

 EXECUTIVE 29 June 2020		Agenda Item No. 3 (I)
Title	Use of delegated powers - Amendment to the Statement of Community Involvement	
For further information about this report please contact	David Butler, Business Manager Policy & Delivery (01926 456017) David.butler@warwickdc.gov.uk	
Wards of the District directly affected	All	
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?	No	
Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number		
Background Papers	Warwick District Local Plan 2011-2029	

Contrary to the policy framework:	No
Contrary to the budgetary framework:	No
Key Decision?	Yes
Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)	No
Equality Impact Assessment Undertaken	Yes
The Local Plan has been subject to an equalities impact assessment which assessed the implications of consultations on equalities.	

Officer/Councillor Approval		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive	16/04/2020	Chris Elliott
Head of Service	16/04/2020	Dave Barber
CMT	16/04/2020	Chris Elliott/Andy Jones/Bill Hunt
Section 151 Officer	16/04/2020	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer	16/04/2020	Andy Jones
Finance	16/04/2020	Mike Snow
Portfolio Holder(s)	16/04/2020	Cllr John Cooke
Consultation & Community Engagement		
Final Decision?	Yes	
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)		

1. **Summary**

- 1.1 The provision of a Statement of Community Involvement is a statutory requirement. This Council's SCI requires an update in order for consultations to be able to continue in times of crisis such as the current global pandemic.
- 1.2 Due to the Coronavirus outbreak and in line with the self-isolation Government advice, the meetings of the Executive were temporarily cancelled. As a result, decisions were taken under the Chief Executive's delegated authority CE(4).

2. **Recommendation**

That Executive notes the decision taken by the Chief Executive, after consultation with Group Leaders, under delegated authority CE(4) to:

- 2.1 Agree to the amendments to the Statement of Community Involvement (attached as Appendix 1 to the report).

3. **Reasons for the Recommendation**

- 3.1 This was an urgent matter which could not wait until the next Executive meeting. Because of the Coronavirus outbreak, it was not known when the Council meetings would resume.
- 3.2 This resulted in the use of delegated power CE(4), which states:
"The Chief Executive be authorised to deal with urgent items that occur between meetings, in consultation with the relevant Deputy Chief Executive, Head(s) of Service (if available) and Group Leaders (or in their absence Deputy Group Leaders) subject to the matter being reported to the Executive at its next meeting."
- 3.3 The provision of a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) is a statutory requirement, and must be reviewed and refreshed every 5 years. The proposed SCI will not constitute a review of the document and a full revision will take place during 2020.
- 3.4 The SCI update inserts provision for undertaken consultations in times of national crisis, such as the current Coronavirus pandemic, at paragraph 2.9. This change would mean that consultations would take place solely online in such times, with hard copies of documents (usually viewed at deposit points) unavailable.
- 3.5 The proposed amendment is in line with government guidance and has been reviewed by legal officers.

4. **Policy Framework**

4.1 **Fit for the Future (FFF)**

The Council's FFF Strategy is designed to deliver the Vision for the District of making it a Great Place to Live, Work and Visit. To that end amongst other things the FFF Strategy contains several Key projects.

The FFF Strategy has 3 strands – People, Services and Money and each has an external and internal element to it. The table below illustrates the impact of this proposal if any in relation to the Council's FFF Strategy.

FFF Strands		
People	Services	Money
External		
Health, Homes, Communities	Green, Clean, Safe	Infrastructure, Enterprise, Employment
<u>Intended outcomes:</u> Improved health for all Housing needs for all Impressive cultural and sports activities Cohesive and active communities	<u>Intended outcomes:</u> Area has well looked after public spaces All communities have access to decent open space Improved air quality Low levels of crime and ASB	<u>Intended outcomes:</u> Dynamic and diverse local economy Vibrant town centres Improved performance/productivity of local economy Increased employment and income levels
Impacts of Proposal		
Internal		
Effective Staff	Maintain or Improve Services	Firm Financial Footing over the Longer Term
<u>Intended outcomes:</u> All staff are properly trained All staff have the appropriate tools All staff are engaged, empowered and supported The right people are in the right job with the right skills and right Behaviours	<u>Intended outcomes:</u> Focusing on our customers' needs Continuously improve our processes Increase the digital provision of services	<u>Intended outcomes:</u> Better return/use of our assets Full Cost accounting Continued cost management Maximise income earning opportunities Seek best value for money
Impacts of Proposal		

4.2 **Supporting Strategies**

Each strand of the FFF Strategy has several supporting strategies. The Local Plan is one of the key strategies, cutting across many of the FFF strands.

4.3 **Changes to Existing Policies**

This document seeks to amend the SCI to the extent that, in exceptional circumstances, consultations can take place solely on line.

4.4 **Impact Assessments**

The Local Plan has been subject to an equalities impact assessment which assessed the implications of consultations on equalities.

5. **Budgetary Framework**

5.1 There are no costs associated with this report.

6. **Risks**

6.1 By adopting this revision, in exceptional circumstances there may be consultations undertaken whereby consultees will not have access to hard copies of documents at deposit points. There is, therefore, a risk that on those occasions we may exclude some consultees. In order to minimise this risk, should we need to undertake an online-only consultation, the process will be heavily promoted on all available channels.

6.2 There are no direct risks associated with the report because the decision has already been taken

7. **Alternative Option(s) considered**

7.1 No alternative options were considered as the decision was already made and the report was for information only.