

Joint Meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

Thursday, 20 August 2026 at 1.00 pm
Ballroom - Guildhall Arts Centre, St. Peter's Hill, Grantham.
NG31 6PZ

Committee Members: Councillor Kyle Abel, Councillor Emma Baker, Councillor David Bellamy, Councillor Pam Bosworth, Councillor James Denniston, Councillor Barry Dobson, Councillor Ben Green, Councillor Gloria Johnson, Councillor Robert Leadenham, Councillor Nikki Manterfield, Councillor Paul Martin, Councillor Habib Rahman, Councillor Rhea Rayside, Councillor Max Sawyer, Councillor Lee Steptoe, Councillor Elvis Stooke and Councillor Sarah Trotter

Agenda

Published and dispatched by democracy@southkesteven.gov.uk on 12 August 2026.

☎ 01476 406080

Karen Bradford, Chief Executive

www.southkesteven.gov.uk

1. **Election of the Chairman**
2. **Election of Vice-Chairman**
3. **Public Speakers**
The Council welcomes engagement from members of the public. To speak at this meeting, please register no later than 24 hours prior to the date of the meeting via democracy@southkesteven.gov.uk.
4. **Apologies for absence**
5. **Disclosure of Interests**
Members are asked to disclose any interests in matters for consideration at the meeting.
6. **Revisions to the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)** (Pages 3 - 67)
The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Councils updated version of the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which has been amended to take into account recent legislative changes and comments received from the March/ April consultation.
7. **Review of the Public Spaces Protection Order (Vehicle Nuisance, Stamford)** (Pages 69 - 101)
8. **Any other business which the Chairman, by reason of special circumstances, decides is urgent**



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

Joint Meeting of the Environment and Rural & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

20th August 2026

Report of Councillor Phil Dilks
Cabinet Member for Planning

Revisions to the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

Report Author

Jhanvi Shukla, Assistant Planning Policy Officer

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Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek approval of updates to the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which has been amended to take account of legislative changes as well as comments received as a result of the recent consultation process.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- 1. Review and provide feedback on the revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which incorporates changes in legislation and findings from a six-week public consultation on the proposed changes to the document.**
- 2. Recommend to Cabinet that the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) is adopted.**

Decision Information

Is this a Key Decision?	Yes
Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	No

What are the relevant corporate priorities?	Connecting communities Sustainable South Kesteven Enabling economic opportunities Housing Effective council
Which wards are impacted?	All Wards

1. Implications

The following potential implications have been identified and considered: finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

Finance and Procurement

- 1.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from this report. Any costs associated with consultations on planning matters are contained within existing budgets.

Completed by: David Scott – Assistant Director of Finance and Deputy S151 Officer.

Legal and Governance

- 1.2 The council is legally required, under section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, to produce an SCI, to set out how we will engage with our communities who have an interest in matters relating to development in their area.

Completed by: Emma Powley, Interim Democratic Services Manager

Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion

- 1.3 The Statement of Community Involvement is designed to ensure the Council meets its responsibilities to consult on development. Any consultation will need to be carried out in a manner that is accessible. Therefore, should a consultee require the information in an alternative format, the Council must provide it on request.

Completed by: Carol Drury, Community Development Manager

2. Background to the Report

- 2.1 One of the Council's key priorities in our current Corporate Plan (2024-2027) is 'to be an effective council'. To do this, the Council will actively and effectively engage with and listen to our residents; this includes through public consultation and engagement with our services including Planning.
- 2.2 The Council is required to produce a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) in accordance with Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), setting out how they will engage local communities and other

interested parties in preparing planning policy documents and determining planning applications. The purpose of the SCI is to set out how the Council intends to seek the views of different sectors of the community during the preparation of planning policy documents and when planning applications are received.

- 2.3 National Planning Practice Guidance confirms that the SCI must be published on the Council's website. Under the new Local Plan system brought into force on 25th March 2026 by The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026, the legacy five-year SCI review requirement is replaced by a mandatory Local Plan Engagement Strategy. The current SCI was adopted in 2021, and since then both national planning legislation and local practice have evolved significantly. A review is therefore necessary to ensure the SCI reflects up-to-date legislative and regulatory requirements, as well as lessons learned from several years of applying it in practice.
- 2.4 The Council is legally required to consult stakeholders, including the public, on a range of planning matters and the minimum requirements are set out in legislation. The SCI will set out the legislative requirements along with any additional steps that the Council will choose to do, as a minimum, when consulting on planning matters. The relevant planning matters include planning applications as well as planning policy documents.
- 2.5 Having a clear arrangement for carrying out consultation will help establish a two-way process between the community and the Council. It provides communities with a clear understanding of when they will be consulted and how they can engage in planning matters in a transparent way.
- 2.6 The amendments to the Local Plan processes must be reflected in the SCI and therefore the council has produced a revised version of the document for 2026 (Appendix 1 to the report).
- 2.7 Following Council approval of the draft SCI for consultation, a 6-week public consultation was held on 13th March 2026 until 24th April 2026 resulting in 13 representations being received. These have been considered and have informed amendments to the final version of the document (Appendix 1 to the report).

3. Key Considerations

- 3.1 The SCI sets out how the Council will engage with the community on planning policy preparation, including neighbourhood planning, and on planning applications. It also covers planning appeals and enforcement matters.
- 3.2 The draft SCI is set out in five sections:

- Introduction
 - Planning Policy Documents
 - Neighbourhood Planning
 - Who is involved in the Plan Preparation Process
 - Community Involvement in Planning Applications
- 3.3 Information is presented in a clear and transparent way for the wider audience and includes clear Headings and Fonts. Tables are used to help guide the reader to make it user friendly.
- 3.4 The SCI also contains updated links to all the relevant pages on the Council's website and other external sites so the reader can easily find out more information if they wish.

Proposed amendments to the SCI

- 3.5 The reviewed SCI follows a similar format to the existing SCI for the Council. The following changes have been made to reflect comments received during the consultation process and legislative changes associated with the new plan-making system, which came into effect on 25 March 2026. These steps have been taken in order to update the document and ensure the Council's approach to consultation is robust:

Changes made in response to the consultation March-April 2026 (Appendix 2):

- Introduction to the new plan-making system and associated legislative changes
- Inclusion of new arrangements for Supplementary Plans (SPs), which replace SPDs under the new plan-making system

Other changes made to the SCI:

- Update of the contents page
- Introduction to the new plan-making system and associated legislative changes
- Inclusion of new arrangements for Supplementary Plans (SPs), which replace SPDs under the new plan-making system
- Updates to reflect the changes in the Coronavirus Act 2020 and to future-proof the SCI for similar exceptional circumstances.
- Introduction to the stages involved in the preparation of a Local Plan under the new plan-making system
- Introduction to the stages involved in the preparation of Supplementary Plans under the new plan-making system
- Update to the Duty to Co-Operate section to reflect revocation
- Inclusion of Planning Policy Team contact details and information on joining the Council's planning policy consultation database
- Updates to the consultation methods used for plan-making under the new system (Table 2)
- Updates to how SKDC will consult on Local Plans under the new plan-making system (Appendix 3 to the SCI)

- Updates to how SKDC will consult on Supplementary Plans under the new plan-making system (Appendix 5 to the SCI)
- Updates to the glossary to explain legacy plan-making terminology (Appendix 9 to the SCI)

3.6 Under previous planning regulations, the SCI was required to undergo an independent examination. This requirement has been removed, and the SCI can be approved and brought into effect more easily by a resolution of Council. Whilst the content and process for preparing a SCI is no longer prescribed by regulation, the Cabinet agreed that a draft SCI should be subject to a public consultation as it is considered good practice. The consultation has since been undertaken and 13 representations were received. These have been summarised and can be viewed in Appendix 2 to the report.

4. Other Options Considered

4.1 To not review and update the SCI and continue to use the existing document. However, the existing SCI does not reflect current requirements set out in legislation or regulations. The Council is also required to review the SCI every five years from the date of its adoption. The do-nothing option has therefore been discounted.

5. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 5.1 The Council is required to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and to subsequently review that document every five years. Whilst it is not mandatory to consult on the draft document, it is good practice to do so.
- 5.2 Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) provides that the Council must prepare a Statement of Community Involvement, which is a statement of the authority's policy as to the involvement in the exercise of its functions.
- 5.3 It is therefore recommended that the Scrutiny Committee reviews the draft SCI and approves this document to reflect the specific requirements arising from national guidance.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 A 6-week public consultation on the draft revised SCI was undertaken between the 13th March 2026 and the 24th April 2026. There is no requirement to consult on the SCI, however, it is good practice to do so.
- 6.2 The SCI consultation document was made available to view and access from the Council website.

- 6.3 A general notification of the consultation was sent out via email and letter to those on our consultation database, including town / parish councils, statutory bodies and Ward Councillors.
- 6.4 The council received 13 comments from various consultees, including both statutory and non-statutory.
- 6.5 The draft SCI has been refined, taking into account the comments made during the consultation. The key findings from the consultation have been presented in Appendix 2 to the report which presents a summary of comments received and if any action was required in response to the consultation.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67aafe8f3b41f783cca46251/NPPF_December_2024.pdf
- 7.2 Link to current adopted SKDC SCI - <https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning-policy-local-plans/statement-community-involvement>
- 7.3 Corporate Plan 2024 – 2027 - <https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-02/South%20Kesteven%20District%20Council%20Corporate%20Plan%20-%202024%20to%202027.pdf>
- 7.4 Link to the cabinet decision to consult on the SCI – <https://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?AllId=34510>

8. Appendices

- 1.1. Appendix 1: Statement of Community Involvement (2026)
- 1.2. Appendix 2: Consultation Summary Report
- 1.3. Appendix 3: Equalities Impact Assessment

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South Kesteven District Council

Draft Statement of Community Involvement

August 2026



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

General Information

Title

Draft Statement of Community Involvement (2026)

Subject matter

To provide a clear structure and guidance on how the Council intends to engage with the community and stakeholders through the planning process

Adoption

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was formally adopted by South Kesteven District Council on the 12th of October 2021.

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Introduction

1. **Background**

- 1.1. The Council published its first Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) in April 2006. The Council's current Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was approved in 2021.
- 1.2. Since the revision in 2021, there have been a number of legislative changes to the planning system, and this update reflects these changes and other evolving methods of consultation. It is also important to learn from previous experience around whether the means of engagement around plan making and in the consideration of planning applications remains effective. Since the 2021 review, the Coronavirus Act 2020 has been amended, with all temporary, non-devolved provisions now expired or repealed. In response to these legislative changes, the SCI has undergone a review to ensure continued compliance and relevance.

2. **What is a Statement of Community Involvement?**

- 2.1. The purpose of the SCI is to set out how the community, businesses and others with an interest in the development of the District can engage with the planning system. This includes the preparation and revision of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) (commonly referred to as Local Plans), preparation of Supplementary Plans (SPs) and any emerging guidance under the evolving planning system, as well as the procedures for consulting the public on planning, listed building and other applications.
- 2.2. The SCI outlines how organisations and individuals can be involved in the plan-making process and in the consideration of planning applications. It also sets out standards and arrangements as to how the Council will consult and report back to those engaged in the process.
- 2.3. Having clear arrangements for carrying out consultation will help to establish a two-way process between the community and the Council. It will provide the community with opportunities to help shape their local areas and create a transparent, fair and open planning process.
- 2.4. The SCI contains:

Background information to provide information on when, who and how we will consult when drafting planning documents.

Information on when, who and how we will consult on planning, listed building and other types of applications

The techniques available and likely to be used during consultation. However, it is important to retain a degree of flexibility so that methods can be appropriately tailored to the planning document in question, to allow for changes in the regulations or best

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practice guidance, and to reflect that new methods of communication and engagement may become available over the life of the document.

3. Legal Requirements

- 3.1. Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) including South Kesteven District Council are required to produce a SCI under section 18 (Part 2)¹ of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- 3.2. The minimum requirements for consultation on planning policy documents are included within The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (the Local Planning Regulations)²
- 3.3. The minimum requirements for consultation on planning applications are included within The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure)³ Order (DMPO) for planning applications.

4. Why is a Review Needed?

- 4.1. SCIs must be reviewed at least every five years from the date of adoption. Regular updates are essential to ensure the SCI remains current and continues to support effective community engagement throughout all stages of the planning process, reflecting any changes in consultation practices.
- 4.2. While there is no statutory duty to do so, the Council consulted on the draft Statement of Community Involvement on Friday 13th March until Friday 24th April 2026 to ensure inclusivity in the proposed engagement strategies within it.
- 4.3. Since publication of the SCI in 2021, there have been a number of changes to national policy and guidance, as well as amendments to the Coronavirus Act 2020.
- 4.4. A further significant national change is the new plan-making system, set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) England Regulations 2026 taking effect from the 25th March 2026.⁴ This change took affect during the SCI consultation period and this revised SCI required further updates to bring this in line with the latest requirements in the preparation of Local Plans and how consultation will be carried out.

5. General Principles of consultation.

- 5.1. The following have been identified as the core concepts of consultation, in which SKDC aims to achieve:
 - We will ensure that everyone who is being consulted is clear on what they are being consulted on

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents>

² <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1244/contents/made>

³ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/595/contents/made>

⁴ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2026/186/regulation/88/made>

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- We will ensure that as wide a range of people as possible are involved during consultation and do our utmost to target hard-to-reach groups
- We will ensure that a range of techniques and methods are available to fit the right consultation
- We will adopt a co-ordinated approach to consultation
- We will ensure that results are fed back, and people are informed as to how their views have impacted on decisions
- We will make sure that we take appropriate action following consultation to improve service quality
- We will apply these key principles whilst ensuring that national planning requirements are met.

