

## Annex A – Responses received to the Consultation Draft Statement of Community Involvement, January 2019, and Officer Responses

Consultation on the draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was held over an eight-week period, between 14 January and 8 March 2019. During the consultation, responses were received from 18 different individuals and organisations. The responses to the individual consultation questions in the SCI are set out below, with the Officers' response, reflecting any changes to be made in the final version of the SCI (as shown in Annex B)

Consultation Question 1 - Do you agree with the principles of community involvement in planning as set out in the revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)? Is there anything important that we have missed?
Consultation Question 2 - Are there any other groups, organisations or stakeholders we should be directly notifying about our consultations?
Consultation Question 3 - Are there any other consultation or engagement methods we could consider using?
Consultation Question 4 - Can your organisation help us to share information or engage with members of the public, particular interest groups, or other stakeholders?
Consultation Question 5 - Does the approach to public involvement in the development management process seem fair? If not, what should be included?
Consultation Question 6 – Please set out any other change(s), if any, that you consider necessary to the SCI (2019)

SCI1 Julian Parsons, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire & Rescue Service		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 1	<p>Thank you for providing the opportunity to consult on the framework.</p> <p>We have no specific comments in respect of the document content with one exception. We believe we should be considered as a specific consultation body as detailed in table 2.2. In terms of categorisation we feel we should be category A for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plans/DPDs</li> <li>• CIL charging schedule</li> <li>• Local Investment Plan</li> </ul> <p>We would suggest we are category B for other elements.</p>	<p>In terms of who to consult, Regulation 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations lists the “specific consultation bodies”. This does not include a Fire &amp; Rescue Service. Therefore, Buckinghamshire Fire &amp; Rescue Service is included under the heading “General Consultation Bodies” in table 2.2 of the SCI.</p>

SCI2 Diane Clarke, Network Rail		
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	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Any other comments	<p>Network Rail is a statutory consultee for any planning applications within 10 metres of relevant railway land (as the Rail Infrastructure Managers for the railway, set out in Article 16 of the Development Management Procedure Order) and for any development likely to result in a material increase in the volume or a material change in the character of traffic using a level crossing over a railway (as the Rail Network Operators, set out in Schedule 4(J) of the Development Management Procedure Order.</p> <p>Please email all consultations (planning applications and planning policies) to: <a href="mailto:TownPlanning_NW@networkrail.co.uk">TownPlanning_NW@networkrail.co.uk</a></p>	Noted.

SCI3 Christopher Leech, Gt Brickhill Parish Council		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 1	We agree.	Noted.
Question 2	Parish Councils in neighbouring administrative districts (example Aylesbury Vale) if the proposed development abuts them.	Noted. Adjoining Parish Councils are included in Regulation 2 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 as a specific consultation body
Question 3	Direct email	Noted. Paragraph 2.19 of the SCI confirms that: “Where we have an email address for a consultee we will send the relevant information electronically, to make efficient use of time and resources”.
Question 4	Yes, we can share information amongst villagers in Gt Brickhill via our village email list and parish newsletter.	Noted. We appreciate your help in keeping the local community up-to-date on planning matters in Milton Keynes.

SCI4 Miss Mandy Shipp, Wolverton and Greenleys Town Council		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Any other comments	Further to the Planning Committee held on the 05.02.19 please see the comments for this application as below:	Noted.

	“The Committee RESOLVED to make the following comments regards this document, great document as long as it is adhered to by MKC”.	
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SCI5 Liam Costello, Olney Town Council		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 1	We would like section 3.7 to include a commitment that parish councils should be consulted on draft S106 agreements as used to happen.	It is current Council policy to initially send consultations to parish councils regarding the contributions that parish councils would like to be sought on their behalf. S106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) does not require a draft S106 agreement to be provided to parish council’s prior to completion.
Question 4	We publish details of all current planning applications in our parish on our website.	Noted. We appreciate your help in keeping the local community up-to-date on current planning applications.

