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| Title of proposed EIA | Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Final version |
| Reference No | EQUA440 |
| EA is in support of | Amended Policy |
| Review Frequency | Annually |
| Date of first review | 04/01/2021 |
| Directorate | Inclusive Growth |
| Division | Planning and Regeneration |
| Service Area | Planning Policy |
| Responsible Officer(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Martin Dando |
| Quality Control Officer(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Richard Woodland |
| Accountable Officer(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uyen-Phan Han |
| Purpose of proposal | Analysis of Statement of Community Involvement following consultation |
| Data sources | Consultation Results; relevant reports/strategies; relevant research |
| Please include any other sources of data | |
| ASSESS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS | |
| Protected characteristic: Age | Wider Community |
| Age details: | <p>The statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out principles and process as to how the Council will engage people in plan making as well as decision making on planning applications. In doing this it is envisaged that the SCI will help to make consultations more effective and meaningful to a wider audience and thereby encourage more people to take part in the planning process.</p> <p>The SCI itself is in line with the City Council's Equality objectives in creating a fair and prosperous City through ensuring that all local people are engaged in Council decision making in a democratic way.</p> <p>As a result of the consultation exercise on the draft SCI in June 2019, the SCI has been strengthened further to ensure that the Council commit to working with partners and communities in an open and</p> |

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| | <p>transparent manner involving all, including those with protected characteristics.</p> |
| Protected characteristic: Disability | Wider Community |
| Disability details: | <p>The statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out principles and process as to how the Council will engage people in plan making as well as decision making on planning applications. In doing this it is envisaged that the SCI will help to make consultations more effective and meaningful to a wider audience and thereby encourage more people to take part in the planning process.</p> <p>This includes investigating and setting out methods which will enable people with disabilities along with others with protected characteristics to be actively involved through appropriate consultation methods. As a result of the consultation exercise on the draft SCI in June 2019, the SCI has been strengthened further to ensure that the Council commits to its duties under the Equality Act. This will include working with a variety of representative groups for people with disabilities and to ensure that contacts and methods for consultation are kept under review to ensure engagement with the current correct groups.</p> |
| Protected characteristic: Gender | Wider Community |
| Gender details: | <p>The statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out principles and process as to how the Council will engage people in plan making as well as decision making on planning applications. In doing this it is envisaged that the SCI will help to make consultations more effective and meaningful to a wider audience and thereby encourage more people to take part in the planning process.</p> <p>The SCI itself is in line with the City Council's Equality objectives in creating a fair and prosperous City through</p> |

ensuring that all local people are engaged in Council decision making in a democratic way.

As a result of the consultation exercise on the draft SCI in June 2019, the SCI has been strengthened further to ensure that the Council commit to working with partners and communities in an open and transparent manner involving all, including those with protected characteristics.

Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment

Not Applicable

Gender reassignment details:

Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership

Not Applicable

Marriage and civil partnership details:

Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity

Wider Community

Pregnancy and maternity details:

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As a result of the consultation exercise on the draft SCI in June 2019, the SCI has been strengthened further to ensure that the Council commit to working with partners and communities in an open and transparent manner involving all, including those with protected characteristics.

Protected characteristics: Race

Wider Community

Race details:

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Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs

Religion or beliefs details:

Wider Community

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The SCI itself is in line with the City Council's Equality objectives in creating a fair and prosperous City through ensuring that all local people are engaged in Council decision making in a democratic way.

As a result of the consultation exercise on the draft SCI in June 2019, the SCI has been strengthened further to

include additional references and emphasis on ensuring that the Council engages with residents in an open and transparent manner involving all, including those with protected characteristics.

The Council has planning policies in place on the criteria for the size and location of places of Worship which have been subject to consultation which included engagement with communities of different faiths, religions and beliefs. The SCI will ensure that any future consultations on policy changes will continue to involve the most relevant communities and groups.

Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation

Sexual orientation details:

Wider Community

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Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.

Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended

What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/proposal? The SCI was subject to public consultation for three months after which comments were taken on board to strengthen key elements of the document and the processes described within it.

Consultation analysis

The draft SCI was subject to consultation in June 2019 including all known representative groups for the protected characteristics via Be Heard, letters, emails and social media. This was done using a database of consultees and contacts which is under constant review. Responses were reviewed and, whilst nothing specific came up in terms of equality issues, suggestions were made that the document could be strengthened further in terms of the Council's commitment to analysing the impact of planning applications and policies on equality matters and people with the protected characteristics. All stages of the formulation of planning policy documents now have references to the need for regular analysis of equality impacts and the need to review processes and wording of policies as a result.

Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.

Through the consultation process, the SCI has been amended and strengthened to ensure that any adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics has been averted as much as possible for future consultations and decision making.

Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact? As a result of the public consultation exercise, the SCI has already been modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact.

How will the effect(s) of this policy/proposal on equality be monitored?

The SCI contains a number of monitoring indicators to ensure that the effects of the SCI on consultation and engagement will achieve the principles identified in the SCI. The Council is committed to constant

monitoring and review of the principles and ensure that the consultation database is continually updated to ensure new groups are captured in future consultation exercises.

What data is required in the future?

Data will be collected as part of the monitoring of the SCI and is set out within the monitoring section of the document. This includes the number of individuals/groups participating in consultations with the protected characteristics and how much participants value their involvement in the process.

Are there any adverse impacts on any particular group(s)

No

If yes, please explain your reasons for going ahead.

Initial equality impact assessment of your proposal

Consulted People or Groups

Informed People or Groups

Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA

It is envisaged that a full assessment is not required. The results of the consultation and any lessons learnt have been used to update and inform this Equalities Analysis and inform the final version of the SCI ready for adoption by the City Council early in 2020.

QUALITY CONTORL SECTION

Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?

No

Quality Control Officer comments

Decision by Quality Control Officer

Proceed for final approval

Submit draft to Accountable Officer?

No

Decision by Accountable Officer

Approve

Date approved / rejected by the Accountable Officer

09/01/2020

Reasons for approval or rejection

Please print and save a PDF copy for your records

Yes

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Close