

Appendix 2:

Statement of Community Involvement
Report of Consultation August 2013

Statement of Community Involvement Consultation report

August 2013

This report (2013) sets out the way in which North Tyneside Council consulted on the Statement of Community Involvement. The report also contains the responses gained from the consultation period (8th July-19th August).

The Statement of Community Involvement (2013) sets out how and when the council will involve the local community in preparing development plans and processing planning applications and controlling development.

In order to encourage early engagement, North Tyneside Council used a number of consultation methods which include;

- Documents were made available, along with information posters in all local libraries within North Tyneside (Appendix A)
- The document was made available online via North Tyneside's planning consultation portal (Appendix B)
- All relevant consultee bodies were made aware of the new document.
- Everyone on our planning consultation data base was notified of the new document.
- The document was made available at North Tyneside Council's offices within Cobalt Business Park.
- A press release was issued on 18th July (appendix C) which was picked up by the Evening Chronicle who published a short article on the 19th July (appendix D)
- Attending two all party member briefings in September

A total of 10 responses were received, six from statutory consultees and four from residents of North Tyneside. All comments are listed below with a note of how the comment was dealt with in the final SCI.

Company/ Organisation	Nature of comment	Comments Received	Officers Response
Member Briefings	Observation	Concern with neighbour notification on Planning Applications. The Council do not send letters far enough. Could the Council implement a policy of distance thresholds around planning applications and notify all those within that threshold.	No amendments have been made to the SCI. To have a robust and defensible system the Planning department currently relies on the legal requirement to notify only adjacent properties. However, we will investigate how we could implement a distance threshold and what the financial implications of this would be. The SCI is an ongoing process and we can and do constantly review our procedures.
The Coal Authority	Supporting	I am pleased to see that The Coal Authority is on your list of 'Specific Consultation Bodies and Statutory Consultees'. However, having reviewed your document, I confirm that we have no specific comments to make on this document at this stage.	Comment Noted.
Resident	Observation	Para 2.1 mentions a Residents Panel - how was this created and is there any representation on it from Holystone?	The resident's panel has members from across North Tyneside, including Holystone. Information on the resident's panel was emailed to respondent and can be found on the Council's website.
Environment Agency	Supporting	Having reviewed the documents submitted, we have no comments to make on the consultation document.	Comment Noted.
Resident	Supporting	It appears all straight-forward and common sense to me, and enlightens me as to new legislation requirements, although the planning process now appears extremely long winded and costly, at least the public will get the opportunity to influence outcomes in their own area.	Comment Noted.

Marine Management Organisation	Supporting	<p>I can confirm that the MMO has no specific comments to submit regarding this consultation. We would however like to draw to your attention the work and remit of the MMO in relation to Marine Licensing as you may wish to be aware of this. The MMO is also responsible for issuing marine licences under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. A marine licence may be needed for activities involving a deposit or removal of a substance or object below the mean high water springs mark or in any tidal river to the extent of the tidal influence. Any works may also require consideration under The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended) and early consultation with the MMO is advised. We would suggest that reference to this be made within planning documents to ensure that necessary regulatory requirements are covered. We would encourage applicants to engage early with the MMO alongside any application for planning consent to ensure that the consenting process is as efficient as possible.</p>	<p>North Tyneside Council welcomes the response made by the MMO and is aware of the points made.</p>
Natural England	Supporting	<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>Comment Noted</p>
English Heritage	Observation	<p>Under the heading of 'The Sustainability Appraisal', we are advised that 'sustainable development' has a particular meaning. For planning purposes, that meaning is now substantially refreshed through publication of the NPPF. It would be helpful for the SCI to acknowledge and make reference to this. It should also be made clearer in the SCI that Strategic Environmental Assessments are derived from a separate legislative background to Development Plans themselves, and have associated with them different consultation arrangements with their own timescales.</p>	<p>Document has been amended to reflect these points and details how the SEA has its own consultation arrangements set out in the relevant directive.</p>