SCI6 Sharon Kerr, Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe Parish Council		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 1	<p>Shenley Brook End &amp; Tattenhoe Parish Council would like to submit the following comments:</p> <p>To ensure the continued use of hard copy documentation be made available for all consultees that do not have easily available internet access.</p> <p>3.7 p13 Right to speak – The Parish Council’s preference is the standard document allowing members of the public 3 minutes to speak and hope that the constitutional review reflects this.</p>	<p>Noted. Paragraph 2.21 of the SCI states that: “Documents are also made available to view in the Council’s Civic Offices in Central Milton Keynes and in libraries across the Borough, so people without the ability to access the internet can still view and respond to our consultation documents”.</p> <p>Noted. The maximum speaking time of three minutes is listed within paragraph 3.7 of the SCI.</p>
Question 4	Yes, website, newsletters, noticeboards	Noted. We appreciate your help in keeping the local

		community up-to-date on current planning applications.
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SCI7 Douglas McCall, MK Council of Faiths		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Any other comments	The Council of Faiths wishes to remain a consultee representing the faith communities of MK.	Noted.

SCI8 Ms Georgina Baidoun		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 6	On householder planning applications etc neighbour notification letters should be sent to the occupiers of all properties within sight of the property concerned. Or at the very least a site notice should be displayed where all affected neighbours will see it. Immediate neighbours are not by any means the only people affected by planning applications and people in the immediate vicinity are far more likely to know about local issues than planning officers.	The notification procedure is carried out in accordance with Article 15, part 3 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. There is no requirement to notify occupiers who are in sight of a development. Paragraph 3.7 of the SCI states that neighbour notification letters are sent to occupiers of adjoining properties and a site notice is displayed as close as possible to the proposed development site.

SCI9 Cllr Peter McDonald		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 5	<p>I would like to make representation that the publication of planning applications that affect a particular area is not achieving the objective of community involvement.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Site notices should be displayed in all circumstances to get the widest exposure of the exposure of the application to the community.</li> <li>2. Notification letters should be sent to all premises in the street not just the neighbouring ones. Any other street that may be able to see the</li> </ol>	<p>1 &amp; 2 Noted.</p> <p>The notification procedure is carried out in accordance with Article 15, part 3 of The Town and Country Planning</p>

	<p>effect of the application should also be notified.</p> <p>3. A system should be set up so that anyone can register with the council to be notified of all applications within their Parish.</p> <p>Existing policy is below:</p> <p>On householder planning applications, removal/variation of condition applications for previously approved householder planning applications and prior-notification applications for a householder extension, neighbour notification letters are sent to the occupiers of the properties adjoining the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When it is not possible to identify all adjoining properties, a site notice is displayed as close as possible to the proposed development site.</li> </ul>	<p>(Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. There is no requirement to notify occupiers who are in sight of a development. Paragraph 3.7 of the SCI states that neighbour notification letters are sent to occupiers of adjoining properties and a site notice is displayed as close as possible to the proposed development site.</p> <p>3 The Public Access system has functionality to allow individuals to register for email alert notifications when new applications are submitted.</p> <p>Existing policy noted.</p>
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<p>SCI10 Patrick Donovan, Newport Pagnell Town Council</p>		
	<p>Consultee Response</p> <p>Our Town Planning &amp; Environmental Management Committee discussed this consultation last week and had the following comment:</p> <p>The Committee again received the consultation draft documents from Milton Keynes Council and noted the Town Clerk's comments that there is no mention of MKC consulting with parishes on S106. The documentation mentions CIL, but does not go on to state consultation methods on CIL. MKC had adopted S106 in preference to a CIL.</p>	<p>Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response</p> <p>It is current Council policy to initially send consultations to parish councils regarding the contributions that parish councils would like to be sought on their behalf. S106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) does not require a draft S106 agreement to be provided</p>

to parish council's prior to completion.

