

Committee:	Local Plan Leadership Group	Date:
Title:	Statement of Community Involvement	Tuesday, 18 August 2020
Portfolio Holder:		
Report Author:	Sarah Nicholas, Senior Planning Officer snicholas@uttlesford.gov.uk	Key decision: N

Summary

1. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) has been updated in preparation for commencement of preparing the Local Plan. The current SCI is dated March 2019 and reflects the preparation of the previous withdrawn Local Plan.

Recommendations

2. That the Local Plan Leadership Group considers the updated SCI and recommends to Cabinet that the document is published for consultation.

Financial Implications

3. The approved budget for the Local Plan in 2020-21 includes sufficient provision for the work needed through to the end of March. Adequate provision will need to be made in preparing the budget for 2021-22 in the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy

Background Papers

None

Impact

- 4.

Communication/Consultation	The SCI will be subject to a period of consultation
Community Safety	n/a
Equalities	The SCI supports methods of consultation such that all groups can be involved in consultation processes.
Health and Safety	n/a

Human Rights/Legal Implications	n/a
Sustainability	n/a
Ward-specific impacts	All
Workforce/Workplace	n/a

Situation

5. Attached is an updated SCI. The changes are shown as track changes. The main changes are as follows:-
- a) Identifying those parts of the SCI temporarily suspended in response to government restrictions due to COVID-19 pandemic .
 - b) Making reference to the preparation of an Engagement Strategy.
 - c) Update references to NPPF and remove reference to transitional arrangements.
 - d) Updating of dates and time periods of the Local Plan.
 - e) Update references to Corporate Plan.
 - f) Include reference to Council's Consultation Charter.
 - g) Amend key principles of engagement to reflect Consultation Institutes' seven elements of best practice.
 - h) Remove reference to Garden Communities and Development Plan Documents.
 - i) Update list of County Plans and Neighbourhood Plans.
 - j) Improve explanation of what happens at each stage of the Neighbourhood Plan .
 - k) Amend reference of Planning Policy Working Group to Local Plan Leadership Group.

Risk Analysis

6.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
If the Council does not have an up to date SCI and has not carried out consultation in accordance with the Regulations and the Statement of	2	4 – The Council could be required to undertake additional periods of consultation and resubmit the Plan	Ensure an up-to-date SCI is adopted.

Community Involvement the Local Plan could be found to have failed the legal compliance test at examination.			
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1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.