



Statement of Community Involvement

Consultation Statement

October 2019

- 1.1 The consultation for Melton's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was for a 5 week period which commenced on 11th April 2019 and concluded on 16th May 2019. The consultation was via our Council and Melton Local Plan websites. The consultation documents were also available to read and comment on at our Council Offices, Melton and Bottesford libraries.
- 1.2 An article and a press notice appeared in the Melton Times on 11th April 2019 to notify members of the public of the consultation which ran until 16th May 2019. An email was sent to all stakeholders to notify them of the consultation. This included Councillors; Parish Councils; developers; house builders; planning and land agents; registered providers; Homes England; the County Council; neighbouring Councils; Leicester City and Leicestershire Councils and relevant internal members of staff.
- 1.3 We received 5 responses to the online consultation. The low response to the consultation was likely to be due to the limited interest of the document.
- 1.4 We received responses from Severn Trent, Historic England, Highways England, and two Parish Councils.
- 1.5 Further consultation specifically relating to the Councils engagement with Parish Councils was undertaken between 29th August 2019 and 4th October 2019 with all Parish Councils. No responses were received to this consultation.
- 1.6 Amendments were made to the SCI, having considered the representations from the first consultation. A full schedule of the comments received and the Council's response to them can be found in the schedule of responses at Appendix 1 to this Statement.

Appendix 1 - Statement of Community Involvement consultation responses

Reference number	Name	Organisation	Section commenting on	Summary of representation	Response
01	Chris Bramley	Severn Trent	Community Involvement in Planning Policy	<p>New paragraph proposed as 2.12 - Whilst Utility providers are not specifically referenced within the regulations, it is anticipated that alterations or improvements to local services will be required to deliver the local plan objectives. Local Authorities will also engage and liaise with utility providers regarding the delivery of infrastructure requirements so that infrastructure upgrades are delivered at the right time, minimising the risk delays occurring later in the development process.</p> <p>Paragraph 6.2 should also make reference to utility providers, because the master planning and phasing of large developments may be key in ensuring that infrastructure is in place to accommodate new development. Understanding of how larger development will be brought forward will enable improvements to be considered more strategically, potentially enabling more sustainable solutions.</p> <p>Additional information provided on the Severn Trent services with a link to discount scheme.</p>	<p>Utility providers have been referenced within Appendix 2 as a potential consultee.</p> <p>Paragraph 6.2 will be amended to include utility providers.</p>
02	Emilie Carr	Historic England	Community Involvement in Planning Policy	<p>We support the general aims and approach to the draft Statement of Community Involvement. We welcome the acknowledgement of Historic England as a statutory consultee under the duty to co-operate within paragraph 2.10 and as a specific consultation body with respect to Local plans. Within Appendix 2, 'English Heritage' should be amended to 'Historic England' as a 'potential</p>	<p>Amendments to be made to referencing 'Historic England'.</p>

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				consultee'. It would also be helpful to include reference to specific statutory consultees, such as Historic England, in relation to planning applications, SPD's, CIL and other documents referenced within the statement, rather than more generally within Appendix 2.	
02	Emilie Carr	Historic England	Community Involvement in Development Management	Within Appendix 2, 'English Heritage' should be amended to 'Historic England' as a 'potential consultee'. It would also be helpful to include reference to specific statutory consultees, such as Historic England, in relation to planning applications, SPD's, CIL and other documents referenced within the statement, rather than more generally within Appendix 2.	Amendments to be made to referencing 'Historic England'.
02	Emilie Carr	Historic England	Neighbourhood Plans	With regards to neighbourhood planning, we would welcome notification of proposed neighbourhood planning areas as well as consultation on draft plans. The regulations state that Historic England should be consulted on draft plans where our interests are considered to be affected.	Amendments made to Figure 3 to state that appropriate bodies will be notified of the Neighbourhood Plan Area.
03	Scarlett Griffiths	Highways England	All	Very limited comments to provide in relation to this consultation document although we welcome the clear arrangements set out by the Council which will be used to engage with the public to help ensure that the entire cross-section of the local population has the opportunity to be involved in the planning process.	Response noted.
04	Tom Parry	Barkestone Plungar and Redmile Parish Council	Neighbourhood Plans	Para 7.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are a Parish Council representing three unsustainable villages. • The Melton Local Plan provides (via policy SS2) 	The Council considers that the adoption of a Neighbourhood Plan by the local community could help the Parish Council in their