SCI11

Mrs Eirwen Tagg, Great Linford Parish Council

	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 5	<p data-bbox="322 405 1025 437"><b>SPEAKERS RIGHTS AT MEETINGS OF DCC &amp; DCP</b></p> <p data-bbox="322 475 1256 539">It is our understanding that MK Councillors are now proposing that there should be no reduction in the present 3 minutes allowed for speakers.</p> <p data-bbox="322 577 1294 641">This is supported by Cllr Stabler as an Executive member of Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils [MKALC].</p> <p data-bbox="322 743 1301 807">MKALC also requested that P&amp;TCs will be specially acknowledged in documents as a distinct group and will not classed "members of the public".</p> <p data-bbox="322 845 987 877"><b>CONSULTATION ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b></p> <p data-bbox="322 916 1294 1043">The proposal to reduce the consultation response time on planning applications by P&amp;TCs from the present 28 day to 21 is unacceptable to MKALC and GLPC, 28 days was agreed after a prolonged debate a couple of years ago at DCC and in Council.</p> <p data-bbox="322 1082 1294 1251">The validation of planning applications and notification to P&amp;TC often eats into the consultation period. Writing reports on applications, plus the legal lead time required to distributed agenda items for a P&amp;TC Council meeting together with the scheduling of P&amp;TC meetings in a month, means 21 days is often inadequate.</p> <p data-bbox="322 1289 1279 1353">MKALC would, on behalf of P&amp;TCs, strongly resist any reduction from the present 28 day consultation period on applications.</p>	<p data-bbox="1346 405 2085 708">Full Council approved a revised Council Constitution that came into effect on 15 May. In it, there is no change to the current time of 3 minutes for contributions by objectors and that objectors registered to speak are allowed to submit questions of clarification to officers no later than 24 hours before the start time of the meeting in order that officers can prepare a response for the meeting. The maximum speaking time of three minutes is listed within paragraph 3.7 of the SCI.</p> <p data-bbox="1346 746 2085 884">Parish Councils are included in Regulation 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 as a specific consultation body and are not classed as "members of the public".</p> <p data-bbox="1346 922 2085 1155">Full Council, on 20 March 2019 agreed that the reference to '21 days' in Section 5 of the draft revised Officer Scheme of Delegation for Development Matters be amended to '28 days' so that it reflects the consultation period with parish and town councils included in the current Officer Scheme of Delegation for Development Management Matters.</p>

SCI12 Mr Stuart Copeland		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 1	I agree with the principles.	Noted.
Question 2	No, I think you have them covered	Noted.
Question 3	No, I think you have them covered	Noted.
Question 4	No, I am responding as a resident	Noted.
Question 5	<p>No. you need to clearly state how you overcome the following serious issues in the current process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This survey is an example of an approach that 'leads the witness'. You constrain the consultee by the questions you pose.</li> <li>2. You exclude young people (i.e. our future) from responding because of the technical nature of the documentation in all consultations.</li> <li>3. You exclude the busy people from responding because of the poor executive summaries and the massive volume of technical documents in all consultations.</li> <li>4. You only include those with plenty of time, some planning nous and excellent English language skills.</li> <li>5. You may target consultations at local residents, but they rarely understand the impact of development until it's too late, often due to points 2, 3 &amp; 4.</li> <li>6. When you do hear from local residents, you don't listen. We know our areas, how they work, and the likely implications of changes. They also are left with the consequences of poor planning, forever.</li> </ol>	In preparing the SCI, we have considered the potential barriers to effective community engagement. The principles to help overcome these barriers are set out in paragraph 1.11 of the SCI.
Question 6	The principles, process and stakeholder groups are sound. However, you need to be more explicit in how you will comply. I have numerous examples of where this consultation process has broken down. One example is the Church Farm development. Planners refused to take residents advice about ensuring the access was via a grid road and bridge. The application was rejected at DCC because of this, 4 years ago. The developer overturned that on appeal but no work has started on that site yet. Had planners listened to us, we'd have 200 much needed houses built on the site by now.	Milton Keynes Council is committed to meaningful engagement and consultation throughout the planning process.

