

## Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) consultation comments 2023

**Update to the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)** The SCI sets out how and when we will seek the views of local people, business, and key organisations on local planning matters, and was last published in 2015.

**The consultation ran from 30 June until 4 August 2023.** A total of 10 representations were received and the summary of comments can be found below, together with a response from the LPA and also identifying any changes to the SCI as a result.

Representations	Number	Support	Object	No Comment	General Comment	Summary of Comments	IWC response/comments and any changes to SCI
Statutory Consultees	0						
Parish/Town Councils	4						
<i>Fishbourne Parish Council</i>	SCI04	✓	✓			<p>Supports the four key principles on pages 1 and the consultation methods in the document.</p> <p>Doesn't believe that the new section on pages 6 and 7 are clear.</p> <p>Would like it made clear what the difference is between engagement and consultation.</p>	<p>Comment welcomed and noted.</p> <p>Comment noted and a <i>change made to the table heading for clarity.</i></p> <p>This is already at start of document within the introduction <i>however has been highlighted for clarity.</i></p>
<i>Cllr Michael Beston</i>	SCI07	✓				Supports key principles on page 1, the new section on page 6, the consultation methods listed and that the SCI is clear and easy to understand.	Comments welcomed and noted.
<i>East Cowes Town Council</i>	SCI09					Regarding the decision making process on page 14 - The Council feels that their comments on applications are	Comment noted however the SCI is around the process of how we engage/consult rather than the particular weight given to particular

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					<p>not fully considered despite various efforts made to discuss an application. It's also felt that their comments are only treated as one comment rather than a community as a whole.</p> <p>The council understands that there is budget and resource constraints however it may be valuable for an officer to attend meetings when a controversial planning arises which may be of public interest.</p> <p>The two ward Cllr's have stated that they have never been given the opportunity to request that an application be heard by the committee.</p> <p>We feel the following (taken from the IQ councils constitution) should be added into the text of decision-making process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that communication and liaison with local</li> </ul>	<p>comments from different parties when determining planning applications.</p> <p>Recognise there may be potential merit in this type of approach, however as identified resource/budget constraints mean this is not viable at this moment in time and couldn't be offered on an island wide basis.</p> <p>Comment noted and the LPA will re-provide information on the call in request process to the relevant ward Cllrs.</p> <p>Comment noted – all town parish and community councils are sent a copy of the weekly list of planning applications.</p>
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						<p>councils is effective, meaningful and timely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that consultation outcomes are fully considered.</li> <li>• any comments received from the local council forms part of the evaluation and will help determine if the application can be decided within the delegated powers of the officers.</li> <li>• Where a local council comments on an application and they are contrary to the views of the case officer, this is drawn to the attention of the IWC local councillor, who can request that the application be considered by the Planning Committee. Such requests must be supported by relevant material considerations.</li> </ul>	<p>Comments noted however the SCI is about the process of engagement / consultation, not how comments made are considered in the determination of planning applications. However all comments received are reported in the Officer report, with those received from town, parish and community councils being clearly identified. All comments raising material planning considerations are considered when determining an application.</p> <p>The timing of the decision making process means an officer may not arrive at a recommendation until the end of the determination period (for example there may be comments from statutory consultees such as Natural England that are only received at the back end of the determination period), at which point the time for a call-in had expired.</p> <p>Due to this, and in line with the call in request procedure, ward Cllrs are able to contact case officers if there is a particular application that may be of</p>
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<i>Shanklin Town Council</i>	SCI10			✓		Just to say Members discussed this at our meeting last week and resolved that Councillors would comment individually if they so wished.	Comments noted.
Public Comments	6						
Andy Gale	SCI01	✓				<p>Overall supports the document but feels that regarding neighbourhood plans (Page 6 and 7) that a template to show what is required and the order of priority would be useful. Links to other resources for neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>Regarding other ways to consult its felt that through parish and town councils so the general public might get info via newsletters.</p> <p>Agrees that the document is easy to understand</p>	<p>Welcome the support for the document. It is noted that the SCI sets out the formal stages and when consultation / engagement will occur for neighbourhood plans. Individual TP&amp;CCs will decide what goes into each stage of the NP process, it is not for IWC to stipulate or provide templates to show what is required. <i>Link added to government website on neighbourhood planning.</i></p> <p>TP&amp;CC could undertake newsletters should they wish to, this is a decision for them to make on an individual basis and not for the IWC to mandate.</p> <p>Comments welcomed and noted.</p>
Sue Macleod	SCI02	✓	✓		✓	Doesn't support the consultation methods listed.	Comments noted.