6. Changes in consultation

- 6.1. To assist with a more efficient consideration of representations and provide feedback, it is likely artificial intelligence (AI) will be used in future to support planners by summarising responses to aid, but not replace, the existing system of taking comments into account.
- 6.2. The consultation arrangements described in this SCI may be amended where required by legislation, government guidance, or exceptional circumstances that affect the Council's ability to carry out consultation in the manner described.

Planning Policy Documents

7. South Kesteven Local Plan

- 7.1. The Local Plan (Development Plan Document) forms the framework for the location and principles of development (such as homes, shops, offices) and sets out how the natural and built environment will be protected. It is a "spatial" plan, because it deals with the location and layout of developments and activities and how these affect people and their environment.
- 7.2. The current Local Plan for South Kesteven⁵ was approved on the 30th of January 2020. The South Kesteven Local Plan sets out the vision, objectives, spatial strategy and policies for the future development of the district. It also identifies land and allocates sites for different types of development, such as housing and employment, to deliver the planned growth for South Kesteven 2036.
- 7.3. In the current adopted Local Plan, the Council is committed to an early review. The review policy (M1) requires the Council to commence document preparation for a new Local Plan from April onwards. Therefore, in line with policy M1, the Council has begun a review of the Local Plan for the District.

⁵ <https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning-policy-local-plans/south-kesteven-local-plan>

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- 7.4. Under the 2026 plan-making system, Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are replaced by Supplementary Plans (SPs), with no new SPDs permitted after 30 June 2026; existing SPDs will remain in force only until the adoption of the new-style Local Plan.

8. **Development Plan Documents (Local Plans) - When Do We Consult**

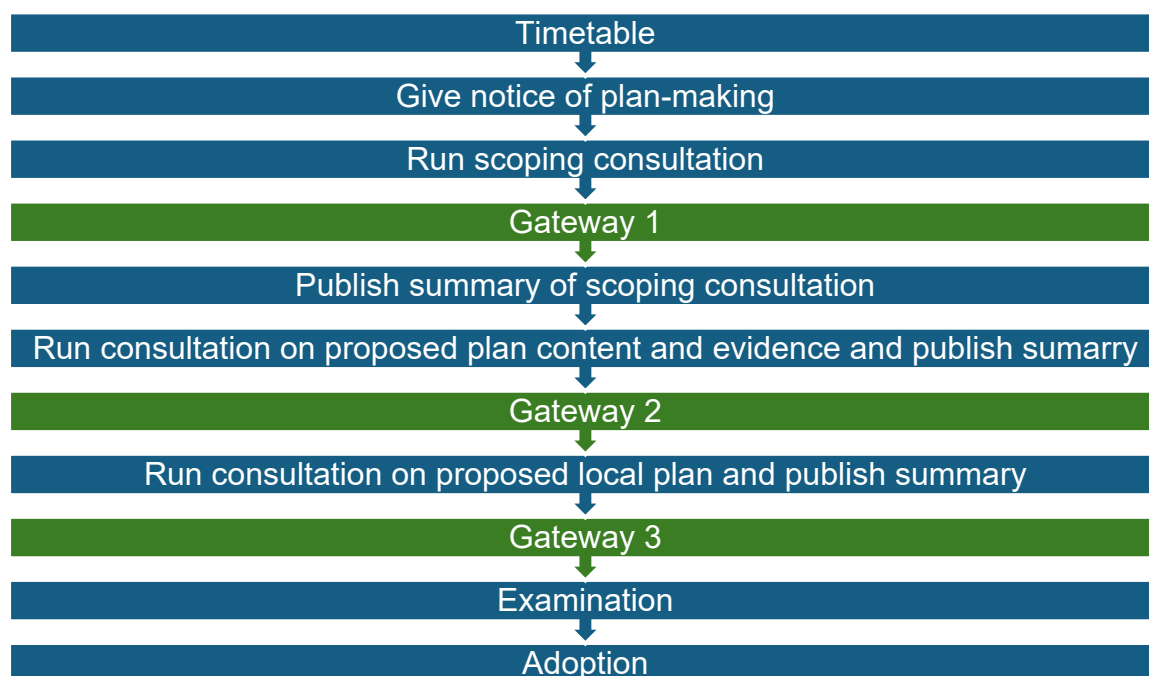
- 8.1. The key stages for the preparation of Local Plans under the new plan-making system are set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026 (as amended).

The plan-making system is undergoing significant reform through the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023. This introduces a new style of Local Plan making, which will replace all legacy plans in due course.

The following section therefore provides a summary of the main stages that a DPD must satisfy in order to proceed through the formal processes under the new plan-making system. More detail on each of these stages, in terms of how the Council will undertake consultation and engagement, is provided in Appendix 2. Where relevant, this document also acknowledges the emerging plan-making framework and the need for future local plans to align with the new system as it is brought into force.

Preparation of a Local Plan under the New Plan-Making System

- 8.17. The following stages are required by legislation and must be completed in the prescribed order. Appendix 2 provides an overview of each of the key stages and how the Council intends to consult throughout the new plan making process. The diagram below illustrates the key stages:



Before the 30-month Plan-making process begins

There are a few key steps to complete before the official timetable starts:

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Publish local plan timetable

- 8.18. The Council will publish a timetable which will be kept up-to-date and will set out the anticipated and actual dates for key plan-making stages.

Publish notice of intention to commence local plan preparation

- 8.19. The Council will publish a Notice of Commencement which begins a minimum 4-month notice period so that stakeholders are aware plan-making is beginning.

Scoping consultation

- 8.20. Stakeholder will be invited to give feedback on how to engage with them and what the plan should contain.

Gather baseline information

- 8.21. The Council will also be gathering baseline information about South Kesteven, preparing evidence base to support the new Plan, and beginning work on the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

Gateway 1 - self-assessment of readiness

- 8.22. The Council will publish a document setting out details of how the Council has got ready for plan-making, marking formal commencement of plan-making for the purpose of the 30-month timeframe.

Publish summary of Scoping Consultation

- 8.23. A consultation summary report will be prepared and published on the Council's website, setting out how the scoping consultation was undertaken, summarising the comments received, and explaining how these have informed the plan-making process

Consultation: proposed local plan content and evidence

- 8.24. The Council will undertake a minimum of 6-week consultation on the proposed local plan content and evidence, including a draft vision.

Gateway 2: checking progress with the Planning Inspectorate

- 8.25. The Council will seek observations and advice from an appointed Planning Inspectorate Gateway assessor. The Gateway 2 is to support the early resolution of potential soundness issues and progress towards the 'prescribed requirements'. This stage usually takes 4 to 6 weeks.

Consultation: proposed Local Plan

- 8.26. A consultation period of a minimum of 8-week shall be undertaken on the proposed local plan, a map of the proposed local plan policies, site allocations and designations, and details of the evidence. It is also recommended to consult on the SEA environmental report at the same time.

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- 8.27. Following the consultation a summary will be published setting out the main issues raised in the responses and how the Council has had regard to those responses will be published.

Gateway 3: Readiness for Examination

- 8.28. The Council will seek observations and advice from an appointed Planning Inspectorate Gateway assessor on whether the prescribed requirements are met in relation to the preparation of the proposed Local Plan which can then proceed to examination.

Examination

- 8.29. When the Gateway 3 assessor concludes that the proposed Local Plan meets the prescribed requirements, the Council will submit it for independent examination. At this stage an inspector will be appointed to carry an independent examination of the plan.

Adoption

- 8.30. As soon as reasonably practicable after adoption of the Plan, an adoption statement will be published

9. Supplementary Planning Documents - When Do We Consult

Supplementary Plans under the New Plan-Making System

- 9.1 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are now replaced with Supplementary Plans (SPs). SPs are to have the same weight as local plans and will be subject to independent examination.⁶

Notice of intention/timetable

- 9.2. The Council will publish a timetable and notice of intention to commence supplementary plan preparation (including the subject matter of the SP and the area and/or site(s) to which it will apply

Map of proposed supplementary plan policies

- 9.3. A map of proposed supplementary plan policies will be produced.

Consultation on the proposed Supplementary Plan

- 9.4. The draft SP will be published, and the Council will undertake a public consultation for a minimum period of six weeks. The consultation documents will include:
- the proposed supplementary plan and policies map
 - the evidence base to support it and any other relevant supporting documents
- 9.5. Any representations made will be considered and amendments will be made to the document where appropriate. A summary of the main issues raised and how they have been addressed will be produced.

⁶<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2026/186/part/6/made>

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Submission of documents and information for independent examination

- 9.6. The Council will submit the following documents to the person appointed to carry out the examination of a supplementary plan:
- the proposed supplementary plan and policies map
 - compliance statement
 - supplementary plan consultation statement setting out how the consultation was undertaken, the responses received and how these have been addressed
 - any other relevant supporting documents.
- 9.7. The Council will publish notification of submission as soon as reasonably practicable on the website, details of where submission documents can be inspected and notify any person who requested to be notified.

Examination

- 9.8. An Examination in Public will be held by an independent Inspector. Prior to the opening of the examination hearing, the Council will publish the date, time and place of where the hearing is to be held.

Adoption

- 9.9. As soon as is reasonably practicable after adopting the SP, the Council will publish the adopted plan and an adoption statement as well as the recommendations and reasons of the examiner. The adoption statement must specify matters (stating the date of adoption and where it is available for inspection). A copy of the adoption statement will also be sent to any person that has asked to be notified.

10. Neighbourhood Planning

- 10.1. The Localism Act 2011⁷ introduced a new right for local communities to produce a neighbourhood plan for their local area. These plans can be very concise and focused around a specific area or go into more detail around allocating land for development and including policies to manage development. Preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan should be led by a Parish Council or a Neighbourhood Forum area which do not have a parish council.
- 10.2. Neighbourhood Plans have to be in line with national policy and the strategic elements of the County Council's adopted Local Plan, they cannot propose less development than that proposed by the Council's Local Plan.
- 10.3. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012⁸ (as amended) sets out the requirements for publicity and consultation in relation to the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders. The approach taken to engaging and involving local residents, business and other stakeholders is a matter for the Parish or Town Council and is it up to them to decide how they involve people and undertake consultation.
- 10.4. As Neighbourhood Plans are not prepared by the Council, the SCI cannot prescribe what methods of community consultation they should undertake. However, as a minimum any Neighbourhood Plan must meet the requirements of The

⁷ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted>

⁸ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/637/contents/made>

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Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. Bodies responsible for preparing Neighbourhood Plans should be inclusive and open to ensure the wider community is kept fully informed of what is being proposed; is able to make their views known throughout the process; has opportunities to be actively involved in shaping the emerging neighbourhood Plan; and is made aware of how their views have informed the draft plan. Such bodies must also publicise the draft Neighbourhood Plan for at least 6 weeks and consult any of the consultation bodies set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations whose interests it considers may be affected by the draft plan.

- 10.5. Although the Council is not responsible for the drafting of the plan, it is responsible for some statutory functions, which are set out in the Regulations. These include publicising the intention to produce a Neighbourhood Plan on its website, undertaking formal consultation when the Neighbourhood Plan is submitted, facilitating the examination, publishing the examiner's report and organising a referendum. The Council will undertake these functions in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations and the principles of this SCI
- 10.6. The Council also has a duty to provide technical advice and support to communities in the preparation of their plans. In line with the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations 2018, the series of full guidance measures are set out in Appendix 6 with further information being found on the council's website⁹
- 10.7. If a Neighbourhood Plan is agreed by the local community in a referendum it will become part of the Development Plan and be used in the determination of planning applications.

Who is involved in the Plan Preparation Process?

11. Who Do We Consult?

- 11.1. When preparing DPD's and SPs, the Council will seek to engage and consult, where appropriate with the general public and the wider community
- 11.2. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026 (as amended) specify a number of organisations that must be consulted. These are known as the 'specific consultation bodies' and are outlined in Appendix 1.
- 11.3. The Council also has discretion to identify a number of other bodies who represent certain interests and may be appropriate to consult at key stages. These are known as the 'general consultation bodies' and are also outlined in Appendix 1.
- 11.4. It should be noted that these bodies may change as a result of amendments to the Local Planning Regulations and/or the Council amending/updating the list of general consultation bodies.
- 11.5. In addition to the 'specific' and 'general' consultation bodies, the Council is committed to involving a wide range of other individuals and organisations including members of the public, residents' associations, local businesses, developers/agents, landowners, local community/voluntary groups and 'hard to reach' groups in the preparation of DPDs, SPs) and Neighbourhood Plans. The majority of these groups have been identified in Appendix 1.

⁹ <https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning-policy-local-plans/neighbourhood-plans>

12. The Duty to Co -Operate

Duty to Co-Operate under the New Plan Making System

- 12.1. Under the new plan-making system the Duty to Cooperate as set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and amended in the Localism Act 2011, no longer exists. However, LPAs are still required to cooperate on cross boundary matters with neighbouring authorities and other bodies such as infrastructure, assisting with unmet housing need, the movement of people, vehicles and water, employment need and impact of ecological/environmental designations. The use of statements of common ground in demonstrating cooperation between plan-making authorities is likely to continue (as set out at policies PM10 and PM11 of the consultation Draft NPPF). The Council will seek to cooperate on this basis.

