

## Briefing - Somerset Statement of Community Involvement Consultation

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## Purpose of the Report

Between 1<sup>st</sup> February and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023 the Somerset Councils will be consulting on a draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) for the new Somerset Council. The purpose of this report is to brief members that this is happening and to capture any comments they may have on the draft SCI.

## Public Interest

This is a briefing report to members on the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Consultation for the Somerset Council which will be taking place in Feb/March 2023. The SCI sets out how the Local Planning Authority will engage and consult with the community and stakeholders on planning matters. This includes consultation on planning policy (e.g. Local Plans, Neighbourhood Plans) and Development Management (e.g. determination of planning applications).

## Recommendations

1. That members note the content of the attached report and draft Statement of Community Involvement and provide any feedback they may have.

## Background

The SCI sets out how the Local Planning Authority will engage and consult with the community and stakeholders on planning matters. This includes consultation on planning policy (e.g. Local Plans, Neighbourhood Plans) and the Development Management process (e.g. determination of planning applications).

The Somerset SCI has been produced as part of Local Government Review process, once it is adopted by the new Somerset Council it will replace the South Somerset Statement of Community Involvement, 2018 and Addendum 2020.

The attached report provides more details regarding the up-coming consultation and the draft Somerset SCI is also appended. Members comments on the draft document are welcomed.

## **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications of this report.

## **Council Plan Implications**

The production of a Somerset Statement of Community Involvements is one of the products coming out of the LGR Growth 2 workstream and links with Council Plan Priority 5: to effect a safe a legal transition to the new Somerset Council on 1 April 2023.

## **Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications**

There are no carbon emissions or climate change implications of this report.

## **Equality and Diversity Implications**

No EIA is required as this report is for information only.

## **Background Papers**

- [South Somerset SCI, 2018](#)
  - [South Somerset SCI Addendum, 2020](#)
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