SCI13 MK Forum, Mr Tim Skelton		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Any other comments	<p>As the Civic Society for Milton Keynes we welcome the opportunity to comment upon this matter and have the following points to make:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are concerned that, despite the fine words within the current Statement of Community Involvement, the reality does not bear out the Council's intentions. We assume that we are classed as a "Voluntary body whose activities benefit the area" and therefore, we consider that we should be consulted as a matter of course upon all planning documents because either a) they will affect the Borough as a whole (for policy reasons) or b) they will relate to matters of interest to our members. However, this does not happen as a matter of course, particularly regarding Development Briefs, and we only tend to find out about such consultations by word of mouth or reading the Council's meeting agendas. This is clearly unsatisfactory as it reduces the time that we have to make comments.</li> <li>2. This was demonstrated in the way that the consultation was handled for Plan:MK – for example, we only received late notification about the Open Space Assessment and were not informed at all about the Green Infrastructure Strategy and, although we were given an extended deadline for the latter, we were not told about, or involved with, any of the prior meetings and nor was there a response to our suggestion that we meet with officers. Our comments were partially acknowledged because, in both cases, they led to some welcome changes to wording in Plan:MK: had we had a greater, and earlier involvement, we feel that we could have contributed further.</li> <li>3. As a general comment we feel that we tend to be "consulted at" rather than "consulted with". We spend a long time preparing our comments (which, we feel, are well considered) and which then seem to disappear into a void. We are not informed as a matter of course about how they have been received, when they are to be presented to committee etc.</li> <li>4. We also feel that there are occasions in which our comments have</li> </ol>	<p>Milton Keynes Council is committed to meaningful engagement and consultation throughout the planning process.</p> <p>We agree that MK Forum are a "Voluntary body whose activities benefit the area" and will therefore be consulted in accordance with the classifications set out in Table 2.2 of the SCI. A wide variety of consultation methods are used to engage consultees in the preparation of planning policy documents and these are listed in paragraph 2.22 of the SCI.</p> <p>The weekly list of valid planning applications received is distributed via email to interested parties. Individuals and organisations should email <a href="mailto:dcadmin@milton-keynes.gov.uk">dcadmin@milton-keynes.gov.uk</a> if they wish to be added to the distribution list. Confirmation of this has been added to paragraph 3.7, bullet 6 of the SCI.</p> <p>Supporting documents for planning applications can be viewed online through <a href="#">Public Access</a>. Alternatively, interested parties can view an e-copy of a planning application by coming into the Council's Civic Office.</p>



<p>not been understood and the way in which they have been interpreted in public documents is incorrect.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>5. As a consequence we get the general feeling that consultation seems to be a “box ticking” exercise rather than something in which comments from the public are genuinely welcomed.</li><li>6. What can be done to improve the matter?</li></ol> <p>a. The Forum should be an automatic consultee upon all planning related matters across the Borough</p> <p>b. Once all comments have been received and assessed, a meeting should be arranged so that the appropriate Council Officer can meet respondents to discuss the comments made and how it is intended to deal with them. The Officer should then send a draft of his/her response to all those who have made comments to allow for any errors of interpretation to be corrected.</p> <p>c. All respondents should be informed in advance of the date that the results of the consultation are to be formally considered by the Council (Cabinet,</p>	<p>MK Forum are considered to be a “Voluntary body whose activities benefit the area” and will therefore be consulted in accordance with the classifications set out in Table 2.2 of the SCI. The MK Forum may also be interested in using the Council’s <a href="#">Consultation Finder</a> to keep abreast of all consultations.</p> <p>The consultation process provides the opportunity for stakeholders to comment on planning applications and planning policy documents. In line with legislation, planning officers take the comments received into account when determining an application. In the preparation of planning policy documents, officers will, where possible, prepare responses for each comment received. However, it is common to receive a large volume of responses to some policy documents and it is not possible to respond to each comment individually. In these cases, comments will be summarised and responses to the issues raised prepared. Furthermore, as part of the adoption process for statutory planning documents, a Consultation Statement is prepared which sets out the engagement that has been undertaken at each stage of the process, the main issues raised to the consultation and the changes that have been made to the document as a consequence.</p> <p>Representors are notified of the date that the consultation documents are to be formally considered by the Council</p>
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	<p>Delegated Decisions etc) so that they can attend the meetings and make further comments if appropriate.</p> <p>d. There should be a regular report (every six months?) detailing the consultations that the Council has undertaken that fall within the scope of the Statement of Community Involvement and the nature of the bodies that have been consulted.</p> <p>Public consultation is an important part of the development process. We do not think our proposals onerous and feel that they would be a genuine help in improving local democracy: we would welcome the opportunity to discuss them further in person.</p>	<p>by email or letter. Meeting dates and times are also published on the Planning Policy webpages in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>The <a href="#">Local Development Scheme</a> is a three year project plan that sets out the timescales for new planning policy documents that will be prepared by the Council. Its main purposes are to establish the Council's priorities for the preparation of planning policy documents and to inform the community and other partners of those documents that make up the Development Plan for the area and the timescales for their preparation. In addition, local planning authorities are required to publish, as part of an Annual Monitoring Report, information annually that shows progress with local plan preparation.</p>
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SCI14		
The Canal & River Trust, Jane Hennell		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Any other comments	<p>We are the charity who look after and bring to life 2000 miles of canals &amp; rivers. Our waterways contribute to the health and wellbeing of local communities and economies, creating attractive and connected places to live, work, volunteer and spend leisure time. These historic, natural and cultural assets form part of the strategic and local blue infrastructure network, linking urban and rural communities as well as habitats. By caring for our waterways and promoting their use we believe we can improve the wellbeing of our nation.</p> <p>The Trust have reviewed the document and have the following comments to make:</p> <p>Within Milton Keynes the Trust owns and manages the Grand Union Canal and we are a member of the Bedford Milton Keynes Waterway Trust seeking to promote the creation of a new waterway link between the two towns.</p>	Noted

