. The revised version of the SCI, as proposed for adoption, is at appendix 2. An Equality Impact Assessment is included as appendix 3.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

There are no financial implications at this stage. The revised SCI is expected to result in some financial savings as a result of reduced spend on newspaper advertisements and printed documents. It is not expected to result in significant additional financial costs.

5. Legal Implications

The comments from the Head of Legal Services were as follows:

The Council, as local planning authority, is required to prepare a statement of community involvement (SCI) in accordance with section 18(1), Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The law prescribes the matters that the SCI must contain, including a statement of the Council's policy for involving the public

in the planning and plan making functions of the local planning authority. Section 18 was amended by the 12 Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 to require an additional provision that the SCI must include policies for providing advice and assistance in relation to neighbourhood planning. The draft SCI complies with this legal duty. The report details the Council's duty under S149 of the Equality Act 2010 (the Public Sector Equality Duty) has been considered and complied with in the preparation of the SCI.

6. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:
(Not applicable.)

7. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:
(Not applicable.)

8. Data Protection Compliance Implications

(Not applicable.)

9. Equality Impact Assessment

As this is a change to policy an equality impact assessment is included in Appendix 3 to this report.

10. Background Papers

Nil