13. Consultation Database

- 13.1. To manage the consultation process and to ensure records are up to date, the Council maintains a database with the relevant contact details of the various bodies to be consulted. This includes those that have either commented upon previous consultation documents or expressed an interest in being involved with the preparation of the Local Plan/ local plan review. In 2018 in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulations (2018) (GDPR) the Council contacted all those on the Local Plan mailing list. All subsequent consultation response forms have included information about how data is stored and processed in accordance with the GDPR, including an option to opt out of the consultation database.
- 13.2. Any organisation or individual can be added to the database at any time by contacting the Planning Policy team on 01476406080 or by email at planningpolicy@southkesteven.gov.uk. Wherever possible electronic contact details will be required. It should be noted, however, that not all bodies and organisations will be consulted on every document.
- 13.3. The subject matter of the document and the interests of the individual bodies and organisations concerned will determine this, for example, where a consultation is limited to a particular topic or is particularly specialist in nature.
- 13.4. The Council will ensure access to its information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 1998 and the storing and processing of personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations (2018)¹⁰
- 13.5. The Council may publish letters and completed web forms which are submitted as part of Local Plan consultations unless there are specific and justifiable reasons for it to be confidential. Personal contact details such as email and telephone numbers will be removed, however, individual names and organisations will be published. Original documents will be retained at the Council Offices or Electronically on the Council's database in line with the Data Protection Regulations 2018.

14. How Do We Consult

- 14.1. Planning legislation sets out the minimum requirements for public participation when preparing Local Plan documents and Supplementary Plans. This includes making

¹⁰ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted>

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consultation documents available at the Council's Principal offices and on the Council's website.

- 14.2 The new local plan system is heavily streamlined in order to ensure local authorities progress rapidly with their preparation of their local plan. The means by which SKDC will communicate with stakeholders engaged in the Local plan making process will for this reason be heavily reliant on digital communication. In exceptional circumstances there may be cases where a person does not have an email address. For this reason we may need to communicate in written form to inform them of the consultation. The Council will notify organisations and individuals where appropriate of any consultation events electronically and in line with the requirements of the plan-making system. Those who are not on the consultation database will be captured via various other means of appropriate consultation.
- 14.3. The Council intends to use a range of methods to inform and consult with the community in preparing Local Plan documents. Table 1 illustrates key methods of consultation which may be used, their main benefits and potential consultee groups for which they would be appropriate.
- 14.4. Further details of how these methods will be applied to DPDs or SPs are outlined in Appendices 2 and 3, respectively.
- 14.5 Under the requirements of the new plan-making system, a summary of the comments received will be produced and published after each public consultation stage and include:
- Details of the bodies/stakeholders invited to make representations
 - How they were consulted
 - A summary of the main issues raised in the representations received
 - How the Council has had regard to the representations received

Table 1 illustrates consultation methods used under the new plan making system

15. Consultation Methods.

- 15.1. Some potential methods of consultation, together with how they benefit the community are set out below. It is important to note that not all of these methods will be relevant or applicable to each stage or for every DPD or SP document. The list below is not therefore exhaustive but gives an indication of the different techniques which might be used, along with the minimum requirement that is required with each method.

Table 1 – Consultation methods for plan making under the New Plan-Making System

Consultation Method	Description
Council's website	A digital-first approach will be adopted in accordance with the 30-month Local Plan process and associated guidance. The Council's website will be used to promote consultations, post the latest information, provide

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	consultation documents and supporting evidence for viewing, and information on opportunities for participation. The Council's website also provides the functionality to allow comments to be made electronically on documents during the relevant consultation periods. The Council's website also makes provision to view responses to consultations (when closed).
Hard/ paper copies (Viewing documents may have to be made by appointment during office opening hours)	Hard copies of Planning Policy Documents: • The Council will ensure that paper copies of planning policy documents will normally be available for public viewing at South Kesteven District Council Offices, The Picture House, St Catherine's Road, Grantham, NG31 6TT • Other viewing locations may be added depending on the nature and content of the planning policy document being consulted upon. • Copies of documents can also be purchased upon request.
Engagement events and briefings	Where possible and appropriate, in-person engagement events and briefings may be held in locations across the district for key stages in the Local Plan making process.
Emails/ letters	The Council will notify about the consultation by email or by post to all relevant consultee bodies and those individuals who are on the Council's Planning Policy database, informing them of the consultation and inviting them to comment. As increasing use is being made of electronic communications, anyone interested in receiving notification of a consultation is encouraged to register by contacting Planning Policy on 01476406080 or by emailing planningpolicy@southkesteven.gov.uk
Social Media	The Council will utilise its social media channels, where appropriate, to publicise planning policy documents and consultation opportunities. The continued development and use of social media as a means of engaging with a broader audience will be actively explored.
Publicity materials	Press releases Where necessary, provide an informative update to the appropriate media outlets informing readers/ listeners/ viewers of any upcoming consultations.

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	The use of South Kesteven's three local newspapers may also be used which are distributed to a wide audience across the district.
Response forms	Paper or downloadable response forms may be made available upon request. The Council strongly encourages respondents to use the prescribed method for each consultation as this assists in the efficient processing, recording and consideration of representations.
*Documents requested in an alternative format (due to a disability or language differential) will not be charged	

- 15.2. Further details of how these methods will be applied to Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and Supplementary Plans (SPs) and Neighbourhood Plans (NPDs) are shown in Appendices 2, 3 & 5.
- 15.3. Details about when consultation will take place within the Local Plan process will be set out in our Local Plan timeline which will be available on our website and reported to MHCLG which will be subject to an on-going review.
- 15.4. Further information on consultation arrangements for planning applications and advice on the planning process is available through a number of sources (see Appendix 4).

Community involvement in Planning Applications

16. Consulting on Planning Applications

- 16.1. The Council determines around 2,000 planning applications each year, most of which are received electronically, and range from householder extensions and Listed Building Consents to major new residential, retail or office developments. As part of the process to determine these applications, it is important that the community and other stakeholders have the opportunity to get involved, to help shape the areas where they live, work and spend their leisure time.
- 16.2. Planning legislation sets out the minimum requirements for publicising and consulting the community and stakeholders on planning applications. This section sets out our interpretation of how we will meet those requirements through the development management process, through consultation at pre-application, application and appeal stages.

17. Pre-Application Advice and Consultation

- 17.1. The Council encourages pre-application discussions for certain types of development before making a formal application. The objective of these discussions is to establish whether the principle of the development is acceptable and to clarify the format, type and level of detail required to enable the Council to determine the application.
- 17.2. The Council has formal procedures in place for dealing with pre-application planning advice. This allows the Council to dedicate time with applicants to improve the quality

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of development schemes. Further guidance on pre-application advice is available on the Council's web site.¹¹

18. Pre-Application Consultation by Developers

- 18.1. For major applications the Council would strongly encourage applicants, not already required to do so by other requirements of the Town & Country Planning Acts, to carry out their own meaningful pre-application consultation and seek involvement from stakeholders. This may take the form of a public meeting and/or exhibition in the locality of the proposal, a dedicated website providing information on the proposal, additional neighbourhood notification or press coverage. This should be effective in bringing draft proposals to the attention of the public, parish councils and other parties in the area that may be affected by the proposal.
- 18.2. Similarly, early engagement with key consultees is encouraged, allowing the opportunity for consultees to make comments on the proposal, allowing key issues to be addressed prior to any planning application submission.

19. Notification/Publicity of Planning Applications

- 19.1. Once a planning application has been received and validated by the Development Management team, there is a process of publicity and consultation that is undertaken to ensure that stakeholders and the community can have their say on the development proposed.
- 19.2. A significant number of the applications submitted to the Council are received electronically via the Planning Portal. The Council is committed to efficient and modern ways of working and communication, and places particular emphasis on the use of electronic means and technology. Most notification is done electronically where possible, and the Council maintains a website which hosts its formal planning register.
- 19.3. Notification and consultation of planning applications (of all types) are required by planning legislation, in particular by the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015¹². Some applications require special (or additional) publicity requirements due to their particular characteristics (e.g. applications accompanied by an Environmental Statement). The Council is committed to meeting these legislative requirements. See Appendix 1 for details of relevant consultation bodies.
- 19.4. Appendix 4 sets out the Council's approach to the publicity/notification to be given for planning applications.
- 19.5. A degree of flexibility is required to fit the variety of application types received by the Council and to allow for an appropriate level of engagement.

¹¹ <http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8172>

¹² <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/595/contents/made>

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20. Weekly list

- 20.1. Whilst not a statutory requirement, the Council produces a weekly list of planning applications it has received¹³. This is made available on the Council web site and is used as part of our consultation process.

21. Press notices

- 21.1. In addition to the above, for some types of application (see Appendix 4) a publicity notice outlining some basic details on the application will be placed in the local press covering the area for the application site.

22. Parish and Town Councils

- 22.1. All Parish and Town Councils are notified of relevant applications within their area. This is done electronically by email.
- 22.2. As all applications are made available to view on the Council's website, paper copies of applications are not provided to Parish and Town Councils. For the larger and most sensitive applications (defined as those submitted with an Environmental Statement - ES) the Council will endeavour to provide the Parish or Town Council with a paper copy of the documents.
- 22.3. For other specific cases, Parish and Town Councils can request paper copies of an application subject to a charge reflective of the costs involved.

23. Neighbouring owner/occupier Notifications & Site Notices

- 23.1. The requirement for notification of neighbouring owners or occupiers, and for site notices are set out within planning legislation. In most cases, the approach to notification is left to the discretion of the Local Planning Authority, and either requires notification or a site notice to be displayed. The Council's approach to these requirements is set out within Appendix 4.
- 23.2. The extent of neighbour notification is at the discretion of the case officer. In practice, this generally means those properties bordering an application site or which the case officer assesses as most likely to be affected by a proposal. In circumstances where land adjoins the site and the owner is not known a site notice should be displayed.
- 23.3. Where a site notice is displayed, it will be located on or near to the land that is subject to the application, and multiple site notices may be displayed. Where a site notice is taken down, destroyed or defaced during the determination of the application; it is at the Council's discretion whether a replacement is displayed based upon the remaining extent of the consultation period or the determination period of the application and the extent of other forms of notification.
- 23.4. Interested parties are invited to inspect the application online via the Council's website¹⁴ access to which is also provided at the Council Offices. In specific circumstances such as where an interested party is disabled or elderly and unable to get to the Council Offices or access the plans online, we can provide them with a free copy of

¹³ <http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=9229>

¹⁴ <http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8170#/>

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the plans. Such requests should be made to the Case Officer in the first instance. Copies of plans are available to others at a charge, reflective of the costs involved.

24. Ward Councillors

- 24.1. All Ward Councillors will be notified of applications for planning permission within their area. This will be done electronically as all applications are made available to view on the Council's website, paper copies of applications are not normally provided to Ward Councillors.

25. Commenting on Planning Applications

- 25.1. Interested parties are invited to make comments within a specified period (the consultation period), usually within 21 days. We continue to accept comments until the application is determined, so in many cases this will be longer than 21 days. However, we cannot guarantee that comments received after the consultation period has closed and after production of the recommendation has been commenced, will be formally considered as part of the determination of an application. It is therefore important to ensure that any comments are received by the Council in a timely manner.
- 25.2. We encourage people to respond online through the Council's website. This allows interested parties to provide comments at a time which suits them and allows us to receive and process comments more efficiently. Alternatively, comments can be submitted by email or post.
- 25.3. All comments must be made in writing and contain the name and address of the author. We cannot consider anonymous comments. Signatures are not required and in the interests of Data Protection you are encouraged not to supply them. A telephone number can prove useful in case the Council or an applicant/agent needs to make contact to discuss your comments, however, this is not essential. Additionally, you should note that it is not possible for us to respond directly to comments received.
- 25.4. All comments received are public documents and will be made available to view by third parties (this includes providing copies of comments directly to them). Some information cannot be kept confidential, including the name and address of the author. Sensitive personal information (signatures, email addresses and phone numbers) is redacted. All comments received may be provided to other bodies, such as the Planning Inspectorate, should the application proceed to Appeal.
- 25.5. As a result of changes in Data Protection legislation and the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations in May 2018, along with other factors relating to the commenting on applications and improvements to methods of working and electronic communication, the Council's Data Protection Policy can be found here: [Data Protection Policy](#).
- 25.6. The Council will consider all responses received as a result of its consultations on planning applications where the issues raised are material planning considerations. We will not re-publicise comments received in their totality within reports or recommendations and will summarise all comments received, and material planning considerations raised.
- 25.7. The Council can only consider objections or comments which raise relevant planning issues (also known as material planning considerations), for example, loss of light or impact on the character and appearance of the surrounding area. Some examples of material considerations and non-material considerations can be found below (this list is not exhaustive).

Material Considerations	Non-Material Considerations
National and local planning policies	Issues considered under Building Regulations
Planning history and previous appeal decisions	Land/boundary disputes, including rights of access
Case law	Opposition to business competition
Impact on sunlight, outlook, privacy and amenity	Loss of property value
Highways issues	Loss of view
Effect on listed building or conservation area	Opposition to principle of development if permission has been granted by an outline application or appeal decision

- 25.8. A considerable amount of negotiation takes place on a large number of applications, particularly major ones. Steering development towards a more acceptable form is a crucial part of the development management process. This dialogue between planning officers, developers and their professional advisors and the local community is something which the Government and the Council actively encourages.
- 25.9. In a number of cases, proposals will generate much public interest and letters of objection. Planning officers will often advise developers that amendments to their applications will result in a better quality of development, which may indeed overcome objectors' concerns. However, it is important to note that planning decisions are made on the basis of material planning considerations (many of which may be raised by objectors) not the number of objections received.

26. Re-notification

- 26.1. In some instances, applications may be amended, or additional supplementary information submitted to the Council during the life of the application. Where this happens, and it materially alters a proposal, the Council will undertake a further consultation and notification exercise, commensurate with the type and size of amendments or the level of information submitted. Any additional publicity on changes to an application will be at the discretion of the case officer and will depend on the degree of change from the original submission. Any additional information received will be placed on the Council's website.
- 26.2. For listed building applications or applications within conservation areas, significant amendments will be re-advertised.

