

London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

Statement of Community Involvement Refresh

Summary of Public Consultation Responses

Public Consultation Period: Monday 8 July to Friday 6 September 2019

September 2019

Responses to Statement of Community Involvement Refresh			
	Respondent	Comments	LBB/ Be First Response
01	London Cycling Campaign 09/07/2019	The list of organisations to consult does not include Sustrans nor any cycling group (London Cycling Campaign, Cycle UK (CTC), British Cycling). It should.	The response is noted. Action: Add additional organisations into the Local Plan consultation mailing list.
02	Port of London Authority (Statutory Consultee) 16/07/2019	Thank you for consulting the Port of London Authority (PLA) on the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) refresh consultation, which outlines how the council will involve the community in the planning of the local area. For information the PLA is the Statutory Harbour Authority for the Tidal Thames between Teddington and the Thames Estuary. Its statutory functions include responsibility for conservancy, dredging, maintaining the public navigation and controlling vessel movement's and its consent is required for the carrying out of all works and dredging in the river and the provision of moorings. The PLAs functions also include for the promotion of the use of the river as an important strategic transport corridor to London. The PLA's Vision for the Tidal Thames ('The Thames Vision') (2016) provides the framework for the development of the Tidal Thames between now and 2035, and includes a number of goals to increase activity on and adjacent to the river including for more goods and materials to be transported on the river, more passenger journeys, greater sport and recreation participation on the river and an improved Tidal Thames environment. I have now had the opportunity to review the updated SCI and can confirm that the PLA has no comments to make.	The response is noted and welcomed. No change is required.
03	Cllr Evelyn Carpenter LBB 18/07/2019	Thank you for this update which I have read with interest. I notice that your statement of community involvement doesn't specifically mention ward councillors. I quote: "Community refers to residents, resident associations, businesses, community and interest groups, neighbourhood planning forums, landowners, developers, neighbouring local planning authorities, government agencies and any other individuals, groups and	Appendix B of the SCI consultation document mentions ward councillors in the list of general consultees. The planning policy team will consider how we can have meaningful engagement with ward councillors through the established council meetings for both the plan making

		<p>organisations interested in, and affected by development and use of land in Barking and Dagenham”.</p> <p>Where do ward councillors fit in to the consultation process, please?</p>	<p>consultation process and planning application discussions.</p> <p>Action: Include ‘Councillors’ under the definition of ‘Community’ on pg. 2 of the SCI Refresh.</p>
04	<p>Natural England (Statutory Consultee)</p> <p>30/07/2019</p>	<p>Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 9th July 2019.</p> <p>Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.</p> <p>We are supportive of the principle of meaningful and early engagement of the general community, community organisations and statutory bodies in local planning matters, both in terms of shaping policy and participating in the process of determining planning applications.</p> <p>We regret we are unable to comment, in detail, on individual Statements of Community Involvement but information on the planning service we offer, including advice on how to consult us, can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals.</p>	<p>The response is noted. No change is required.</p>
05	<p>Peterborough City Council</p> <p>01/08/2019</p>	<p>Peterborough City Council has no comments to make on your SCI draft. Please keep us informed of future Development Plan consultations.</p>	<p>The response is noted and welcomed.</p> <p>No change is required.</p>
06	<p>Engagement HQ Response 01</p> <p>04/08/2019</p>	<p>Remember we are all ages that don't use social media. Also this should cover all colours and ethnic groups. Dagenham is losing its identity, also we have to move on and get respect back for everyone.</p>	<p>The response is noted.</p> <p>No change is required.</p>
07	<p>Highways England</p>	<p>Thank you for your e-mail of 9 July 2019 inviting Highways England to comment on the above consultation and indicating that a response was required by 6 September 2019.</p>	<p>Response is noted.</p>

