

<b>Committee(s)</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Planning and Transportation Committee	5 July 2016
<b>Subject:</b> Adoption of Statement of Community Involvement	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Carolyn Dwyer, Director of the Built Environment	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Jonathan Blathwayt, Department of the Built Environment	

### Summary

The City Corporation is required to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) setting out how it intends to consult the public when preparing planning policies and deciding planning applications. A draft SCI, updating the previous version from 2012, was approved for public consultation by your Committee at its meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016. This report sets out the responses to the consultation, the revisions proposed to the SCI and recommends adoption of the SCI.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are recommended to adopt the revised Statement of Community Involvement by resolution.

### Main Report

#### Background

1. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how the City of London Corporation will consult the public in preparing planning policy documents and deciding applications for planning permission and related consents.
2. To date the City Corporation has adopted three versions of the SCI, firstly in 2006 which was updated in 2009 and again in 2012. The 2012 version remains in effect at present.

#### Current Position

3. A revised version of the SCI was reported to your Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 and it was agreed that it should be issued in draft for public consultation before being adopted. Consultation ran for 4 weeks from 29<sup>th</sup> March until 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016.
4. The draft SCI was made publicly available on the City Corporation website and copies were placed in City libraries and at the Built Environment Enquiries Desk in the Guildhall. Email and written notifications were sent to over 1,000 individuals and organisations on the planning consultee database.
5. Responses were received from 9 different consultees. These are set out in the Consultation Statement, attached at Appendix 1.

## **Proposals**

6. The Consultation Statement sets out how the SCI consultation was undertaken, the comments received on the draft SCI and the proposed response.
7. The comments mainly relate to section 3, regarding consultations on planning applications. Several consultees requested to be added to the list of stakeholders or to be notified of applications that may affect their interests. The comments are generally helpful and in most cases it is appropriate to make amendments to the SCI to take account of them. Appendix 2 sets out a schedule of the changes that are proposed to be made to the SCI. Appendix 3 sets out the revised SCI, taking into account the consultees comments, and it is proposed that this be formally adopted by your Committee.
8. The SCI refers to lists of stakeholders who will be consulted on planning policy documents or planning applications. It is proposed that these lists be published on the City Corporation's website, separate from the published SCI. This will enable future changes to be made to the list of consultees without having to make formal alterations to the SCI.

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

9. The SCI supports the Corporation's Strategic Aim to maintain high quality, accessible and responsive services benefiting its communities, neighbours, London and the nation. The SCI also supports the Department of the Built Environment's Business Plan objective to improve external communications and actively engage with City residents, workers and visitors.
10. There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

## **Conclusion**

11. The Planning & Transportation Committee has delegated authority to adopt the SCI. Following public consultation on the draft SCI, a number of comments have been made. These have been considered and, where appropriate, incorporated into the SCI. Members are asked to adopt the revised SCI by resolution.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Consultation Statement
- Appendix 2 – Schedule of Changes to the SCI
- Appendix 3 – Statement of Community Involvement 2016

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