The Canal is a valuable asset as it runs through the district. It represents our industrial and cultural heritage, shapes the landscape, adds ecological value, and has a great ability to act as catalyst for regeneration and inward investment as well as providing opportunities for sport and recreation, both on and off the water, thus enhancing the wellbeing of local residents.

#### Planning Applications

Under the DMPO 2015 the Canal & River Trust are the statutory consultee (all rights were transferred from British Waterways in 2012) for development likely to affect any inland waterway (whether natural or artificial) or reservoir owned or managed by the canal & River Trust or any canal feeder channel, watercourse, let off or culvert which is within an area notified for the purposes of this provision to the local planning authority to the Trust.

The Trust should also be consulted where the grant of advertisement consent would affect the safety of persons using any waterway, dock or harbour for which the Trust is the navigation or harbour authority. This requirement is set out in the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations (2007).

This means that the Trust should be consulted on applications in the vicinity of the canal in our role as statutory consultee as well as sometimes the adjacent land owner. Unfortunately, there have been issues with firstly over consulting and then not consulting the Trust at all which has led to us not being provided with the opportunity to comment on several applications which have an impact on the Trust. Hopefully this issue is now resolved following the re-provision of a link to our consultation buffer maps. Up to date consultation buffer details can be found [here](#).

We have a statutory duty to respond to the consultations and pre-application consultations we receive as a statutory consultee and we must provide further evidence of the performance to government.

The link [here](#) may help to explain when to consult us.

The Canal & River Trust Planning Buffer will be applied to identify those developments that the Trust would need to be consulted on.

Noted.

We encourage pre-application consultation from developers and local planning authorities - and we do not charge for this. The Trust would welcome the opportunity to work with you in respect of pre-application consultations for development within the Trusts defined notifiable area when development is likely to impact upon the Trust's assets. Applicants should be encouraged to consult us directly where appropriate, please see the relevant part of the Trusts website [here](#).

The Trust is not a statutory consultee on applications in the vicinity of the Bedford Milton Keynes Waterway, but in accordance with our charitable aims we will comment on applications which might have an impact on the delivery of the new waterway.

#### Planning Policy

Whilst the Trust is a statutory consultee on certain types of planning, in order to meet the Trust's wider objectives it is also of vital importance for us to engage with the production of all levels of planning policy and associated documents to provide a robust policy framework that supports and recognises the canal as a cross cutting policy theme.

The Trust is keen to ensure that planning policy at all levels acknowledge and support the multi-functional roles of the canal network. Around 96% of land adjacent to the canal is outside of our control which can pose many challenges to the Trust, with development placing extra liabilities and burdens upon the waterway infrastructure, at the same time as providing opportunities for restoration and enhancement. Although the Council do tend to consult the Trust on planning policy we are not specifically mentioned in the document in relation to such consultations.

The Trust would welcome earlier engagement in the Neighbourhood Plan process and ask you to promote early engagement with us to the various neighbourhood forums in order that we are able to comment on their plans earlier in the process to avoid situations where we might need to object to

Noted. We will promote consultation between applicants or developers and the Canal & River Trust as a means of obtaining pre-application advice where development is likely to impact upon the Trust's assets.

Noted. We will promote early engagement with the Canal & River Trust in our dialogue to the various neighbourhood forums.

