

**Report to the Cabinet**

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 19 January 2023

**Report of the Director of Growth, Environment and Planning**

**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:  
(All Divisions);

**Corporate Priorities:**  
Delivering better services;

**Consultation on the Revised Statement of Community Involvement**

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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**Brief Summary**

This report seeks approval to consult publicly on the draft revised Statement of Community Involvement, the county council's policy on how local residents and other stakeholders will be engaged in the preparation of planning policies and the determination of planning applications.

**Recommendation**

Cabinet is asked to approve the draft revised Statement of Community Involvement, attached at Appendix 'A', to go out to public consultation.

**Detail**

Lancashire County Council, as a planning authority, is required to produce a Statement of Community Involvement, setting out how the public can be involved in the planning process, both development control and local plan preparation. It is a requirement of the regulations to review, and update, if necessary, the Statement of Community Involvement every 5 years. The adopted Statement of Community Involvement was last reviewed in 2017.

In accordance with this requirement the Statement of Community Involvement has been reviewed internally by officers. Some changes have been identified and have been incorporated into a draft revised Statement of Community Involvement



(Appendix 'A' refers). None of the changes will result in a change in procedure or policy going forwards, rather they are necessary to ensure the document accurately reflects current practice. Changes include:

- Clarification around the types of applications that are county matter applications
- Reference to the need for applicants to be mindful of the General Data Protection Regulations with regards to the submission of pre-consultation feedback
- Setting out the scheme of delegation for development management decision making
- Further information on speaking at development management committee
- Some changes to the tone and content in relation to accessibility/equality.

As changes have been suggested it is necessary to consult publicly on the revised document prior to adopting it.

This will be a 6-week consultation period, beginning in February. Notification will be via notice on the county council's website; in addition, district and parish councils will be contacted directly by mail or email, as will individuals/businesses who have requested to be included on the planning policy consultation database. The consultation notice and draft revised Statement of Community Involvement will be available to view online and at main district and county council offices and libraries. Comments can be submitted by email, post or online.

## **Consultations**

N/A

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **Risk management**

## **Financial**

The small financial cost of undertaking the consultation will be contained within existing revenue budgets.

## **List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