27. Determination of Planning Applications

- 27.1. Many planning applications are determined by planning officers under delegated powers, however, some applications such as those which are of larger scale, strategic or controversial in nature are determined by the Council's Planning Committee.

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- 27.2. Where a determination may be made under delegated powers, we will endeavour to do so. A report will be produced and will be available to view online when the decision is issued. The report will clearly set out the reasons for the decision that has been made, along with the consideration of relevant factors including development plan policies, neighbourhood plan policies, and other material considerations including any comments received.
- 27.3. Meetings of the Council's Planning Committee are held approximately every 4 weeks. Where an application is required to be determined by the Council's Planning Committee, a report will be included on the Committee agenda which is available to view on the Council's web site¹⁵ and is published one week prior to the Committee meeting.
- 27.4. Applicants and any other persons who have made representations on an application to be heard by the Committee will be notified. The Council's policy on public speaking at the Planning Committee is available on the Council's website.¹⁶

28. Role of Elected Members

- 28.1. One of the key purposes of the planning system is to manage development in the public interest. In performing this role, planning necessarily affects land and property interests, particularly the impact on adjoining land and development and the quality of their settings. It is important, therefore, that planning authorities make planning decisions affecting these interests openly, impartially, with sound judgement and for justifiable reasons.
- 28.2. People affected by a planning decision or other planning proposals may often seek to influence it through an approach to their elected District Councillor or to a Councillor on the relevant decision-making committee. This lobbying is normal and a part of the political process. Members should advise those who are lobbying that they should speak or write to the relevant officer, in order that their opinions can be included in the officer's report to committee. Councillors are guided by Codes of Conduct. Elected members have the right to attend any Planning Committee meeting and may speak on an objector's behalf, highlighting valid planning considerations.

29. Notification of Decision on Planning Applications

- 29.1. Planning Practice Guidance and planning legislation requires specific parties to be notified of planning decisions. The Council approaches this by providing all of its decisions on the website (whether or not it was determined by officers under delegated powers or at Committee). Decisions, if taken at Committee, are also publicised in the committee minutes, also available on the Council's website.

30. Planning Appeals

- 30.1. The planning system includes a right for applicants to appeal to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), acting on behalf of the Secretary of State.
- 30.2. An appeal may be submitted by the applicant where permission has been refused or permitted with conditions which the applicant considers to be unacceptable. There is

¹⁵ <http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=165&Year=0>

¹⁶ <https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/have-your-say/planning-committee-speaking>

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also a right of appeal if the application has not been determined within the relevant time limit. Third parties do not have the right to appeal planning decisions.

- 30.3. All those who were notified of the original application or submitted comments will be notified in writing of the appeal and how to make their views known to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). Comments received by the Council as part of the determination of the original application will also be sent to the

Planning Inspectorate.

- 30.4. Further notifications may be undertaken by the Council on behalf of the Planning Inspectorate depending on the type and nature of the Appeal. For example, Appeals decided by public inquiry require publication in the press (indicating the date, time and location of the inquiry) and a site notice will be posted.
- 30.5. The determination of an Appeal is outside of the control of the Council. The processing requirements, including the timescales, for the Planning Inspectorate are set out within planning legislation. The Planning Inspector will consider the evidence and decide whether to allow or dismiss the appeal. They will inform the Council and interested parties of the outcome and place a copy of the decision on the Planning Inspectorate website. Once received, a copy of the decision will be placed on the Council's website. This decision is binding on the Council (although it can be challenged on a point of law in the High Court).

31. Prior Approval Notifications

- 31.1. Prior approval means that a developer must seek approval from the local planning authority that specified elements of the development are acceptable before work can proceed. The matters for prior approval vary depending on the type of development and these are set out in full in the relevant Parts in Schedule 2 to the General Permitted Development Order. A local planning authority cannot consider any other matters when determining a prior approval application.
- 31.2. The Council can consider whether prior approval of certain details is required in advance of a formal decision being issued. There are multiple kinds of prior approval notifications, with different determination periods.

Prior approval procedures vary, and this should be checked against the relevant General Permitted Development Order requirements.

32. Designation of New or Amended Conservation Areas

- 32.1. Conservation area boundaries are a statutory designation, and there is a duty 'from time to time' to review them. Below sets out the statutory requirements are additional steps that will be taken by the Council.

Minimum statutory requirements

- Proposals for preservation and enhancement of conservation area must be submitted for consideration at a public meeting to the local area which it relates
- The LPA must give regard to any views expressed by those who attended the meeting Notify the Secretary of State and Historic England
- Publicise the intention to designate by a notice placed in the London Gazette and a local newspaper.

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- (We must follow the same publicity procedures to vary or cancel a designation as required to designate.)

Additional consultation

- 6 weeks consultation
- Consult properties in existing and proposed boundaries
- Publish on website and social media
- Consult relevant councillors at local and county level, and other relevant stakeholders
- Consult Heritage and community organisations
- Public event will be held – drop-in session in the location for 3 hours

Additional Notification

- Notify properties in new boundaries
- Notify Heritage and community organisations

33. Works to Protected Trees

- 33.1. Some trees are protected by Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs). Where trees are protected by TPOs, any works to them require an application to the Council. Applications for works to TPO trees will be determined within eight weeks from the date of receipt unless a longer period is agreed with the applicant.
- 33.2. There are no requirements to undertake consultation in respect of applications for works, however, neighbours will be notified of applications at the discretion of the case officer.
- 33.3. Following a decision, the decision notice will be made available online for public inspection.
- 33.4. Proposals for works to trees in Conservation Areas will be determined within six weeks from the date of receipt and if consent is not appropriate, the Local Planning Authority will consider placing a TPO on the tree(s). We will follow the same approach with these applications as for works to a TPO tree as identified above.

34. Hedgerow Removal Applications

- 34.1. In some cases, the removal of certain hedgerows requires permission. Applications under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 will be determined within six weeks of receipt of a removal notice.
- 34.2. Consultation letters will be sent out to the Parish Council, and any other relevant bodies at the officer's discretion.

35. Enforcement

- 35.1. Most enforcement cases arise following a referral from a member of the public. All referrals are treated confidentially. There is no consultation with the public on enforcement cases. Cases are investigated in accordance with the Councils planning Enforcement policy, and take into consideration national legislation and policy, case law and best practice. Many cases can be resolved or regularised through the submission of a planning application as identified by earlier sections of this document.

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- 35.2. We do not make Enforcement cases publicly available, except for those formal notices which are required to be published on the Council's Enforcement Register.
- 35.3. Further information on enforcement is available on the Council's website.¹⁷

Appendix 1: Consultation Bodies

When preparing DPD's and SPs, the Council will seek to engage and consult, where appropriate, with the general public and the wider community. At an early stage, it is important to involve the local community in the preparation of DPDs and SPs as it is essential to achieve local ownership of the planning policies for South Kesteven.

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026 (as amended) specify a number of organisations that must be consulted. These organisations are referred to as 'specific consultation bodies' and 'general consultation bodies.'

The lists below refer only to "types of group" rather than naming every individual group and organisation. This is to ensure that the SCI does not contain out of date information. Also note that these lists are not exhaustive and can be updated at any point.

Specific consultation bodies include Town and Parish Councils and Parish Meetings, Ward Councillors, neighbouring Local Authorities, utilities and health providers and organisations such as Historic England, Environment Agency, Natural England and Active Travel England. This is in addition to any other relevant statutory body defined in the regulations.

General consultation bodies, include a range of community groups and organisations representing South Kesteven's interests, whom the Council considers it appropriate to consult on comprising of:

- Voluntary bodies
- Different racial, ethnic or national groups
- Different religious groups
- Disabled persons groups
- Business groups

Other consultees have been identified in addition to specific and general consultation bodies to ensure that local groups, organisations and individuals in South Kesteven have the opportunity to become involved in the preparation of the Local Plan. These are grouped under the following headings:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| • Amenity groups | • Landowners/Agents |
| • Built Environment | • Minerals & Waste Operators |
- ¹⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/planning-building-control/minerals-and-waste/planning-enforcement>

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- Community
- Economy
- Education
- Ethnic Minority Groups Including Gypsies & Travellers
- Healthcare
- Housing
- Natural Environment
- Older Persons Groups
- Service Providers
- Sports & Leisure
- Transport

Engaging underrepresented Groups

The Council's vision is to engage with all sections of the community, but some sections of the community are not usually involved in the planning process. Consultation will be helped by ensuring, as far as possible, that documents are produced in a clear, concise and understandable manner.

The groups identified as falling into this category are considered below;

- Young people
- People from ethnic minority backgrounds
- People with disabilities
- The elderly
- Rural communities
- Traveller communities
- The homeless

The Council will undertake an Equality Impact Assessment on all new policy documents to ensure due regard to the general duty of the Equality Act 2010 has been given.

Appendix 2: Consultation on Local Plan and Plan Making Stages (New Plan-Making System 2026)

The table below sets out the key stages of the new plan-making system and the consultation methods the Council will use throughout the preparation of future Local Plans. Where legislation, regulations, national policy, or government guidance introduce different requirements, those requirements will take precedence and supersede the consultation methods set out below

- ✓ - methods which will be used for consultation (required by Regulations 2026)
- - methods which will possibly be used (above/beyond Regulations 2026)

Plan Making Stage	Activity	Council's website	Hard/ paper copies	Engagement events and briefings	Emails/ letters	Social Media	Publicity materials	Response forms
Preparation of timetable/ notice of intention	Publication of timetable and notice of intention to commence Local Plan preparation. Evidence gathering - The Council collects up-to date information based on a range of social, economic, and environmental matters. This could include a call for sites exercise, requesting the submission of possible sites for development/ redevelopment for assessment and possible inclusion in the Local Plan.	✓	✓	○	✓	○	✓	
Scoping Consultation	Early engagement: The Council will give notice of the scoping consultation and invite representations on matters such as what the plan should contain and how future engagement on the plan should be carried out. These representations will be invited from defined general and specific consultation bodies, members of the public and other interested parties.	✓	✓	○	✓	○	✓	○
Gateway 1 – self assessment of readiness for Local Plan preparation	A self-assessment summary setting out details of the Council's readiness for local plan preparation (including details of readiness in relation to consultation and engagement) will be published on the Council's website and paper copies of it made available in appropriate locations	✓	✓	○	○	○	○	
Publish summary of Scoping Consultation	A summary of how the scoping consultation was undertaken, the comments received and how these were taken into account will be produced and published on the Council's website and paper copies of it made available in appropriate locations. These will then be considered in the preparation of the Plan.	✓	✓	○	✓	○	○	
Consultation on proposed Local Plan content and evidence	Having considered the scoping consultation and having undertaken further work the Council will give notice of undertaking a public consultation (for a minimum period of six weeks) and invite representations on the proposed local plan content and evidence, which will include: • a proposed vision and any proposed aims and objectives to achieve the vision • proposed policies (including site allocation policies) • summary of evidence to support the Local Plan and any other supporting information • a map of proposed local plan policies The documents will be published on the Council's website and paper copies made available in appropriate locations.	✓	✓	○	✓	○	✓	○
Summary of consultation on proposed local plan content and evidence	A summary of how the proposed Local Plan content and evidence consultation was undertaken and, the responses received, and how these have been taken into account will be produced and published on the Council's website and paper copies made available in appropriate locations prior to Gateway 2 (below). The responses received will be considered in the preparation of the Plan.	✓	✓	○	○	○	○	

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Gateway 2 - Observations/ advice from an appointed person	Between the consultation on the proposed Local Plan and publication of the summary of consultation (below), the Council will seek observations and advice from a Gateway 2 assessor. As soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving the observations and advice, the Council will publish them on the website, make paper copies available in appropriate locations, notify any person who requested to be notified; and send a copy of the observations and advice to any person or body identified/referred to in them.	✓	✓	○	✓	○	○	
Consultation on the proposed Local Plan	Between Gateways 2 and 3, the Council will give notice and invite representations on a public consultation (for a minimum period of eight weeks) on the proposed Local Plan submission documents, including: • the proposed Local Plan and policies map • details of the evidence gathered to support the Plan and other relevant supporting documents • details relating to the scoping consultation and consultation on proposed local plan content and evidence (above), including a summary of the main issues raised and how these have been addressed in the proposed Local Plan. The documents will be published on the Council's website and paper copies made available in appropriate locations.	✓	✓	○	✓	○	✓	○
Summary of consultation on the proposed Local Plan	A summary of how the consultation was undertaken on the consultation of the proposed local plan, the responses received and how they were taken into account in the preparation of the Plan will be produced and published prior to Gateway 3 (below) on the Council's website and paper copies made available in appropriate locations.	✓	✓	○	○	○	○	
Gateway 3- prescribed requirements assessment by an appointed person	The Council will seek observations and advice from a Gateway 3 assessor on whether the prescribed requirements are met in relation to the preparation of the proposed Local Plan. A statement of compliance and a statement of soundness and other supporting documents will be submitted including a summary of the consultation undertaken and responses received. Following confirmation from the Gateway 3 assessor that the prescribed requirements have been met, the Council will publish a statement confirming that Gateway 3 has been completed and the submission documents as they were submitted to the Gateway 3 assessor on the Council's website and make paper copies available in appropriate locations.	✓	✓	○	✓	○	○	
Examination	When the Gateway 3 assessor concludes that the proposed Local Plan meets the prescribed requirements, then the Council will submit it for independent examination. This will include: • a summary of the consultation and engagement activities carried out • the local planning authority's summary of consultation on the proposed local plan The Council will publish notification of submission on their website, details of where submission documents can be inspected and notify any person who requested to be notified*. An Examination in Public will be held by an independent Inspector. Prior to the opening of the examination hearing, the Council will publish the date, time and place of where the hearing is to be held and make this information available in paper form at appropriate locations and notify any person who requested to be notified of this.	✓	✓	○	✓	○	✓	
Adoption	As soon as reasonably practicable after adoption of the Plan, an adoption statement will be published, paper copies of it made available at appropriate locations, and copies sent directly to those respondents who asked to be notified.	✓	✓	○	✓	○	✓	

