

Ipswich Borough Council Statement of Community Involvement

Consultation Statement

Public consultation on the draft Ipswich Borough Council Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was carried out between 12 September 2023 and to 24 October 2023 (a period of six weeks).

Detailed consultation responses were received from:

- Suffolk and North Essex NHS Integrated Care Board
- Persimmon Homes Suffolk
- Historic England
- Network Rail
- Highways England
- Natural England and Suffolk County Council

The comments are reproduced below, and the Council's response provided to those points directly. The commentary also indicates where the SCI has been revised to respond to comments as appropriate. Respondents are thanked for their input.

Respondent	Summary of Response Received	IBC Response
<p>NHS Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffolk and North East Essex ICB would like to encourage the local authority and developers to work with us on pre-application discussions. Being involved in pre-application discussions could greatly increase the ability to provide information pertinent to whether it deems a development to be acceptable or not. It would also be advantageous to seek involvement from the ICB at the earliest stage to determine the likely S106 contributions for health. • The Clinical Commissioning Groups ceased to exist as of 1 April 2022 and transitioned into Integrated Care Boards. Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board (SNEEICB) is the new entity responsible for commenting on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council agrees that early engagement with consultees through the pre-application process has the potential to improve planning outcomes. The Council actively engage with key consultees where there is scope to do so. Section 4 on pre-application discussions refers to engagement with the consultation bodies listed in Appendix 1, which includes the Suffolk and North East Essex ICB. • All references to NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group have been replaced with reference to the Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board (SNEEICB) for accuracy and completeness.

	planning matters on behalf of health as part of its statutory consultee status	
Persimmon Homes Suffolk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On page 4 the document lists the relevant organisations and individuals whom are to be consulted in the preparation of Planning Policy Documents. However, it fails to highlight developers as a key stakeholder to be involved with such decisions, who are greatly involved in housing delivery across the borough. Page 6 discusses Evidence Gathering and Informal Consultation, although we would suggest sending stakeholders emails with links to the website which could be an effective method of evidence gathering. Page 10 references consulting relevant organisations and we would seek clarification regarding if these would be through emails. Page 13 outlines the formal consultation periods for statutory consultation as 21 days. We would like clarification on what the process would be if comments have not been received from statutory consultation at that time? We would also like clarification on whether Ipswich Borough Council release their weekly lists, particularly items that are approved through delegation panel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developers play a critical role in the planning process. The Statement of Community Involvement has been updated to recognise this. The SCI includes a section titled 'How will we Consult on Planning Policy Documents?'. This lists the possible methods of public engagement including email. New text has been added on pages 6 and 10 cross referencing to this section. Statutory consultees play a key role in the planning application process. Where a Statutory Consultee requests an extension of time, every effort will be made to accommodate the request, however this will be at the discretion of the case officer. Text to this effect has been added to the SCI. The Council publishes a weekly list of planning applications registered by the Council. A link to the weekly list has been included within the SCI on page 13. By referencing the weekly list in the Statement of Community Involvement the Council is promoting awareness of the list as a tool for relevant organisations and local communities to keep up to date on planning matters.

Historic England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic England does not have any specific comments to make, we support the Draft SCI, and agree with the conclusions of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report that a SEA is not required, and the Habitat Regulations Screen Report that an appropriate assessment is not required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments noted. The Council thanks Historic England for its support in preparing the SCI.
Network Rail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thank you for consulting Network Rail. Our requirements for the council's engagement are to be consulted on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large developments Applications that could impact ASPRO assets Level Crossings, bridges Encroach onto Network Rail land Affect the safety, operation or integrity of the company's railway and its infrastructure Undermine its support zone or damage the company's infrastructure Adversely affect any railway land or structure Over-sail or encroach upon the air-space of any Network Rail land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments noted. The Council understand the requirement to consult Network Rail on the identified application types.
Highways England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thank you for consulting us on your proposed Statement of Community Involvement. We have no comments to make on the document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment noted.
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural England agrees with the conclusion of the Strategic Environmental Assessment screening and the Habitats Regulations Assessment screening. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment noted.
Suffolk County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is noted that the Statement of community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New text added to clarify that Ipswich Borough

	<p>involvement sets out the pre application process, however it doesn't set out any charges which may be associated with pre applications. Suffolk County Council now charging for pre application advice, so any IBC pre application with requires input from services provided through Suffolk County Council may be subject to a charge (highways, local lead floods authority etc ...). The County Councils pre-application charging schedule can be found on our website or accessible by following this link https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/imported/2022-08.SCC-Proposed-Pre-app-Charges.pdf. This sets out the levels of charging for different SCC departments and different levels of engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of engaged bodies in which respect of the Duty to cooperate in relation to planning of sustainable development - In this section the Statement of community involvement a list of consultee bodies is provided. The current list includes 3 bodies which operate under Suffolk County Council (Suffolk county council, The Highways Authority and Integrated Transport Authority). It is noted that there are other bodies operating under Suffolk County Council which should be included in this list. 	<p>Council and other authorities such as Suffolk County Council charge for pre-application advice. A direct link has been included to the Council's pre-application charging schedule in the interest of openness and transparency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New text added to clarify the roles and responsibilities of Suffolk County Council including as the body responsible for Suffolk County Council Planning, the Highways Authority, the Integrated Transport Authority, the Lead Local Flood Authority, The Local Mineral Authority, the Local Waste Authority.
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	<p>We would suggest to list all the bodies operational under Suffolk County Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• E.G: Suffolk County Council (responsible for Suffolk County Council Planning, The highways Authority, the Integrated Transport Authority, the Lead Local Flood Authority, The Local Mineral Authority, the Local Waste Authority.)	
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