	<p>the plan, such as the Woughton Neighbourhood Plan. We can offer help and advice on how best to promote and support the canal as it runs through their area and we have also created a specific guidance document on the topic which can be found here.</p> <p>Finally, and just a minor point, the Trust are incorrectly named at paragraph 3.7 as the Canal and River Trust, rather than using an ampersand.</p>	<p>The reference has been amended to the Canal &amp; River Trust.</p>
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SCI15 Central Bedfordshire Council, Connie Frost-Bryant		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 1	<p>Thank you for consulting Central Bedfordshire Council on the Milton Keynes Council Statement of Community Involvement.</p> <p>Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) welcome Milton Keynes Council's updated Statement of Community Involvement. We are fully supportive of section two of the statement, and in particular the of commitments made in table 2.2 to notify adjacent Local Planning Authorities and adjacent Town and Parish Councils of consultations on the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plans/DPDs</li> <li>• SPD's</li> <li>• CIL Charging Schedule</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Plans</li> <li>• Sustainability Appraisal Scoping report</li> <li>• Local Investment Plan.</li> </ul> <p>We are also supportive of the commitment to notify LPAs and Town and Parish Councils adjacent to Milton Keynes of consultations on Development Briefs if it is considered that the document will be relevant to them or relates to an area near to them.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
Question 5	<p>Section three of the Statement of Community Involvement refers specifically to consultation on Planning Applications. We are supportive of this section in general. However, we would like to request clarification on whether adjoining</p>	<p>We take on board your comments for written notifications to adjoining Town and Parish Councils and adjoining Local Planning Authorities. We have added an additional</p>

	<p>Local Planning Authorities and adjoining Town and Parish Councils would be notified of applications for any strategic-scale sites, especially those which they may have commented on at the Local Plan or Development Brief stage. CBC would wish to be notified of any planning applications for strategic sites in close proximity to their border, particularly any applications for the Local Plan allocation SD12: Milton Keynes East. We also think it would be useful for adjoining Town and Parish Councils to be notified of any such applications.</p>	<p>bullet point to paragraph 3.7 of the final SCI to clarify this point.</p>
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SCI16		
Central Milton Keynes Town Council, Mr Thomas Walker		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Any other comments	<p>CMK Town Council acknowledges and supports many of the objectives of the Draft Statement of Community Involvement (2019), including the intention to exceed the Council’s consultation responsibilities, the effort to avoid using jargon and the commitment to encourage engagement at the earliest possible stage, as well as the intention to notify parish councils across all consultation categories in the table on page 15.</p> <p>The “Planning documents subject to consultation” section leaves it unclear what types of documents aren’t subject to consultation. It would be helpful for this to include a summary of the kinds of things that aren’t consulted on.</p> <p>In paragraph 2.24 it states that consultation time-frames “typically vary between two and 12 weeks ... The regulations that most planning documents must follow generally require a minimum of six weeks, so we will always exceed the Council’s minimum standard of two weeks.” The term ‘most’ implies that some documents don’t require a minimum of six weeks. Can a note be added here clarifying what these are?</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>We will not consult on those documents that relate to the plan-making process (such as the Local Development Scheme) or monitoring the performance of a plan (such as the Annual Monitoring Report). However, these documents will still be made available to view on the Council’s website. Clarification of the types of planning policy documents that are not subject to consultation has been added to paragraph 2.2 of the SCI.</p> <p>The reason for including a degree of flexibility in the document is to allow for changing circumstances and to enable us to tailor consultation and engagement methods to the document as appropriate, whilst still meeting and exceeding minimum requirements. With regards to documents that don’t require a minimum of six weeks</p>

		public consultation, the regulations set out that SPDs must be subject to a minimum consultation timeframe of four weeks.
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SCI17 Strategic Planning, Buckinghamshire County Council		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 1	<p>Thank you for consulting Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC). BCC welcomes the opportunity to comment on Draft Statement of Community Involvement (2019).</p> <p>Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) has a statutory role for strategic planning as the County Highways Authority, County Transport Authority, County Flood Authority, County Education Authority and County Minerals and Waste Planning Authority. It also has an obligation for joint working with District Councils within Buckinghamshire on their Local Plans. The County Council also fulfils other functions which advise on planning proposals such as the County Archaeology service which maintains the local Historic Environment Record, the County Ecology Service which has responsibility for monitoring and protecting the natural environment including the maintenance of the Bucks and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre and ecological resource of the County and the Public Rights of Way service which has responsibility for the managing and maintaining the County's Definitive Map.</p> <p>BCC as a statutory authority has an influencing role over County wide strategic planning matters with its District and neighbouring authorities as part of the duty to cooperate (Localism Act 2011) and a public health obligation to safeguard social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the County. It is in this context that the follows comments are set out.</p>	Noted.
Question 6	<p>We have a few minor comments to make:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paragraph 2.8 Bullet 4 – recommended that this is revised to read "Be compatible with environmental obligations, as incorporated in UK</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This revision has been incorporated into the final document.</li> </ol>