Appendix 3: Consultation on Supplementary Plan Making Stages (New Plan-Making System 2026)

The table below sets out the key stages of the new plan-making system and the consultation methods the Council will use throughout the preparation of future Supplementary Plans. Where legislation, regulations, national policy, or government guidance introduce different requirements, those requirements will take precedence and supersede the consultation methods set out below

✓ - methods which will be used for consultation (required by Regulations 2026)

○ - methods which will possibly be used (above/beyond Regulations 2026)

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Supplementary Plan (SP) Making Stage	Activity	Council's website	Hard/ paper copies	Engagement events and briefings	Emails/ letters	Social Media	Publicity materials	Response forms
Preparation of timetable/ notice of intention	The Council will publish a timetable and notice of intention to commence supplementary plan preparation (including the subject matter of the SP and the area and/or site(s) to which it will apply.	✓	✓	○	✓	○	✓	
Map of proposed supplementary plan policies	A map of proposed supplementary plan policies will be produced and include: •an Ordnance Survey base map with clear indications of symbols and notations used •prepare a map showing where proposed Supplementary Plan policies apply within the local authority area	✓	✓	○	○	○	✓	
Consultation on the proposed SP	The proposed SP will be published, and the Council will undertake a public consultation for a minimum period of six weeks. The consultation documents will include: • the proposed supplementary plan and policies map • the evidence base to support it and any other relevant supporting documents The Council will consider interested parties that should be consulted based on its proposed subject matter and geographical extent. Any representations made will be considered and amendments will be made to the document where appropriate. A summary of the main issues raised and how they have been addressed will be produced	✓	✓	○	✓	○	✓	○
Submission	The Council will submit the following documents to the person appointed to carry out the examination of a supplementary plan: • the proposed supplementary plan and policies map • compliance statement • consultation statement setting out how the consultation was undertaken, the responses received and how these have been addressed • any other relevant supporting documents. The Council will publish notification of submission on their website, details of where submission documents can be inspected and notify any person who requested to be notified	✓	✓		✓	○	○	
Examination	An Examination in Public will be held by an independent Inspector. Prior to the opening of the examination hearing, the Council will publish the date, time and place of where the hearing is to be held, make this information available in paper form at appropriate locations and notify any person who requested to be notified of this	✓	✓		✓	○	○	
Adoption	As soon as is reasonably practicable after adopting the SP, the Council will publish the adopted plan and an adoption statement as well as the recommendations and reasons of the examiner. The adoption statement must specify matters (stating the date of adoption and where it is available for inspection). A copy of the adoption statement will also be sent to any person that has asked to be notified	✓	✓	○	✓	○	✓	

Appendix 4: Consultation on Planning Applications

Nature of Development	Regulation Determining publicity.
For applications accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment	Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015 Article 15 (2)(a)
Proposals that depart from the Development Plan	DMPO 2015 Article 15 (2)(b)
Development affecting a Right of Way	DMPO 2015 Article 15 (2)(c)

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Major Development 10 or more dwellings or site area of 0.5 hectares or more 1000m or more of floorspace Development carried out on a site having an area of 11 hectares or more	DMPO 2015 Article 15 (4)
All other "Planning Applications"	DMPO 2015 Article 15 (5)
Lawful Development Certificates, Works to Trees in Conservation Areas or covered by a Tree Preservation Order, Non – Material Amendments, Discharge of Conditions, Certificates of Appropriate Alternative Development, Hazardous Substances Consent and Prior Notifications for Agricultural Works and Buildings, Demolitions or Railways	Managed independently by the relevant planning department
Prior Notifications for Telecommunications.	Part 16 of the Town and County Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015.
Works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order/within a Conservation Area	The Hedgerows Regulations 1997 (or as amended)
Listed Building Consent Application.	Regulation 5 of the LB Regulations.
Development affecting the setting of a listed building.	Section 67 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
Development affecting the character or appearance of a Conservation Area Prior notifications for proposed development (includes home extensions, agricultural buildings, telecoms etc.)	Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Appendix 5: Consultation on Neighbourhood Plans

Stage	Minimum consultation requirements	Additional Consultation Methods that may be used (Not exhaustive)	Who will be notified	Period of consultation/notice period
<u>Designation of Neighbourhood Area</u> <u>(Regulation 15)</u>	Publish NP designation application on the Council’s website alongside decision notice		Where appropriate; Ward & Portfolio holders	6 weeks (only applicable when Designating a forum in non-parish areas, or if designation proposals come forward for overlapping or modified NP areas)

	and NP map showing the extent of the Area. Notify those on the dedicated NP mailing list; Those considered to have an interest will be informed by email or letter setting out the decision of the council to designate the NP area.		Those who have expressed an interested in being notified about any NP designations within the South Kesteven district area Any adjoining/ neighbouring Parishes. Relevant Statutory consultation bodies	
Stage	Minimum consultation requirements	Additional Consultation Methods that may be used (Not exhaustive)	Who will be notified	Period of consultation/notice period
<u>Publish Submitted Plan (Regulation 16)</u>	The submitted plan along with relevant evidence base will be available for viewing on the Council's website. - Response forms will also be created and available to fill in via the website or printed off and returned to the council Keep those on the dedicated mailing list informed; Those considered to have an interest will be informed by email or letter setting out: - Information around the submitted NP - How the submitted NP can be viewed. (both hardcopy and electronic link) - How responses can be submitted	Submission NP documents may be made available for public viewing at the council's principal office location – this will be in the Grantham Council Office. Submission NP documents may be made available for public viewing at selected locations within the NP area – this will be where possible and at the discretion of the qualifying body.	Appropriate Ward & Portfolio holders Those who have expressed an interested in being notified about any NP submissions within the South Kesteven district area Any adjoining/ neighbouring Parishes. Relevant Statutory consultation bodies Residents / businesses within the NP area (where possible).	A formal 6-week consultation will take place.
Stage	Minimum consultation requirements	Additional Consultation Methods that may be used (Not exhaustive)	Who will be notified	Period of consultation/notice period
<u>Publication of Examiners Report (Regulation 18)</u>	Examiners report and decision statement will be available for viewing on the Council's website. Keep those on the dedicated mailing list		Appropriate Ward and Portfolio holders Those who have expressed an interested in being notified about the publications of examiners reports or	Not a consultation stage

	informed; Those considered to have an interest will be informed by email or letter setting out: - Information regarding the decision statement - How the examiner’s report can be viewed		decision statements of NPs within the South Kesteven district area. Relevant Statutory consultation bodies Residents / businesses within the NP area. (where possible)	
Stage	Minimum consultation requirements	Additional Consultation Methods that may be used (Not exhaustive)	Who will be notified	Period of consultation/notice period
<u>Making Neighbourhood Plan (Regulation 20)</u>	Copy of the made NP and supporting evidence base will be available for viewing on the Council’s website. Keep those on the dedicated mailing list informed; Those considered to have an interest will be informed by email or letter setting out: - Notice of the made NP - How the made NP can be inspected.		Appropriate Ward and Portfolio holders Those who have expressed an interest in being notified about the making of NPs within the South Kesteven District area.	Not a consultation stage

Appendix 6: Neighbourhood Planning Protocol

The following is a Statement of the support that the District Council will provide to Town and Parish Councils and other Neighbourhood Plan bodies

Purpose of this Protocol

Neighbourhood development plans are normally led by the Parish and Town Councils, or, outside of parished areas, neighbourhood forums (qualifying bodies).

Under the Localism Act, South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) has a statutory duty to provide advice and assistance to communities choosing to undertake a neighbourhood development plan.

Additionally, the provisions of the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 and 2018 Regulations require SKDC, as local planning authority, to set out in its Statement of Community Involvement, the advice and assistance that it will provide to Parish and Town Councils in preparing or modifying neighbourhood plans and neighbourhood development orders.

The 2018 Regulations also require the Council to notify neighbourhood plan groups (Parish and Town Councils) of planning applications or alterations to applications, unless the neighbourhood plan group indicate otherwise in writing.

This Protocol outlines the services that SKDC will offer to Town and Parish councils in South Kesteven, to fulfil these statutory duties and support and guide the preparation of neighbourhood development plans, neighbourhood development orders and proposals to modify neighbourhood plans.

General Support

SKDC will:

Maintain a neighbourhood planning page on its website that identifies and provides links to key information and guidance about neighbourhood plan making, including Neighbourhood Development Orders and other provisions of the Localism Act.

Provide advice and information to help communities understand the neighbourhood planning process and the funding, resources and skills that are available to support the process.

Offer advice on alternative options available to communities, such as Community Plans, to help local people decide which approach(es) is/are right for their area. We recommend that communities interested in undertaking neighbourhood planning get in touch with SKDC's Planning Policy Team at the earliest opportunity and prior to any neighbourhood area designation application being made, to discuss the issues and approach being considered. It is also recommended that communities who are

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interested in making a neighbourhood development order or that propose to modify a made neighbourhood development plan, contact SKDC's Planning Policy Team at the earliest opportunity for advice and to discuss any issues.

Provide advice relating to effective consultation, including ensuring that interested parties are involved in the preliminary stages of neighbourhood plan making.

Assist with mapping requests where possible for use at consultation events and workshops and for inclusion within draft and final plan documents. Parish councils will need to be aware of the Ordnance Survey user agreement prior to this work.

Provide the most up-to-date available evidence base, including the Local Housing Needs Assessment (LHNA) and other evidence information supporting the South Kesteven Local Plan, by making them available on the Council's website.

Provide contact details of statutory consultees and other relevant groups.

Seek to foster a positive and ongoing relationship with town and parish councils throughout the neighbourhood planning process.

Supporting the Designation of Neighbourhood Areas/Business Areas

SKDC will:

Where appropriate, meet local communities (either face to face or via electronic means) who contact us expressing an interest in neighbourhood planning, in order to provide initial advice and information and discuss options. Wherever possible, this should take place in advance of a Neighbourhood Area application being submitted.

Check and confirm receipt of any neighbourhood area application it receives and advise the applying qualifying body of any requirements omitted.

Map neighbourhood area boundaries required for the designation of the neighbourhood area or business area.

Publicise, in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, the application for a neighbourhood area or business area in a manner considered likely to bring the application to the attention of people who live, work or carry on business in the area to which the application relates. This includes through; SKDC's website.

Consider, in accordance with the Regulations, the boundary of the proposed neighbourhood area. Where the boundary is not considered 'coherent, consistent and appropriate in planning terms, as set out in the Regulations, SKDC will work with the town/parish council to come to a suitable resolution and a decision will be made at a scheduled meeting of the Council's Cabinet.

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Determine the application within eight weeks where the application falls entirely within one planning authority area and relates to the whole area of the parish council, twenty weeks where the area straddles two local planning authorities and thirteen weeks in all other cases.

Publish details of all adopted neighbourhood plan areas or business areas on SKDC's website and through other appropriate means as soon as practicable following formal designation.

Supporting the Preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans

SKDC will:

Provide advice on which issues are considered to be relevant planning matters and thus, are suitable for inclusion in neighbourhood plans.

Provide information on relevant European and national legislation and policies and adopted and emerging Local Plan policies with which any neighbourhood plan will need to be in general conformity.

Share existing information and evidence base work held by the local planning authority as appropriate (subject to any data protection or confidentiality issues) and provide advice on any areas where new evidence may be required or beneficial to support the preparation of the Plan.

Help communities communicate with local partners and/or organisations where required (subject to any data protection or confidentiality issues), including in the preliminary stages of neighbourhood plan making

Provide constructive comments on the emerging plan and other supporting documents prior to formal submission.

Carry out screening / scoping to identify and provide an opinion and advice on the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal or Habitats Regulations Assessment, except where consultants have been employed to prepare the neighbourhood plan.

SKDC will not:

Undertake consultation exercises, distribute consultation questionnaires, collect, collate or analyse responses on behalf of communities for consultation arising from requirements placed on qualifying bodies in the Regulations.

Provide project management services for the production of the neighbourhood plan.

Draft the neighbourhood plan or any part or policy therein, although we can identify examples in which similar plans or policies have been prepared and which may be helpful points of reference and can provide advice on wording.

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Undertake the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment or Appropriate Assessment, even if these are required. Consultants will be expected to undertake these.

Independent Examination

SKDC will:

Validate a neighbourhood plan on receipt, checking that all of the necessary supporting documents have been sent.

Review the plan to ensure that it is in general conformity with the Local Plan and offer comments and suggestions as appropriate.

Publicise the neighbourhood plan on the Council's website for a minimum of six weeks in line with the regulations.

Appoint and fund the independent examiner, who will check that the plan meets the material considerations. The selection of examiner will be agreed with the relevant town or parish council.

Provide an examination venue if a public hearing is required and there are no suitable venues within the NP area.

Following the recommendations of the examiner, provide written confirmation of the Council's position. This will cover any amendments that may need to be made to the plan before it proceeds to referendum and any extension of the referendum area beyond the designated neighbourhood area boundaries.

Referendum

SKDC will:

Fund and organise the public referendum (two referendums will be required for business areas – one for residents and one for businesses)

Adoption

SKDC will:

If the neighbourhood plan receives support at referendum from more than 50% of those that vote, then SKDC will formally adopt the neighbourhood plan and publish it on its website in accordance with the Regulations.