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				<p>that 15% of the residential requirement of the plan outside Melton Mowbray is to be met by “windfall” sites in Service Centres, Rural Hub and Rural Settlements (the wording of policy SS2 is misleading since it says that 35% of the Borough’s residential requirement (1822) is to be met in Service Centres and Rural Hubs only, but 35% is actually 2144 houses and the difference is the 15% referred to above).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since Service Centres and Rural Hubs have sites already allocated, and there is a large supply of land outside those where developers may seek planning permission, we anticipate that there will be many applications for housing development in villages which are inherently unsustainable. • Since sustainability is a key concept of the NPPF, the hurdle for development in inherently unsustainable locations should be very high. The Melton Plan differs from many local plans throughout the country which allocate no housing to unsustainable locations, in line with the NPPF. • Neighbourhood Plans (NPs) are either not appropriate or less appropriate for those villages which are unsustainable, since a NP presupposes that development is necessary and desirable, whereas in unsustainable locations it is unnecessary and undesirable, unless it can be shown, exceptionally, that it will enhance the sustainability of the location. • We are concerned that unsustainable Rural Settlements are particularly exposed to 	<p>objectives by adding a further tool to manage development in addition to the Local Plan, particularly detailed local interests.</p> <p>If a Neighbourhood Plan is not an option, the Parish Council and the local community are still able to make representations on specific planning applications.</p> <p>The fact that there are housing allocations in sustainable locations does not necessarily mean that a higher proportion of the windfall sites will go to the Rural Settlements as ‘windfall’ applies in all settlements including Melton Mowbray. . The restriction in size (up to 3-dwellings applications) in rural settlements and the demanding specification of Policy SS3 could influence this (para 4.2.17 of the Melton Local Plan). The Local Plan does not allocate housing in rural settlements , windfall sites are an estimate of how many dwellings could come forward as consequence of the organic growth in the Borough. Neighbourhood Plans have to align with strategic policies in</p>

Reference number	Name	Organisation	Section commenting on	Summary of representation	Response
				<p>inappropriate development proposals, since the only mechanism for forming Statutory planning policy at a local level is a NP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would like to see a statement recognising this in the SCI, and a confirmation (in Paragraph 9.2 perhaps) that the sustainability of a location (and/or whether policy SS3 applies) will be a key factor in seeking the views of the local community, even where a NP is not in place. 	<p>Local Plans (and the NPPF). In this case, the windfall policy could be adopted in the Neighbourhood Plan as it is in the Local Plan and it would make no-difference. Additionally, the Neighbourhood Plan could protect (evidence-based decision) green areas around the villages or add additional standards to the design on new proposals. Any planning application will have to accord with Local Plan Policy SS3 and therefore have to prove that it is a sustainable development or that it meets identified needs and/or help to sustain local services or facilities.</p>
05	Lorraine Davies	Knossington & Cold Overton Parish Council	Community Involvement in Development Management	<p>The Parish Council considered the Statement at its meeting held on 16 May and have only the one comment to make and that relates to the consultation process with neighbouring parishes. If an application is made in an adjoining parish we don't always get notification although it could have an impact on our local residents particularly in terms of visual impact and/or transport. I wonder whether this might be something that MBC would consider in the future.</p>	<p>Amendments made to para 13.1. The SCI will state that, where it is felt appropriate, neighbouring Parish Councils will be notified of any proposal which may impact their own Parish.</p>