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					<p>Supports the key principles on page one and the new section on pages 6 and 7.</p> <p>Another key principle that should be added to page 1 is Community. Local need based on Parish Council information, results of consultations with local community and a neighbourhood Plan in place.</p> <p>No confidence that a neighbourhood development plan will be taken into consideration as applications have been submitted which are against NDP.</p> <p>The LPA's planning policy website is transparent but only in conjunction with another method.</p> <p>The SCI is easy to understand and great in theory but is not being followed consistently. How are we to have confidence in an updated one. This needs to be more than a tick box exercise for more confidence in the process.</p>	<p>Support welcomed and noted.</p> <p>The SCI is about the process and methods of consultation / engagement and this comment relates to planning policy and the weight in decision making of certain information/documents and not to the process and methods of consultation / engagement.</p> <p>See comment above about the weight of certain factors in decision making – the SCI does not cover this issue.</p> <p>Comment noted and plan making information is also made available in hard copies at County Hall &amp; Seaclose.</p> <p>Welcome comment that SCI is easy to understand. Difficult to provide a definitive response when no examples provided of how it has not been followed consistently. Regardless of this, new SCI allows for a reset and an opportunity for clarity on how people</p>
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							can be involved in the planning process.
Fennell VC	SCI03	✓		✓			Support welcomed.
Chris Cory	SCI05	✓				<p>The plans are not accessible for ordinary members of the public. Consultation takes place largely through council engagement with "bodies" and other organisations, many of whom are listed. You may indeed consult with the Civil Aviation Authority but in practice you do NOT engage with local residents, regardless of your claim at the top of page 17.</p> <p>Q 9- Objects, they would fully support the methods listed but none of them actually happened.</p> <p>pg 8 - My local parish council can't be bothered to put out a newsletter. I received no leaflets or emails and was not aware of any information sessions to attend.</p> <p>Pg 9, as you clearly state, most of the engagement is with</p>	<p>Any plan-making documents are available to view online, which includes on publicly available computers in libraries and at the Planning Office at Seaclose. Hard copies are also held at both County Hall and Seaclose. Significant opportunities for input were given to local residents during the Reg 18 Draft IPS consultation in the summer of 2021, including a number of public meetings with TP&amp;CCs, press notices, social media posts and formal notices in the local newspapers.</p> <p>Please see the comment above which sets out the engagement activity that did take place. Not all methods are used all of the time, the SCI identifies a range. The Council received over 1,000 comments on the Draft IPS consultation.</p> <p>Any resident is able to comment during any formal planning</p>

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						<p>"existing/relevant groups". I don't belong to any of these "groups" so I and people like me have no democratic voice.</p> <p>The document states we are interested in engaging with the public but in practice we don't seem to do that. This requires more effort and imagination.</p>	<p>consultation, whether plan-making or planning applications regardless of whether they belong to a group or not. A range of methods are included within the SCI to capture as many people as possible, within the resource and budgetary constraints of the local planning authority.</p> <p>Comments noted and the update to the SCI provides allows for a reset and an opportunity for clarity on how people can be involved in the planning process.</p>
Sue Chilton	SCI06	✓				<p>Overall support but thinks direct letters if neighbouring planning applications with regards to other methods of consulting.</p>	<p>Support welcomed and comments noted however we do not use neighbour notification letters to meet our statutory consultation requirements due to time and cost implications.</p>
James Tregoning	SCI08				✓	<p>Regarding Pre-app on pages 11 and 12 the final para on 11 notes "that community engagement is currently voluntary" So therefore I believe that for all stakeholders all major applications be required to submit a SCI as part of the validation requirements.</p>	<p>Comments noted and officers agree with the view – whilst not resulting in a change to the SCI, this is however currently being actively investigated through changes to local validation requirements (i.e. setting out what documents are necessary for the LPA to validate a planning application).</p> <p>Emerging local plan policy is also seeking to require this for major applications so applicants can clearly</p>

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							demonstrate how their proposals have been shaped by the consultation they have undertaken with the local community.
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