Once adopted the Plan will form part of SKDC's Development Plan. It will be a primary consideration in determining the outcome of planning applications relating to the neighbourhood or business area.

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Obligations for Town and Parish Councils

In order to receive the support from SKDC outlined above, Town and Parish Councils should – Ensure that they get in touch with SKDC’s Development Plans Team at the earliest opportunity (for instance, as soon as any decision is made that neighbourhood planning might be considered for the area) and prior to any neighbourhood area application being made, to discuss the issues and approach being considered. This will enable SKDC to programme and plan their support work and help the qualifying body come to a decision on whether neighbourhood planning is for them or whether another option might be more effective and appropriate.

Establish a steering group to develop the neighbourhood plan with a clear link to the parish council by way of an agreed Terms of Reference.

Arrange an initial meeting of the parish council and/or steering group and invite relevant SKDC officers to attend (either through face to face or electronic means of communication dependant on circumstances).

Prepare a project plan for the preparation of the neighbourhood plan, including an indicative timetable. Provide SKDC with regular progress updates, especially at any key stages and when any decisions are made that will influence the content, aims and objectives of the plan

Seek to foster a positive and ongoing relationship with SKDC throughout the neighbourhood planning process, including discussions at key stages such as preparation of the draft plan.

Provide SKDC with the final plan in electronic and paper format.

Provide SKDC with the results of any primary research and evidence gathered that would be beneficial to them.

Seek to accord fully at all times with the requirements in the relevant regulations and guidance for neighbourhood planning.

Appendix 7: Glossary and List of Abbreviations

Glossary

Conservation Area - areas of special architectural and/or historic interest, the character of appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance

Development Plan Documents (DPDs) - They are spatial planning documents that are subject to independent examination. There is a right for those making representations seeking change to be heard at an independent examination

Duty to Cooperate - created by the Localism Act 2011 it places a duty on local authorities to 'engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis with certain specified bodies to maximise the effectiveness of Local Plan preparation relating to strategic cross boundary issues

Examination - the purpose of the Examination is to determine if the Local Plan is sound. Most representations to the Examination will be written representations but in some cases the Inspector may decide the issues raised should be dealt with at hearing sessions

General Consultation Bodies - organisations defined by The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026 that are required to be consulted at key stages of plan production. They include bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic, religious or national groups, disabled persons and business in the LPA's area

Hard to Reach Groups - Groups of people or organisations within the community that have traditionally been more difficult to engage in the planning system. They include older people, religious, disabled and ethnic minority groups

Legacy Local Plan system – refers to the historic plan-making process governed by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and earlier regulations.

Localism Act 2011 - Government legislation containing wide range of reforms to the planning system

Local Development Scheme (LDS) - sets out the programme for the preparation of local development documents.

Local Plan – The new term for the suite of Development Plan documents. It may consist of a single or number of Development Plan Documents

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – sets out the Governments planning policies. Replaces all previous Planning Policy Statements and associated Guidance

Neighbourhood Development Plans - The Plans are prepared by a parish council or neighbourhood forum for a particular neighbourhood area (made under the Localism Act 2011) and have to be in general conformity with the district plan, undergo Examination and

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a Referendum. After adoption they are used (alongside other policy documents) to determine planning applications

Planning Inspectorate (PINS) - an independent Government agency that processes planning and enforcement appeals and holds inquiries into development plan documents

Specific Consultation Bodies - organisations defined by The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026 that are required to be consulted at key stages of plan production. They include neighbouring and parish councils, key service providers, Government departments and non-Government organisations

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) - sets out the standards which the plan-making authority intends to achieve in relation to involving the community in the preparation, alteration and continuing review of all planning policy documents and in development management decisions

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) - these cover a wide range of issues on which the plan making authority wishes to provide guidance to supplement the policies and proposals in development plan documents. They do not form part of the development plan and are not subject to independent examination

Supplementary Plans (SPs) - Supplementary Plans under the new plan-making system are official documents created by the Council replace old Supplementary Planning Documents carrying the exact legal weight as a main local plan and require independent examination.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) - a tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives (i.e. social, environmental and economic factors)

Tree Preservation Order (TPO) - an Order made by a Council in respect of a tree(s) because the tree is considered to bring amenity value to the surrounding area. The order makes it an offence to cut down, uproot, prune, lop or damage the tree in question without first obtaining the Council's consent. A TPO can apply to a single tree, a group of trees or a woodland

List of Abbreviations

DPD	Development Plan Document
HRA	Habitat Regulation Assessment
GLCCA	Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority
LDS	Local Development Scheme
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LP	Local Plan
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
NDP	Neighbourhood Development Plan
PINS	Planning Inspectorate
SA	Sustainability Appraisal

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SCI	Statement of Community Involvement
SKDC	South Kesteven District Council
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SP	Supplementary Plans
TPO	Tree Preservation Order



SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL Statement of Community Involvement

Consultation Summary Report

August 2026

1. Introduction

- 1.1** This report provides a summary of the comments received in relation to South Kesteven's Statement of Community Involvement update for 2026.
- 1.2** The Statement of Community involvement (SCI) has been updated to ensure the Council's approach to consultation is robust. This Review also incorporates updates required following the withdrawal of the Coronavirus Act 2020 guidance on 20th October 2023 and the amendments required to reflect the new plan-making system.
- 1.3** A 6-week public consultation on the draft revised SCI was undertaken between the 13th of March 2026 and the 24th April 2026.
- 1.4** The SCI document was available for comment, and this presented an opportunity for respondents to comment on any areas of the SCI that required review above and beyond the proposed changes.
- 1.5** The draft SCI was available to view on the Council's website. Paper copies of the consultation document and response form were also available upon request.
- 1.6** A notification email and subsequent letters were sent to individuals, organisations, and statutory consultees on the Planning Policy consultation database to publicise the consultation. The Council also published news and information on the consultation on their website and on social media.
- 1.7** Representations were encouraged to be submitted electronically or posted using the provided response form available on the Council's website. However, representations by email and letter were also accepted.

2. SCI Comments Summary

- 2.1** The council received 13 comments from various parties, including both statutory and non-statutory consultees.
- 2.2** The draft SCI has been refined, taking into account the comments made during the consultation and through the relevant statutory and legal changes. The key findings from the consultation comments have been presented in Table 1 which presents a summary of comments received and if any action was required in response to the consultation. The consultation statement also outlines the key headline changes made to the document as part of the update process which can be found in Table 2.

Table 1 – Summary of Comments Received

Consultee	Summary	Response / Action
Statutory Consultees		
Natural England	Supportive of the principle of meaningful and early engagement of the general community, community organisations and statutory bodies in local planning matters	Comments noted - No action required
Historic England	Support the general aims and approach to the draft Statement of Community Involvement.	Comments noted - No action required
Canal and River Trust	As a statutory consultee, we note that Appendix 1: Consultation Bodies includes Specific Consultation bodies, and the Trust would be an 'other relevant statutory body defined in the regulations.' We have defined areas next to our network in which we should be notified of any planning applications likely to affect our waterways, and our Planning Buffer can be found on our open data page - https://data-canalrivertrust.opendata.arcgis.com/ (updated 29/9/2025). We also have a responsibility to assist when asked in the preparation of planning policy documents under The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026. Please ensure your teams are using the most up to date version of our open data to assist in identifying us as a relevant statutory consultee. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have.	Comments noted - No action required

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National Highways	Are content that National Highways will continue to be consulted as a statutory body as National Highways has been appointed as the highway authority for the SRN, by the Secretary of State	Comments noted - No action required
Lincolnshire County Council	Lincolnshire County Council have no specific comments to make in respect of the SCI	Comments noted - No action required
Anglian Water	Section 11.5 and Appendix 1 - Anglian Water welcomes the inclusion of utility providers identified as being specific consultation bodies in the preparation of DPDs and SPDs. In addition, Anglian Water is committed to working with South Kesteven District Council to deliver the Lincolnshire reservoir project and requests continuing engagement in developing plans and policies for the district	Comments noted - No action required
Environment Agency	The Environment Agency acknowledges being correctly identified as a statutory consultee. Environment Agency now advise that parts of the SCI are now out of date due to the new 2026 Local Planning Regulations which came into force on the 25 th March 2026 including with regards to Supplementary Planning Documents. Through the new regulations it is made clear that SPDs are to be replaced with Supplementary Plans.	We acknowledge the comments made by Environment Agency however this SCI has been updated to reflect the new plan-making system, which came into force on 25 th March 2026 during the consultation period. References to Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) have been amended to reflect the introduction of Supplementary Plans (SPs) under the new planning framework.
Parish Councils		
Harlaxton Parish Council	Harlaxton Parish Council objects to the draft SCI because it does not require direct email notification to Parish and Town Councils when planning applications are amended with later changes to planning applications within their parish.	SKDC would like to advice that the draft SCI reflects the legal duty set out within the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015 (as amended).

	Parish and Town Councils must be specifically notified by email of all amendments such as revised drawings, additional technical information, Section 73 applications and non-material amendment applications and any other changes affecting planning applications within their parish. The draft SCI states that Parish and Town Councils are notified of relevant applications within their area by email, but it does not provide an equivalent firm commitment in relation to later amendments or related changes. Where an application is amended after first submission, the Parish Council should receive a direct email notification in the same manner as for the original application, identifying the nature of the amendment and providing a fresh consultation period where the change is material. Including revised plans, additional reports, section 73 applications, non-material amendment applications, amended access arrangements, drainage changes, and any other alteration capable of affecting planning judgment, local amenity, or the concerns previously raised by the Parish Council. Parish Councils are statutory consultees for planning applications affecting their area and perform an important democratic role in representing their communities. Effective consultation requires direct, reliable, and timely notification. The burden must not be shifted onto Parish Councils to identify amendments indirectly through weekly lists or by repeatedly checking the Council's website in case a	Any further consultation beyond the requirements of the DMPO is at the Local Planning Authority's discretion. The amendment requested by the Parish Council is not sufficiently precise. The Local Planning Authority are not required to accept amendments during the course of a live planning application. However, where additional/amended details are invited, Officer's exercise reasonable professional judgement in deciding whether to undertake further consultation, and the length of time for such consultation, dependent on the nature of amendments or additional information received, which will vary on a case-by-case basis. Where further consultation is required, Parish Councils are notified directly, and the notification does include details of the amendments made or additional information received.
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	significant change has been introduced. The SCI should therefore be amended to include an express requirement that Parish and Town Councils receive direct notification of all amendments and related applications within their parish, together with a clear and proportionate re consultation period where those changes are material. Leaving specific notification of amendments to officer discretion is procedurally weak, unfair, and inconsistent with meaningful community engagement. Direct notice of amendments should be required as a matter of rule, not left to discretion. Accordingly, the procedure should be amended in the following terms: "All Parish and Town Councils shall be notified electronically by email of relevant planning applications within their area, and shall also be specifically notified electronically by email of any amendments, revised plans, additional information, section 73 applications, non-material amendment applications, or other alterations relating to those applications. Where such changes are material, a further consultation period shall be provided	
Other Comments (General public)		
Cllr Paul Martin	Parish/Town councils and ward members should be given a pre-app notice of the basic principles of the enquiry. This allows a fair amount of time to discuss the application and prepare for the main application. Three weeks is not enough and creates an unfair advantage, especially to speculative applications, for developers to exploit the communities rushed and potentially lacking response given this short time frames.	SKDC would like to advice that there is no legal duty to undertake a pre-application enquiry in advance of the formal submission of a planning application. Similarly, there is no guarantee that a formal planning application will be submitted following a pre-application enquiry. Furthermore, there is no obligation for an application to reflect a scheme submitted for pre-application advice, or for an Applicant to follow any advice provided at pre-application stage. Therefore,

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		notification of a pre-application enquiry may not assist interested parties in preparing comments for a future application. Customers who engage with the Council's Pre-Application service do so on the basis that the information is confidential. Therefore, publication of this information would undermine this expectation and the engagement with the pre-application service. Please note that the 21-day consultation period reflects the legal requirements for planning applications.
Cllr Kyle Abel	I think members of SK would appreciate the council reaching out to them on planning applications directly affecting the area they live. Rather than wait for someone to find out for themselves as often this info is not easily known or found. All residents who pay council tax have at least one email address tied to their accounts, just uses these. Under GDPR it wouldn't be seen as marketing, it would be classed as public information.	SKDC would like to advise that Ward Members are notified directly via email of applications within their Ward.
Lucie Dawson	In general, the draft statements seems comprehensive and logical in the management of such a diverse and complicated system. Our points are as below... 11.1 DPD's and SPDs the council will seek to engage and consult, where appropriate, with the general public and the wider community. We feel it would it be useful to give more detail here as to the parameters of what/who 'where appropriate' means.	25.9 - SKDC would like to advice that planning decisions are required to be made based on material considerations. The volume of public representation is not a material consideration, however, the matters raised within a representation may constitute a material consideration. 29.1 - The Council are legally required to maintain a planning register. The Council's Planning Register is published online. However, formal notification/consultation on planning applications is undertaken in accordance with the Council's SCI and the requirements set out in legislation.

