

Diversity impact assessment

TITLE	UPDATE TO STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
DATE	9 May 2024
LEAD OFFICER.	Catherine Smith, Head of Planning Policy, RCE

1. Summary description of the proposed change

What is the change to policy / service / new project that is being proposed?
How does it compare with the current situation?

The current Statement of Community Involvement was updated in 2022 to amend previous references to Covid and reflect updated procedures within the Planning Service. It is being further updated to provide greater clarity and to reflect updated procedures within the Planning Service in relation to consultation on planning matters.

2. Summary of evidence used to support this assessment

Eg: Feedback from consultation, performance information, service user.
Eg: Comparison of service user profile with Medway Community Profile

Review of consultation procedures in the Planning Service

3. What is the likely impact of the proposed change?

Is it likely to:

Adversely impact on one or more of the protected characteristic groups

Advance equality of opportunity for one or more of the protected characteristic groups

Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't

(insert Yes when there is an impact or No when there isn't)

Protected characteristic groups (Equality Act 2010)	Adverse impact	Advance equality	Foster good relations
Age	No	Yes	-
Disability	No	Yes	-
Gender reassignment	No	Yes	-
Marriage/civil partnership	No	Yes	-
Pregnancy/maternity	No	Yes	-

Diversity impact assessment

Race	No	Yes	-
Religion/belief	No	Yes	-
Sex	No	Yes	-
Sexual orientation	No	Yes	-
Other (eg low income groups)	No	Yes	-

4. Summary of the likely impacts

Who will be affected?

How will they be affected?

The SCI sets out how the council will manage consultation on planning policy and planning applications. It recognises the needs of different groups and provides a range of methods to encourage and support people and organisations to participate in planning consultations.

5. What actions can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impacts, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations?

What alternative ways can the Council provide the service?

Are there alternative providers?

Can demand for services be managed differently?

6. Action plan

Actions to mitigate adverse impact, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations and/or obtain new evidence

Action	Lead	Deadline or review date
Review of SCI to meet legal requirements	Planning Service	June 2029

7. Recommendation

The recommendation by the lead officer should be stated below. This may be: to proceed with the change, implementing the Action Plan if appropriate, consider alternatives, gather further evidence

If the recommendation is to proceed with the change and there are no actions that can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impact, it is important to state why.

Proceed with revisions to updated Statement of Community Involvement.

8. Authorisation

The authorising officer is consenting that the recommendation can be implemented, sufficient evidence has been obtained and appropriate mitigation is planned, the Action Plan will be incorporated into the relevant Service Plan and monitored

Assistant Director

Diversity impact assessment

Date of authorisation