

# Statement of Community Involvement Planning Regulation Update 2013



The Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement was adopted under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2008.

New regulations have since been introduced by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 which have amended some of the statutory requirements of plan-making. To reflect these changes, the following table lists the amendments to be made to the SCI and should be read alongside the adopted document:

Section	Amendment
Foreword (paragraph 3)	<p>In particular, we want to change the top-down manner of planning so that you have much more involvement in the decisions that affect you and where you live. We are writing this at a time when the Localism Act has empowered communities to really get involved in shaping plans for their area. Local people are often the best source of information about their local area and better decisions can often be made by tapping into this wealth of knowledge.</p>
1.6	<p>The legal requirements for consultation and community involvement in plan-making and planning applications are set out in:</p> <p><b>Plan-making:</b> Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.</p> <p><b>Planning applications:</b> Town and Country Planning General Development Procedure Order 1995 as amended by the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2012 (or any subsequent amendment).</p> <p>The SCI demonstrates how these requirements will be met to ensure that the whole community has the opportunity to be fully involved in the planning process.</p> <p>Both South Hams and West Devon Councils are committed to involving as many people as possible in preparing plans and determining planning applications. We are however aware that there are parts of the community that are under-represented in the planning process and we are keen to ensure that, through this review, we make it easier for all individuals to become involved, regardless of their circumstances.</p>
3.1 Box 3	<p>The Localism Act and National Planning Policy Framework make provision for communities to prepare their own Neighbourhood Development Plans. These plans can set planning policies to guide future development in the parish. They must be in conformity with national policy as well as any Development Plans that have been adopted by the local authority.</p> <p>Both South Hams and West Devon Councils are working with local</p>

	<p>communities to develop tools to enable them to prepare Neighbourhood Development Plans or other forms of community and parish plans.</p> <p>In preparing a Neighbourhood, Community or Parish Plan, we would encourage all communities to follow the first four stages of plan-making (see section 3.2). Neighbourhood Development Plans must be subject to a local referendum and examined by an Independent Inspector.</p>
<p>3.2 Box 4</p>	<p><b>We will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare and publish a final draft of the plan and consult on it for the minimum statutory period.</li> <li>- Advertise the publication of the plan in the local press.</li> <li>- Contact you directly either by letter or email if you are on our planning consultation database.</li> <li>- Notify all of our statutory consultees.</li> <li>- Make our plans available on our website and in our Council Office receptions.</li> <li>- Make printed copies of the plan available at a reasonable charge.</li> <li>- Where appropriate, make changes to the plan in response to the consultation.</li> <li>- Prepare and publish accompanying documents as required (e.g. Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulation Assessment, Equalities Impact Assessment).</li> <li>- Write a statement demonstrating how the requirements of the SCI have been met.</li> </ul> <p><b>You can:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Comment on the final draft of the plan.</li> </ul>
<p>3.3</p>	<p><b>Sustainability Appraisal</b></p> <p>Plans must be checked to make sure they consider the social, economic and environmental needs of the area. To do this, a Sustainability Appraisal is carried out on any plans where it is necessary to do so. A Sustainability Appraisal assesses the different options for development to make sure only the most sustainable proposals are taken forward. The Sustainability Appraisal can also be used to suggest ways for new development to address or limit any negative impacts they might have.</p> <p>The Sustainability Appraisal will be made available for public comment alongside plans that are published.</p>
<p>3.4</p>	<p><b>Decision Makers:</b></p> <p>Before any plans are published, Councillors will discuss the plan and decide whether it is ready for consultation. In order for a plan to be examined or adopted, it must be agreed by Councillors.</p>