	<p>law and policy";</p> <p>2. Paragraph 2.13 – Question - Should one of the consultation bodies be Historic England?</p> <p>3. Paragraph 3.7 Bullet 6 – please add "Biodiversity" or "Ecology" to the list of statutory consultees.</p> <p>Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Statement of Community Involvement (2019). If you have any further queries, please contact the BCC Strategic Planning team via the following email address: <a href="mailto:strat_planning@buckscc.gov.uk">strat_planning@buckscc.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>2. The reference to English Heritage has been corrected to Historic England in the final document.</p> <p>3. In paragraph 3.7, bullet 7, the SCI already makes reference to Natural England as an external statutory consultee. We will also consult internal ecologists on a planning application (where relevant) and therefore we have added ecology as an internal consultee to the list.</p>
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SCI18 Community Action:MK		
	Consultee Response	Milton Keynes Council – Officer Response
Question 4	I would recommend that, in the case of CA:MK we would request that we be consulted on all categories of planning document. As an infrastructure organisation, one of CA:MK's roles is to share information on planning matters across the voluntary and community sector in MK, which we do through our weekly e-newsletter and website.	Noted. CA:MK are identified as a General Consultation Body and will therefore be consulted in accordance with the classifications set out in Table 2.2. of the SCI.
Question 6	<p>Para 2.1: It would be helpful to refer to (and include a link to) the Local Development Scheme in this section and explain that this is the document that sets out the emerging plans and documents and their anticipated timescales. This would enable third parties to identify emerging documents of interest and ensure they engage.</p> <p>Table 2.1: Key step 5 add "Comments received during the publicity period on the submitted Neighbourhood Plan will be published on the relevant Neighbourhood Plan webpage. All responses will be sent to the appointed examiner for his/her consideration".</p> <p>Table 2.2: Recommend that "Residents Associations" are added to the list of "other consultees" with suggested categorisation:</p>	<p>A reference to the role of the Local Development Scheme has been added in paragraph 2.1.</p> <p>This suggested addition has been incorporated into the final document.</p> <p>Residents Associations would fall within the category of "Other organisations or individuals who are on our</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plans/DPDs (A)</li> <li>• SPDs (B)</li> <li>• Development Briefs (B)</li> <li>• CIL Charging Schedule (C)</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Plans (A)</li> <li>• Sustainability Appraisal (A)</li> <li>• Local Investment Plan (A)</li> </ul> <p>Para 2.22, bullet 2: Query whether Members Weekly News is still is use?</p> <p>Para 2.24: The link to the Council's Parishes Protocol is broken.</p> <p>Para 3.7, bullet point 3: Correct spelling of "effect" to "affect" on the second line.</p> <p>Para 3.7, bullet point 9: The link to the Council's Public Access system is broken.</p> <p>Para 3.7: Amend bullet point 10 "We encourage consultees, consulted neighbours and third parties to respond online through the Public Access system. This allows us to process comments more efficiently. Alternatively, comments can be submitted by email or post. We encourage all <del>commenters</del> <u>commenters</u> to state their comments <u>to be made</u> in writing and <u>include</u> <del>contain</del> the author's name and address.</p>	<p>consultation database" and would be contacted as a matter of course where relevant. However, we need to be made aware of the appropriate contact details to ensure we can keep Residents Associations involved and up-to-date. Should a Residents Association request to be consulted, they will be notified at the relevant stages of preparation of all the listed documents.</p> <p>Members Weekly News is now Councillors News and we have updated paragraph 2.22 of the final SCI to reflect the name change.</p> <p>All footnotes and web links will be checked and updated before publication of the final document.</p> <p>This typo has been corrected.</p> <p>All footnotes and web links will be checked and updated before publication of the final document.</p> <p>The wording of paragraph 3.7, bullet point 11 has been amended in the final document.</p>
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