	25.9 Planning decisions are made on the basis of material planning considerations NOT the number of objections received Is there a specific reason why the number of objections are not also taken into consideration. Where there is a particularly contentious application, surely the number of objections (assuming those objections are still of Material Consideration) should provide an additional indication as to the feelings of any interested parties/the general public? 29.1 Planning practice guidance and planning legislation requires specific parties to be notified of planning decisions. The council approaches this by providing all of its decisions on the website. Is there a reason why this specific phase of an application would only be announced online, where at all other stages all interested parties are notified? In section 30.5 it states that the 'planning inspector will consider the evidence (of an appeal) and decide whether to allow or dismiss the appeal. They will inform the council and interested parties...' It seems odd that just this element would not be communicated directly? We are assuming here that 'interested parties' includes any individual who has been a part of the overall consultation	30.5 – SKDC would like to advise that interested parties refers to statutory consultees, as well as any individual who submitted representations during the course of the initial planning application, or the appeal.
Peter Jackson	Statement of Community Involvement The SCI should require, rather than encourage, meaningful pre-application engagement with local communities for major developments. Early and transparent consultation is essential to ensure proposals properly reflect local constraints and community needs	SKDC would like to advise that Paragraph 41 of the National Planning Policy Framework recognises that the Local Planning Authority cannot require that a developer engages with them before submitting a planning application, but they should encourage take-up of any pre-application services they offer. This includes encouraging applications who are not required to do so by law, to engage with the local

		community and statutory and non-statutory consultees in advance of submitting planning applications.
Andrew Shelton	Page No 15, Section 15, Paragraph 15.1: Digital Exclusion - There is a strong emphasis on digital-first public engagement which I support, however the only non-digital option now seems to be viewing hard copies by appointment at Council offices. Excuse the generalization, but those who may lack digital access/ digital confidence may also be the same group who lack the ability to travel. Question: What measures would be put in place to mitigate digital exclusion and ensure equitable participation for digitally isolated or disadvantaged groups? Mitigate digital exclusion and ensure equitable participation for digitally isolated or disadvantaged groups. Page No 44, Section Appendix: Implications for Town and Parish Councils - There seems to be expanded, more structured consultation stages, which again I fully support. Question: Will there be an increase in the volume of administration at the town and parish level - and if so, what support, capacity considerations or process adjustments will be offered to help mitigate? Put in place support and capacity, or process adjustments to mitigate	SKDC would like to advise that publication of the planning register online is considered to be the most efficient use of public resources. However, hard copies of documents can be made available or posted to customers, on request, subject to a charge. The revised SCI is not expected to result in an increase in administration for Town and Parish Councils in supporting the preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans. No changes have been made to this part of the SCI. The obligations stated within the Neighbourhood Planning Protocol reflect existing good practice and activities already required to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan such as engaging with the Council.

Table 2 – Key Headline changes to the SCI Document

<u>Key change 1 -</u>	The general information (page 2) has been updated, removing the consultation information.
<u>Key change 2 -</u>	Following the below changes to the document the contents page has been updated to reflect the new page numbering.
<u>Key change 3 -</u>	The new plan-making system (2026) has been introduced to the SCI since this came into force on 25 th March 2026.
<u>Key change 4 -</u>	Section 4 containing ‘why a review is needed’ had been updated to reflect the new legislative and regulation changes.
<u>Key change 5 -</u>	Changed in consultation section updated to ensure the SCI remains robust and future proof given any changes required by legislation, government guidance or exceptional circumstances that affect the Council’s ability to carry out consultation.
<u>Key change 6 -</u>	The new plan-making system (2026) introduced new arrangements for Supplementary Plans which replace Supplementary Planning Documents under the legacy plan-making system.
<u>Key change 7 -</u>	Removed references to the Covid19 pandemic as this advice has been revoked. In addition, the SCI has been future proofed to include any similar exceptional circumstances.
<u>Key change 8 -</u>	Stages involved for the new plan-making (2026) process which has been added to reflect the changes in legislation which came into force on 25 th March 2026. Reference to the legacy system has been removed.
<u>Key change 9-</u>	Stages involved for Supplementary Plans (2026) process has been added to reflect the changes in legislation which came into force on 25 th March 2026. References to SPDs have been removed.
<u>Key change 10-</u>	Update to the statutory Duty to Co-Operate section as this has been abolished.
<u>Key change 11-</u>	Contact details for the Planning Policy Team have been included for information on how the team can be contacted to be added to the database.
<u>Key change 12 -</u>	Table 1 has been introduced to reflect the changes in new consultation methods due to the new plan-making stages (2026).

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<u>Key change 13 -</u>	Consultation on the Local Plan and plan-making stages for the new system (2026) added as Appendix 2.
<u>Key change 14 -</u>	Consultation on Supplementary plan-making stages for the new system (2026) added as Appendix 3.
<u>Key change 15 -</u>	Glossary updated to explain the terminology 'Legacy local plan system'.
<u>Key change 16 -</u>	List of abbreviations updated to explain the abbreviation SP (Supplementary Plans).
<u>Key change 17-</u>	Links & footnotes have been reviewed and updated to ensure users can be easily directed to the pages referred to within the text. Links have been provided to the new plan-making system.



APPENDIX THREE

Equality Impact Assessment

Question	Response
1. Name of policy/funding activity/event being assessed	South Kesteven District Council: Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) 2026
2. Summary of aims and objectives of the policy/funding activity/event	The Statement of Community Involvement sets out how the Council will consult on planning policy documents (including the Local Plan), engage with and support neighbourhood planning, and consult on planning applications. As a local authority, we are required by the Equality Act 2010 to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty. This means we need to carry out an equality analysis of our services and any proposals for change. We need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, services and functions, both current and proposed, give proper consideration and due regard to the needs of diverse groups to: • Eliminate discrimination • Advance equality of opportunity and access, and • Foster good relations between different groups in the community
3. Who is affected by the policy/funding activity/event?	South Kesteven District Council residents, businesses, developers and anyone who wishes to comment on planning related matters.
4. Has there been any consultation with, or input from, customers/service users or other stakeholders? If so, with whom, how were they consulted and what did they say? If you haven't consulted yet and are intending to do so, please complete the consultation table below.	Yes, a 6-week public consultation on the draft revised SCI was undertaken between the 13th of March 2026 and the 24th of April 2026. Notification emails were sent to all statutory consultees, councillors, parish councils and all other consultees on the planning policy database. This included information on where the draft SCI was available to view and how to make representations. This included a weblink and options of alternative methods of commenting (i.e. consultation portal, emailing to planning policy team, post) where people do not have access or do not wish to complete the online representation. The response form was also available to download from the council's website and paper copies of the consultation document and response form were also available upon request. The council received 13 comments from various parties which have been summarised in the 'Consultation Summary Report 2026' - Appendix 2.
5. What are the arrangements for monitoring and reviewing the actual impact of the policy/funding activity/event?	The Council is also required to review the SCI every five years from the date of its adoption.



Protected Characteristic	Is there a potential positive or negative impact? (state which below. If N/A give reason in next column)	Please explain and give examples of any evidence/data used	Action to address negative impact e.g. adjustment to the policy (The Action Log below should be completed to provide further detail)
Age	Neutral	The SCI document places greater emphasis on online consultation methods and removes the minimum consultation requirement to have libraries and council offices as deposit points, which could disproportionately impact older people who are less likely to be online. However, the Council can still choose to deposit the documents at these points at their discretion and there is an option for paper copies of the consultation document and response form been made available upon request. Overall, this would maintain the advancement of equality of opportunity.	No action required at this stage.
Disability	Positive	The SCI document makes a commitment to make reasonable adjustments for equalities purposes by providing alternative formats upon request. This would particularly benefit individuals with certain disabilities. Overall, the aim of this is to eliminate discrimination and advance equality of opportunity to respond to consultations.	No action required at this stage.
Gender Reassignment	Neutral	Benefits of the SCI document would be equal as they apply to the public generally.	No action required at this stage.



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Marriage and Civil Partnership	Neutral	Benefits of the SCI document would be equal as they apply to the public generally.	No action required at this stage.
Pregnancy and Maternity	Neutral	Benefits of the SCI document would be equal as they apply to the public generally.	No action required at this stage.
Race	Positive	It is recognised that there may be challenges in engaging all racial groups due to language barriers, or cultural differences. To address this, local plan documents requested in an alternative format due to a language differential will not be charged. consultation on the new plan making system	No action required at this stage.
Religion or Belief	Neutral	Benefits of the SCI document would be equal as they apply to the public generally.	No action required at this stage.
Sex	Neutral	Benefits of the SCI document would be equal as they apply to the public generally.	No action required at this stage.
Sexual Orientation	Neutral	Benefits of the Sci document would be equal as they apply to the public generally.	No action required at this stage.
Other Factors requiring consideration			
Socio-Economic Impacts	Neutral	The document promotes public participation in planning matters through a range of consultation methods. Multiple opportunities to engage in consultation were made available. However individuals facing financial hardship may face barriers to engage, including limited internet access, lack of digital skills.	No action required at this stage.



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Carers (those who provide unpaid care to a family member, friend or partner)	Neutral	The document promotes public participation in planning matters through a range of consultation methods. Multiple opportunities to engage in consultation were made available. Although some carers may face barriers to participate due to caring responsibilities, limited time etc consultation materials have been made available in various forms allowing participation at a time convenient to them.	No action required at this stage.
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Consultation

Negative impacts identified will require the responsible officer to consult with the affected group/s to determine all practicable and proportionate mitigations. Add more rows as required.		
Group/Organisation	Date	Response

Proposed Mitigation: Action Log

To be completed when barriers, negative impact or discrimination are found as part of this process – to show actions taken to remove or mitigate. Any mitigations identified throughout the EIA process should be meaningful and timely. Add more rows as required.				
Negative Impact	Action	Timeline	Outcome	Status

Evaluation Decision

Once consultation and practicable and proportionate mitigation has been put in place, the responsible officer should evaluate whether any negative impact remains and, if so, provide justification for any decision to proceed.		
Question	Explanation / justification	
Is it possible the proposed policy or activity or change in policy or activity could discriminate or unfairly disadvantage people?		
Final Decision	Tick	Include any explanation/justification required
1. No barriers identified, therefore activity will proceed	✓	No significant barriers have been identified. The SCI includes a variety



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		of consultation methods and seeks to ensure that all individuals and groups have an opportunity to participate in planning consultations.
2. Stop the policy or practice because the data shows bias towards one or more groups		
3. Adapt or change the policy in a way that will eliminate the bias		
4. Barriers and impact identified , however having considered all available options carefully, there appear to be no other proportionate ways to achieve the aim of the policy or practice (e.g. in extreme cases or where positive action is taken). Therefore you are going to proceed with caution with this policy or practice knowing that it may favour some people less than others, providing justification for this decision		

Did you consult with an Equality Ally prior to carrying out this assessment? Yes/No

Sign off

Name and job title of person completing this EIA	Jhanvi Shukla Assistant Planning Policy Officer
Officer Responsible for implementing the policy/function etc	Alan Houghton Interim Planning Policy Manager
Date Completed	06/08/2026
Line Manager	Alan Houghton
Date Agreed (by line manager)	06/08/2026
Date of Review (if required)	

Completed EIAs should be included as an appendix to the relevant report going to a Cabinet, Committee or Council meeting and a copy sent to equalities@southkesteven.gov.uk.

Completed EIAs will be published along with the relevant report through Modern.Gov before any decision is made and also on the Council's website.

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**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

Joint Environment and Rural & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 20 August 2026

Report of Councillor Virginia Moran
Cabinet Member for Housing.

Review of the Public Spaces Protection Order (Vehicle Nuisance, Stamford)

Report Author

Ayeisha Kirkham, Head of Public Protection

✉ ayeisha.kirkham@southkesteven.gov.uk

Purpose of Report

The Council is required to review the Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) which apply in the district. This is required every three years. This report considers whether the existing order in place should be extended.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- 1. Consider the proposed extension of the existing PSPO for vehicle related nuisance and anti-social behaviour covering the following areas within Stamford: the Station Road car park (also known as Cattle Market), the Meadows and Bath Row.**
- 2. Consider the proposed variation to the existing PSPO for vehicle related nuisance and anti-social behaviour covering the following areas within Stamford: the Station Road car park (also known as Cattle Market), the Meadows and Bath Row.**

3. **Recommend that Cabinet approves the extension and variation of the PSPO (for a further 3 years).**

Decision Information

Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	No
What are the relevant corporate priorities?	Effective council
Which wards are impacted?	Stamford St Marys;

1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

Finance and Procurement

1.1 There are no budget implications related to extending this PSPO.

Completed by: David Scott – Assistant Director of Finance and Deputy S151 Officer.

Legal and Governance

1.2 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 sets out the requirements for consultation. A PSPO can be made if, on reasonable grounds, the local authority is satisfied that the required conditions are met. As stated in the report, the PSPOs can last for up to three years once approved and can be varied or extended more than once if certain criteria under section 60 of the Act are met.

Completed by: Emma Powley – Interim Democratic Services Manager

Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion

1.3 This report relates to a review of current public space protection orders (PSPOs). At the time of the original order being put in place, Equality Impact Assessments were carried out. One relating to the consultation before the order was put in place and one at implementation. The latter has been reviewed and refreshed by the responsible officers and is attached as an appendix to this report. Whilst the enforcement of the PSPO is not determined by any relevant protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is mindful that any information pertaining to such orders should be made available in alternative formats on request for people with disabilities.

Completed by: Carol Drury, Community Development Manager

2. Background to the Report

- 2.1 Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) were introduced by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to deal with nuisance or problems in specific areas that are detrimental to the local community's quality of life, by imposing conditions on the use of that area which apply to everyone. They are intended to help ensure that the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour. They can apply to any public space. The definition of public space is wide and includes any place to which the public or any section of the public has access
- 2.2 A PSPO can be made by the Council if it is satisfied, on reasonable grounds, that the activity or behaviour concerned, carried out, or likely to be carried out in a public space:
- has had, or is likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality;
 - is, or is likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature;
 - is, or is likely to be, unreasonable; and
 - justifies the restrictions imposed.
- 2.3 Existing PSPO's must be reviewed every three years and can be extended up to a further three years if it is considered that they are necessary to prevent the original behaviour from occurring or recurring. The existing PSPO can be found within the background papers to this report.
- 2.4 Evidence to support the support the continuation of the existing PSPO for vehicle related nuisance and anti-social behaviour covering the following areas within Stamford: the Station Road car park (also known as Cattle Market), the Meadows and Bath Row, has been gathered, reviewed and is provided within Appendix B to this report.
- 2.5 This PSPO was put in place to tackle vehicle related nuisance and anti-social behaviour on the 20 October 2023, for a period of up to 3 years.
- 2.5 It is proposed that the PSPO is extended for a further period of 3 years and also varied to include the new areas of the carpark on Station Road (Cattle Market). Appendix D to this report provides the proposed map and areas to be included in the extended and varied PSPO.