English Heritage	Observation	With regard to the adoption of Development Plans (and other planning matters), it might be helpful to forewarn the public of the tight timeframe within which the courts would entertain a judicial review.	Document has been amended to reflect judicial review timeframe
English Heritage	Observation	5.0 Neighbourhood Planning it would be helpful to inform those contemplating the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans that doing so brings with it certain and specific consultation requirements	Document has been amended to reflect this point.
English Heritage	Observation	6.0 The Development Management Process Section 6.2 advises that the Council expects developers to undertake pre-application consultations with the local community. We are told that the Council will not do this itself. From this we assume that the Council will not forward to us any pre-application documentation in cases where we would be a statutory consultee, instead relying on the developer to make direct contact with us. We consider this to be unsatisfactory. We are fully committed to providing guidance at the earliest possible stage of the planning process, but in order that best use is made of English Heritage resources at the pre-application stage it is preferable for proposals and enquiries to be channelled through the Council and for it to be present at any meetings with developers where we have a statutory remit.	The Council does and will continue to approach statutory consultees (such as EH) on certain major developments where this might affect the consultees particular interest. This is judged on a case by case basis and is difficult to set out a rule when this will happen. However, this paragraph has been updated to best reflect the Council's approach.
English Heritage	Observation	5 Section 6.4 deals with whom the Council will consult. In making documents easily available and in a form which is easily understood, English Heritage would welcome large documents, especially those with complex tables and plans, to be sent as hard copy. Such documents can be difficult to navigate electronically and printing can be wasteful.	English heritage agreed nationally to electronic copies. If there are any particular difficulties with some documents the Council are happy to discuss this with individual consultees on a case by case basis.
English Heritage	Observation	The Council should make clear that it will not process an application until all relevant information and details are received from the applicant including, where applications affecting heritage assets are concerned, a statement of	The Validation requirements are agreed by the Tyne and Wear authorities and this sets out when and where a Heritage

		<p>significance in line with Paragraph 128 of the NPPF. At present, too many authorities forward to us insufficient information on which we are required to provide a substantive response.</p>	<p>Statement is required. With applications affecting Heritage Assets an initial assessment of the information submitted is undertaken, but it is not always clear at this stage of the type and level of information required, as this may often be based upon a more detailed knowledge of the particular Heritage Asset. Unfortunately this may mean that on occasions inadequate information is provided initially, however the authority will not decide upon an application until sufficient information is provided by the applicants.</p>
English Heritage	Observation	<p>Section 6.5 deals with the timeframes for dealing with planning applications. The SCI remains silent with regard to the Council's attitude to Planning Performance Agreements which, if entered into, can influence timescales. They also bring with them particular rules for engagement and expectations from participants. Clarification on this matter would be helpful.</p>	<p>The final sentence did explain that deadlines can be lengthened, although it was not described as a Planning Performance Agreement. The Council were keen to avoid too much jargon in the SCI, however, the document has now been changed to clarify that this extension of time is through a Planning Performance Agreement.</p>
English Heritage	Observation	<p>We are advised that members of the public and those who submit written representations in response to planning consultations will be informed, in writing, of the decision. English Heritage is delighted that this will be the case: it doesn't happen at present. At what point in time can we expect to begin receiving decisions?</p>	<p>Reference has been removed as at present, North Tyneside council are unable to provide a start date.</p>
English Heritage	Observation	<p>Section 6.7 deals with the publicity arrangements for certain types of application. Applications required to be</p>	<p>A paragraph on EIA has been added to section 6.7 of the SCI.</p>

		<p>accompanied by Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) are subject to a determination period not explained in Section 6.5. EIAs themselves are subject to particular consultation arrangements (stages and timescales) which are not made clear in this SCI.</p>	
English Heritage	Observation	<p>Section 6.9 deals with planning enforcement. Whilst all complaints may be treated confidentially, it would be disingenuous to give the impression that even were a matter to, for example, proceed to court anonymity could be ensured or guaranteed.</p>	<p>Document has been amended to reflect this point.</p>
English Heritage	Observation	<p>APPENDIX A: Consultees Whilst it is, strictly speaking, correct to refer to English Heritage as the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England, it would be helpful for the document to clarify that English Heritage is the name by which most people recognise the organisation.</p>	<p>Document amended to reflect this point.</p>
English Heritage	Observation	<p>The appendix lists the statutory consultees which the Council is required to consult, depending on the nature of the application. This list does not include the heritage Amenity Societies, such as the Georgian Group.</p>	<p>Document amended to reflect this point.</p>
Resident	Observation	<p>Overall an excellently written document. It covers all aspects thoroughly and clearly. I have a few points about clarity. Para1.4 You use terms community, residents, you and their in this para which could confuse. I suggest "North Tyneside Council understands that planning and development can have a great impact on the community. With this in mind we are committed to informing the community of what is going on in the area and encouraging participation in the planning process. Our aim is to give everyone in the local community the opportunity to shape the way planning affects their area" I don't think the repetition of "We will..." helps the reader in the next para. although it does emphasize</p>	<p>Document has been amended to reflect these points.</p>