	<p>(Statutory Consultee)</p> <p>14/08/2019</p>	<p>Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the strategic road network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and, as such, Highways England works to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs, as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity. We will therefore be concerned with proposals that have the potential to impact the safe and efficient operation of the SRN.</p> <p>Having examined the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Consultation, we are satisfied that its policies will not materially affect the safety, reliability and / or operation of the SRN (the tests set out in DfT C/13 para 10 and DCLG NPPF para 32). We are pleased to see that we have been included in the list of statutory consultees (Appendix A). However, you have named us Highways Agency, this should be changed to Highways England.</p>	<p>Action: Update name to “Highways England” in Appendix A: Statutory Consultees (Pg. 35)</p>
08	<p>Inland Homes Plc</p> <p>21/08/2019</p>	<p>We write on behalf of our Client, Inland Homes Plc, further to the above consultation. Our Client has a commercial interest in several sites across the Borough, including areas that are being identified for comprehensive regeneration and change.</p> <p>Be First have been tasked with refreshing the Council’s adopted Statement of Community Involvement, through which many of the Council’s established consultation principles are formalised. We naturally agree with the overarching principles of the document, in advocating meaningful and collaborative community engagement at the earliest stages of the development process. We principally agree that the revised document addresses the relevant legislation in meeting the different needs of the community through the planning process, giving due consideration to the various parties that would benefit from community involvement and ensuring necessary channels of communication are engaged.</p> <p>Our focus within these representations is the approach to the preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents and the relationship with the new Barking and Dagenham Local Plan and other Development Plan Documents. We understand that Masterplans and Area Action Plans are being prepared for areas including Thames Road, to support the release of industrial land for housing-led regeneration. Our client has a particular interest in these</p>	<p>Response is noted. We will make sure that your client is on our consultation database for the emerging SPDs consultation in the future.</p> <p>Action: Add Inland Homes Plc and Planning Potential into the Local Plan consultation mailing list.</p>

	<p>locations and how Supplementary Planning Documents are being prepared to shape development within them.</p> <p>Table 2 of the Statement of Community Involvement Refresh sets out the consultation process for Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). We support the Stage 1 principle of “engaging interested parties in deciding the detail to be included in the SPD and we will identify key issues that need to be addressed” and suggest that this process might be extended, where appropriate, to involve key stakeholders, landowners and developers in early-stage workshops and forums to guide the direction of policy. The front-loading of this process will ensure that comprehensive regeneration aspirations will be achieved quicker, and early-stage agreement on core principles will ultimately streamline the planning process. We therefore strongly agree that at Stage 1 preparation stage, consultation should be carried out prior to the publication of draft SPDs.</p> <p>Given the centrality of master-planning to the Council’s strategic planning objectives, we suggest that, where appropriate, consultation material that is made publicly available at Stage 2 of the Development Plan Document preparation explains the relationship between DPDs and SPDs. We are conscious that the Issues and Options stage consultation on the emerging Local Plan was undertaken in 2015. This passage of time suggests that greater short-term emphasis will be placed on SPDs including Area Action Plans for locations such as Thames Road, which have advanced more quickly. The role of these documents in the Development Plan should therefore be explicitly set out in the public domain.</p> <p>We generally agree with the scheme of referral of planning decisions to the Council’s Planning Committee. However, we note that the threshold for referral of applications recommended for approval is relatively low, at five or more objections having been received in writing. We therefore consider that the Statement of Community Involvement should explicitly state that the threshold for Planning Committee referral is when valid objections are raised which relate to topics with a clear planning remit. This would avoid applications being referred to Planning Committee for spurious reasons, when they could otherwise have been determined under delegated powers.</p>	
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09	<p>Engagement HQ Response 02</p> <p>05/09/2019</p>	<p>Inadequate and unreadable - please use plain English and ensure residents are empowered by a documents [sic] that goes beyond tables of legal jargon to a more human and relational content that will empower residents to undertake inclusive growth. The document is incredibly off putting and guaranteed not to facilitate engagement.</p> <p>Make it less full of jargon. It is unreadable and off putting.</p>	<p>Response is noted.</p> <p>We are committed to making all published planning documents accessible to the public by writing in plain English and making sure that any technical words used are explained. This commitment has already been included in para 2.2 of the SCI, therefore no further changes are necessary.</p>
10	<p>Barking Riverside Limited (BRL)</p> <p>06/09/2019</p>	<p>It is understood that the council are seeking to make it as easy as possible for the community to engage in both plan making and assessing planning applications through the use of different methods. BRL welcomes the proposals to use both digital and non-digital platforms, including email, social media, the online consultation portal, the planning</p>	<p>Response is noted, and support of SCI is welcomed. BRL will be kept informed of any future consultations.</p> <p>No changes are required.</p>

	<p>application search facility, LBBB and Be First's websites, consultation letters, press notices, site notices, group meetings and public consultation events and exhibitions.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that developers are strongly encouraged to arrange some form of engagement with residents, stakeholders and statutory bodies during the pre-application stage. As you will be aware, BRL are committed to undertaking pre-application engagement through various means and are therefore supportive of the emphasis placed on this within the revised SCI.</p> <p>BRL are also supportive of the consultation / publicity methods used by the Council during the application stage, namely site notices, press notices and neighbour notification letters.</p> <p>It is understood that LBBB will be consulting on a number of documents in the future, including the Issues and Options report, the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule (CIL), the draft Plan and the draft Supplementary Document (SPD). BRL request to be kept informed of any future consultations in this regard.</p>	
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