

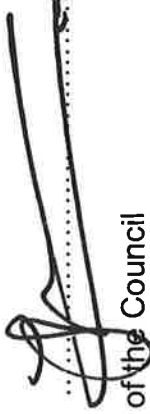
NOTICE OF DELEGATION OF DECISION TO CABINET MEMBER BY STRONG LEADER

Section 15(4) of the Local Government Act 2000, the senior executive member may discharge any of the functions that are the responsibility of the Cabinet or may arrange for them to be discharged by another member of the Cabinet or Officer. On 1st December 2010, the Council adopted the Strong Leader Model for Corporate Governance 2011 as required under Part 3 of The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (The 2007 Act).

I, J-P Champion, as Strong Leader, delegate the decisions Revised Statement of Community Involvement – Consultation Draft detailed in the Forward Plan to the Cabinet Member/Officer detailed below:

Cabinet Member/Officer: Councillor Anne Hingley

Dated: 17th October - 2012.

Signed: 
Leader of the Council

NOTICE OF DECISION OF CABINET MEMBER

Pursuant Section 15(4) of the Local Government Act 2000, as amended by section 63 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the senior executive member may discharge any of the functions that are the responsibility of the Cabinet or may arrange for them to be discharged by another member of the Cabinet or Officer. On 1st December 2010, the Council adopted the Strong Leader Model for Corporate Governance 2011 as required under Part 3 of The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (The 2007 Act).

In accordance with the authority delegated to me by the Leader, I have made the following decision:

Subject	Decision	Reason for decision	Date for Decision to be taken
Revised Statement of Community Involvement – Consultation Draft	To approve the Revised Statement of Community Involvement for a six-week consultation.	To allow a six-week consultation to be undertaken on the Revised Statement of Community Involvement	By 31 st October 2012

I confirm that the appropriate statutory officer consultation has taken place with regard to this decision.

Dated: 14th October 2012.
 Signed: *Aune Hingley*
 Councillor: AUNE HINGLEY
 Cabinet Member



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda Item No. 6

Briefing Paper

Report of: Maria Dunn
Senior Forward Planning Officer
Date: Thursday 4th October 2012
Open

Revised Statement of Community Involvement – Consultation Draft

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks Members approval to undertake a six week consultation on the Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced the requirement for all planning authorities to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement setting out how they would consult communities on the preparation of planning policy and the determination of planning applications. Wyre Forest District adopted its Statement of Community Involvement in May 2006.
- 2.2 Since this time a number of changes have been made to the planning system through the revision of regulation governing the development of planning policy and the determination of planning applications. The Localism Act 2011 and the introduction of neighbourhood planning are also significant. As a result of these changes, the 2006 Statement of Community Involvement is now dated and does not reflect the current legal requirements for consultation.
- 2.3 Whilst the legislation requiring planning authorities to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement is still in place, there are now no regulations governing how local planning authorities do this. The requirement for the Statement of Community Involvement to undergo an Examination in Public has also been removed.

3. Key Issues

- 3.1 The District Council's current Statement of Community Involvement was adopted in May 2006 and reflects the legal requirements of that time. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012 set out the current legal requirements for consultation on plan preparation. There are now fewer stages of consultation required and

the requirements at each stage have been amended. The key changes relate to the use of electronic communication and electronic copies of documents as well as removing the requirement for an advert to be placed in a local newspaper at the beginning of each consultation period.

- 3.2 The Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement reflects these changes and places a stronger emphasis on the use of electronic communication and media which presents cost savings. The Revised Statement is also more flexible in terms of the approach to consultation so that different consultation methods and techniques can be used depending on the nature of the consultation and the target audience.
- 3.3 The introduction of Neighbourhood Planning will result in an additional optional tier of planning policy in some areas of the District. Members will be aware that Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council are currently in the early stages of progressing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for their Parish. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 set out the requirements for undertaking consultation on the various elements of neighbourhood plan preparation. Whilst some of these responsibilities lie with the body preparing the plan, the District Council is required to consult on designations of Neighbourhood Forums and Neighbourhood Areas as well as undertaking a publication consultation on any Neighbourhood Development Plan which is submitted. The Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement includes information on how the District Council will meet its consultation responsibilities and provides advice to bodies preparing Neighbourhood Plans on meeting the requirements of the regulations.
- 3.4 Whilst there are no regulations setting out how to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement and no legal requirement to consult on a draft, it is considered best practice to undertake a six week consultation to give stakeholders and local residents the opportunity to seek changes to the document.
- 3.5 It is proposed that a six week consultation will be held between Thursday 1st November and Friday 14th December. The following measures will be taken to publicise the consultation:
- Displaying information on the District Council's web-site.
 - Writing to all of those people registered on the Local Development Framework consultation database.
 - Press release.
 - Providing electronic or hard copies of the consultation document in the Worcestershire Hubs and Libraries throughout the District.
 - Making a representation form available in hard copy and electronically.
 - Providing the opportunity for consultation responses to be registered using the Local Development Framework consultation portal.

3.6 All responses received will be reported to this committee in due course alongside the final version of the Revised Statement of Community Involvement. It is anticipated that the Revised Statement of Community Involvement will be adopted at February Council.

4. Options

4.1 The Committee may wish to:

- Recommend to the Cabinet Member for Place-Shaping that the Draft Statement of Community Involvement as set out at Appendix 1 to this report is approved for a six week Consultation.
- Put forward amendments to the Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement set out at Appendix 1 to this report.

5. Consultation

5.1 Director of Community Assets and Localism.

6. Related Decisions

6.1 None.

7. Relevant Council Policies/Strategies

7.1 Local Development Framework.

8. Implications

8.1 Updating the Statement of Community Involvement to reflect the requirements of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 will ensure that consultation is carried out in accordance with the latest requirements.

9. Wards affected

9.1 All.

10. Appendices

10.1 Appendix 1 – Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement.

11. Background Papers

11.1 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

11.2 The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

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