		<p>commitment I suggest you say "Therefore we will:- * Place the community at he heart..* Be open..etc.".</p> <p>I think the use of the word "try" in objective 2 destroys it's power. Just say you will use plain English.</p> <p>Para1.6 Chapter 3 says it "..outlineshow North Tyneside council planning department is made up," I don't think it does. It describes how the local Plan is made up- I think. Nitpicking:- There are 2 typos on the page under 3.3 "Notified" should be Notify and .irected should be directed. In 4.4 "gage" should be "gauge"</p> <p>Overall a very clear expose of the consultation mechanisms.</p>	
Resident	Observation	<p>There is a difference in level / priority between DPDs, SPDs and Neighbourhood Plans, which may be worth explaining. Also you provide paragraphs for PDPs, SPDs, Sustainability Appraisal but no paragraph on Neighbourhood plans</p>	<p>Document has been amended to reflect hierarchy between documents. While there is no paragraph provided on neighbourhood plans within section 3.2 there is a more detailed chapter on neighbourhood planning. Please see chapter 5.0.</p>
Nexus	Supporting	<p>Nexus welcome consultation on this document. While recognising that Nexus are not a formal, statutory consultee, Appendix A does not refer to Nexus within the 'General Consultees' list wither.</p> <p>We ask that Nexus' name be explicitly added to the Council's 'General Consultees' list for development applications, particularly major ones, and particularly at the pre-application stage when there is still a good opportunity to enhance public transport facilities and routes to a new site. We can offer considerable technical assistance and experience to assist with enhancing sustainable transport accessibility, which ties in well with the Council's own policies and objectives.</p>	<p>Document has been amended to reflect this point.</p>

Appendix A:
Consultation Poster



North Tyneside Council

Working in partnership with
CAPITA SYMONDS

Statement of Community Involvement

Consultation Draft

July 2013



North Tyneside Council would like to hear your views on Statement of Community Involvement. Copies can be found at your local library or the Quadrant.

You can comment online using the Council's Consultation portal at:

<http://northtyneside-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/>

Or send us your comments to:

Planning.policy@Northtyneside.gov.uk

The Statement of Community Involvement sets out how the public can get involved in influencing the content of planning policy documents and planning applications.

It is designed to enable and encourage communities to play a more active role throughout the planning process in creating places where people want to live and work.

Appendix B:
North Tyneside's Planning Consultation Portal

North Tyneside Council - Statement of Community Involvement 2013 - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by North Tyneside Council

http://northtyneside-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/sci

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Consultation Home > **Statement of Community Involvement 2013**

Statement of Community Involvement 2013

Following changes to Planning law and regulations the Council are updating its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The SCI outlines how the Planning department will consult the public on planning applications and planning policy documents.

We are carrying out consultation on the draft SCI for 6 weeks. If you have any comments to make on the draft please do so by filling in the response form, commenting on specific sections of the document or emailing the planning policy team.

[Read and comment on document](#)

Event Information | All Comments

Access: Login required

Status: open (From 08/07/13 10:00 to 19/08/13 09:59)

Privacy: If you take part: your name will not be shown, your answers may be displayed, your town/city will not be shown

Description: The Statement of Community Involvement outlines how the Planning department will consult the public on planning applications and planning policy documents.

Contact Name: Planning Policy Team

Contact Email: planning.policy@northtyneside.gov.uk

Contact Telephone: 0191 6432310

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Appendix C:

North Tyneside Press Release issued 18th July

Media releases - North Tyneside Council - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by North Tyneside Council

http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/browse-display.shtml?p_ID=546319&p_subjectCategory=23

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Public invited to comment on planning document

18-JUL-13

Issued by: Laurie McCann

North Tyneside Council is updating its policy that explains how the community can become involved in the planning process


The Statement of Community Involvement is a planning document that plays an important role in the planning system.

It is designed to enable and encourage communities to play a more active role throughout the planning process in creating places where people want to live and work.

The document sets out how the public can get involved in influencing the content of key planning documents and how anyone can make comments on any particular planning application.

All planning documents must be prepared and planning applications considered in accordance with the consultation and participation standards set out in the Statement of Community Involvement.

Stay up to date

 Follow us on Twitter @NTCouncilTeam

You may also be interested in

- Area Forums
- Benefits and Council Tax
- Business and Regeneration
- Children, school and families
- Council meetings
- Culture and Tourism
- Health and Wellbeing
- Leisure and Libraries
- My Care
- Parking and Transport
- Planning

Appendix D:

Evening Chronicle Article published 19th July 2013

IN BRIEF

Church holds summer open day

WALLSEND: RESIDENTS are invited to a summer open day at a Wallsend church this weekend.

St Peter's Church will be opening its doors to folk who fancy having a fun yet relaxed Saturday.

The church, which has the largest collection of Irish stained glass in the country, will be offering tours or visitors can just enjoy a cuppa and a cake.

Entry is free. The open day starts at 10am and finishes at 4pm.

Netballers raise £1,500

BENTON: NETBALLERS raised almost £1,500 for the RVI Children's Kidney Fund.

This year's annual Tobi Swinbank memorial netball tournament, at the Blue Flames sports club, saw Seatonians win the ladies league, Deloitte win the mixed league and Team RVI take the wooden spoon trophy.

Residents have a say

NORTH TYNESIDE: TYNESIDE residents are being invited to find out more about how the community can become involved in the planning process.

North Tyneside Council is updating its Statement of Community Involvement, which details how people can influence the content of key planning documents and how anyone can make comments on any particular planning application.

The new update is available to view on the council website, or in libraries and the council's Quadrant HQ. Comments on it can be made by emailing planning.policy@northtyneside.gov.uk or writing to North Tyneside Council Planning Policy, Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, NE27 0BY.

'Yes' to new city group

SUNDERLAND: PLANS to set up a Business Improvement District have won a "yes" vote from Sunderland businesses.

The group will be set up by April 2014 and it means at least £3.4m will be spent on the city centre in the next five years.

Firefighters lead 75 passengers
Rescue drama
Metro hit by

» **LAVIE DAVIES**

A MAJOR rescue operation was launched when the heat wave caused Metro trains to ground to halt leaving passengers trapped underground.

Emergency services, including specialists from the ambulance service, were called to Gateshead as the hot weather caused travel chaos.

Around 75 passengers were led to safety by firefighters when the Metro system was brought to a standstill after the heat caused problems to overhead cables.

The Great North Air Ambulance was originally called to the scene but was stood down without having to land.

Commuters travelling between Gateshead and Gateshead Stadium Metro stations were stuck on a train in a tunnel for around an hour.

In Pelaw, 50 travellers, including two people in wheelchairs, were also guided along the track by fire crews.

Commuter Susan Key was making her way from Gateshead Stadium to Newcastle Central Station when her train stopped.

The 64-year-old, of South Shields, said: "We were stuck between Gateshead and Gateshead Stadium in the tunnel. We had to get out and walk along the track. The fire brigade had to come down and help us off. They were shining their lights for us and everything."

"We were stuck for about an hour and there was about 25 of us on the train."

"Some people walked along the footpath of the tunnel, but it was tight so the fireman helped us on the track and led us along that. It was just so dark and it was quite frightening. I'm just glad we off now."

Another passenger Richard Beaumont, 21, said a driver made an announcement appealing for a doctor when someone collapsed.

The cleaner, of South Shields,



EVACUATION The emergency services outside Ga

said: "We were just going along on the Metro and then the Metro got stuck."

"It was just so hot. A woman had to open the emergency exit to let some air in. The train driver made an announcement to ask if anyone was a doctor because somebody had collapsed. Everyone was just so flustered."

Bosses from Nexus said an overhead line had come down between Gateshead Stadium and Gateshead Metro stations and commuters were advised to make alternative arrange-

ments following the

around 1.30pm yesterday. Trains were suspended between Monument in both directions. Staff worked to fix the problem. Passengers travelling in both directions were also experiencing delays.

Sharon Kelly, director of operations and customer services for Regio Tyne and Wear, said: "It has been another hot day, so our priority



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