3. Key Considerations

- 3.1 PSPO's are a useful tool in local authorities, working in partnership with the Police, enabling a proactive approach to tackle specific issues occurring in particular public spaces. The prohibition of certain activities acts as a deterrent and gives authorised

officers the tools in which to tackle the behaviours which are affecting the wider community.

- 3.2 If this existing PSPO is not renewed, South Kesteven District Council and Lincolnshire Police will have a limited ability to tackle these behaviours.
- 3.3 If the existing PSPO is not varied to include new parts of the car park, then this PSPO will not apply to those areas, limiting enforcement activity.

4. Other Options Considered

- 4.1 This existing PSPO could be allowed to expire. This would remove the ability to enforce against the matters covered by the Order.

5. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 5.1 This existing Public Space Protection Order is due to expire in October 2026, by extending the PSPO, and varying to include new areas within the carpark, this will allow the PSPO to act as a deterrent and prohibit vehicle related nuisance and anti-social behaviour.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 Under s72 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, a local authority must carry out the necessary consultation before extending, varying or making a PSPO. Necessary consultation means consulting with the Chief Officer of Police, the local policing body, whatever community representatives the authority deems appropriate and the owner or occupier of land within any of the restricted area.
- 6.2 Consultation has now taken place, and this occurred between 6th May 2026 and 3rd June 2026. Full information relating to that consultation (including who was consulted and the feedback received), can be found within Appendix C to this report

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 Existing PSPO: [Vehicle Nuisance \(redacted\) PSPO Mar 2024.pdf](#)
- 7.2 [Cabinet 10th October, 2023- Approval of the PSPO](#)

8. Appendices

- 1.1. Appendix A Equality Impact Assessment
- Appendix B Police and SKDC Data
- Appendix C Consultation Report
- Appendix D Proposed Public Spaces Protection Order and Map



Equality Impact Assessment

Question	Response
1. Name of policy/funding activity/event being assessed	Consultation to review Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) for Vehicle Nuisance and Anti-Social Behaviour in Stamford.
2. Summary of aims and objectives of the policy/funding activity/event	To vary and renew the current PSPO for Vehicle Nuisance and Anti-Social Behaviour in Stamford.
3. What involvement and consultation has been done in relation to this policy? (e.g. with relevant groups and stakeholders)	A consultation was carried out as per section 72 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. Stakeholders including Parish, District and County Councillors, Town Councils, Lincolnshire County Council, Lincolnshire Police, The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Community Groups within Stamford were contacted with the relevant information to enable them to participate in the consultation which was undertaken over 4 weeks between 6th May 2026 and 3rd June 2026. This EIA is to supplement a report to Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review the current PSPO for Vehicle Nuisance and Anti-Social Behaviour in Stamford.
4. Who is affected by the policy/funding activity/event?	Residents, visitors and other stakeholders within the locality of the Stamford
5. What are the arrangements for monitoring and reviewing the actual impact of the policy/funding activity/event?	Review and analysis of all enforcement action is undertaken on a monthly basis. The PSPO will be reviewed in 3 years.

Protected Characteristic	Is there a potential for positive or negative impact?	Please explain and give examples of any evidence/data used	Action to address negative impact e.g. adjustment to the policy <i>(The Action Log below should be completed to provide further detail)</i>
Age	Neutral	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO. Age therefore is not a relevant protected characteristic in relation to the implementation of powers offered through the use of a PSPO unless the	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.



		offender can offer mitigating circumstances that relate directly to this protected characteristic.	
Disability	Neutral	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO.	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.
Gender Reassignment	Neutral	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO. Gender Reassignment therefore is not a relevant protected characteristic in relation to the implementation of powers offered through the use of a PSPO unless the offender can offer mitigating circumstances that relate directly to this protected characteristic.	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Neutral	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO. Marriage and Civil Partnership therefore is not a relevant protected characteristic in relation to the implementation of powers offered through the use of a PSPO unless the offender can offer mitigating circumstances that relate directly to this protected characteristic.	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.
Pregnancy and Maternity	No	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.



		of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO. Pregnancy and Maternity therefore is not a relevant protected characteristic in relation to the implementation of powers offered through the use of a PSPO unless the offender can offer mitigating circumstances that relate directly to this protected characteristic.	
Race	Negative	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO. Race therefore is not a relevant protected characteristic in relation to the implementation of powers offered through the use of a PSPO unless the offender can offer mitigating circumstances that relate directly to this protected characteristic.	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.
Religion or Belief	No	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO. Religion or Belief therefore is not a relevant protected characteristic in relation to the implementation of powers offered through the use of a PSPO unless the offender can offer mitigating circumstances that relate directly to this protected characteristic.	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.
Sex	No	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.



		of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO. Sex therefore is not a relevant protected characteristic in relation to the implementation of powers offered through the use of a PSPO unless the offender can offer mitigating circumstances that relate directly to this protected characteristic.	
Sexual Orientation	No	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO. Sexual Orientation therefore is not a relevant protected characteristic in relation to the implementation of powers offered through the use of a PSPO unless the offender can offer mitigating circumstances that relate directly to this protected characteristic.	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.
Other Factors requiring consideration			
Socio-Economic Impacts	Neutral	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO.	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.
Carers (those who provide unpaid care to a family member, friend or partner)-	Neutral	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use of these powers will be as a direct result of a breach of the PSPO.	The implementation of the Order included a public consultation. The initial assessment has been reviewed taking into consideration the responses.



Consultation

Negative impacts identified will require the responsible officer to consult with the affected group/s to determine all practicable and proportionate mitigations. Add more rows as required.

Group/Organisation	Date	Response

Proposed Mitigation: Action Log

To be completed when barriers, negative impact or discrimination are found as part of this process – to show actions taken to remove or mitigate. Any mitigations identified throughout the EIA process should be meaningful and timely. Add more rows as required.

Negative Impact	Action	Timeline	Outcome	Status

Evaluation Decision

Once consultation and practicable and proportionate mitigation has been put in place, the responsible officer should evaluate whether any negative impact remains and, if so, provide justification for any decision to proceed.

Question	Explanation / justification	
Is it possible the proposed policy or activity or change in policy or activity could discriminate or unfairly disadvantage people?	Following implementation of the mitigating actions, the level of impact on those identified would be minimal/negated	
Final Decision	Tick	Include any explanation/justification required
1. No barriers identified, therefore activity will proceed	X	The application of powers and tools available to the district council under a PSPO are utilised in an equitable manner. Any use of these powers will be as a direct result of an unauthorised vehicle accessing the area.
2. Stop the policy or practice because the data shows bias towards one or more groups		
3. Adapt or change the policy in a way that will eliminate the bias		
4. Barriers and impact identified , however having considered all available options carefully, there appear to be no other proportionate ways to achieve the aim of the policy or practice (e.g. in extreme cases or where positive action is taken).		



Therefore you are going to **proceed with caution** with this policy or practice knowing that it may favour some people less than others, providing justification for this decision

Sign off

Name and job title of person completing this EIA	Kati Conway – Senior Neighbourhoods Officer
Officer Responsible for implementing the policy/function etc	Kati Conway – Senior Neighbourhoods Officer
Date Completed	4-6-26
Line Manager	A Beaver
Date Agreed <i>(by line manager)</i>	4-6-26
Date of Review <i>(if required)</i>	

Completed EIAs should be sent to equalities@southkesteven.gov.uk . Completed EIAs will be published on the Council's website before any decision is made.

Appendix B: Police and SKDC data held regarding vehicle related complaints from car parks within the area of the Public Spaces Protection Order.

Police Data

The requested data identifies 9 incidents reported over the previous three-year period:

Incident	Opened	Primary Location	Incident Type	Priority	Close Reason
416	16/05/2026 19:47	bath row, stamford, lincolnshire (BATH ROW, STAMFORD)	Transport - Traffic Offence	(4) - NON ATTENDAN	T09 - Transport - Traffic Offence
12	01/03/2026 00:24	bath row, stamford, lincolnshire (BATH ROW STAMFORD Admin - Police Generated Resource Act	Transport - Traffic Offence	(4) - NON ATTENDAN	T09 - Transport - Traffic Offence
60	22/11/2025 03:36	south kesteven district council, car park, bath row, stan	Transport - Traffic Offence	(2) - PRIORITY	T09 - Transport - Traffic Offence
372	01/04/2025 18:02	the meadows, bath row, stamford, lincolnshire, PE9 2W	NVC - Vehicle Offences	(3) - ROUTINE	C15 - Crime Recorded - Vehicle Offences
318	29/03/2025 18:43	bath row, stamford, lincolnshire (BATH ROW CAR PARK, Transport - Traffic Offence	Transport - Traffic Offence	(4) - NON ATTENDAN	T09 - Transport - Traffic Offence
91	29/11/2024 08:31	south kesteven district council, car park, bath row, stan	NVC - Vehicle Offences	(3) - ROUTINE	C15 - Crime Recorded - Vehicle Offences
168	28/10/2024 11:09	bath row, stamford, lincolnshire (BATH ROW, ST)	Transport - Traffic Offence	(4) - NON ATTENDAN	P23 - PSW - Suspicious Circumstances
565	30/08/2024 22:58	the meadows, bath row, stamford, lincolnshire, PE9 2W	Transport - Traffic Offence	(2) - PRIORITY	T09 - Transport - Traffic Offence
140	24/02/2024 10:49	bath row, stamford, lincolnshire (BATH ROW, STAMFORD)	Transport - Traffic Offence	(3) - ROUTINE	T09 - Transport - Traffic Offence

SKDC data

This reveals two recent reports.

Both reports relate to the new section of the Cattle Market Car Park.

Case Reference Number	Date	Detail
192944	04/03/2026	Every evening now youths are playing football, shouting and beeping their car horns in the new section of the Cattle Market car park.
194047	24/ 4/2026	Several vehicles racing late at night & early hours in carpark.

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**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

STAMFORD CAR PARKS PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER CONSULTATION REPORT



**JUNE
2026**

Deborah Wyles
Communications & Consultation
South Kesteven District Council

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Renewal of Public Spaces Protection Order

Stamford Car Parks

JUNE 2026

Introduction

1. The Council has been asked to consider a proposal to amend and renew a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) which currently covers council-run car parks in Stamford. It includes the Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows Car Park and Bath Row Car Park and has been in place since October 2023. The purpose of the PSPO is to give the Council powers to deal with vehicle related nuisance and anti-social behaviour.
2. Guidelines set out in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act stipulate that Public Spaces Protection Orders can last up to three years and that consultation must be undertaken prior to approval.
3. The purpose of this report is to update members of South Kesteven District Council's joint meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the results of the consultation undertaken to fulfil this requirement.

Purpose of consultation

4. The purpose of the consultation was to inform a decision which is due to be taken by SKDC before the current Public Spaces Protection Order expires.

Scope of consultation

5. The scope of the consultation was determined prior to the process commencing. It had to:
 - Allow for the renewal of the existing order in its current form with a slight variation. This is due to boundary changes, as one of the car parks in Stamford - the Cattle Market Car Park - has been extended.
 - Ensure that the views of those who may be affected by the proposed restrictions are reflected in the responses, as well as those who would like to see the PSPO renewed

Objectives of consultation

6. The objectives of the consultation were to:
 - Demonstrate SKDC have met the requirements as set out in section 72 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime, Policing Act 2014 to carry out the necessary consultation, publicity, and notification before making, extending, varying or discharging a PSPO
 - Inform a decision that will be taken by the council in respect of the proposal to renew the PSPO currently in situ for vehicle related nuisance and anti-social behaviour (with a slight variation due to boundary changes) covering the following areas within Stamford: The Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows and Bath Row Car Park
 - Measure the degree of support or otherwise for the proposal
 - Understand and be aware of the impact taking this decision may have on specific stakeholders
 - Assess any potential impact of the PSPO on the community including demonstrating that council has had due regard to compliance with the Equality Act 2010

Timescales

7. The consultation was launched on 6th May for four weeks, closing on 3rd June 2026. The results were then analysed and a report prepared. This will be discussed at the joint meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20th August and Cabinet on 8th September 2026.

Stakeholders

8. The stakeholders were identified as follows:
 - Any individual or body from those who live or work near the areas who wishes to make representation. Those who used any of the car parks in question were also invited to take part.
 - The Police; this included Stamford Neighbourhood Policing Team and the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner
 - Town, District and County Councillors who represent Stamford
 - Other community representatives. These include resident associations, local businesses, any commissioned service providers, charities and other relevant interest groups

Methodology

9. The table below identifies the methods thought to be the most appropriate for each of the different stakeholder types:

Stakeholders	Methods	Details
Members of the public – those who live or work near either the Cattlemarket, the Meadows or the Bath Row Car Parks in Stamford, or use them when visiting the town	Members of the public made aware of the consultation through the following channels: SKDC web site Posters Printed copies of the survey	Potential respondents referred to survey monkey to participate in the consultation. Webpage contained the information needed as part of the consultation including maps detailing the areas covered by the order – to include maps of the Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows and Bath Row Car Park in Stamford. Links to relevant pages of website included in the survey. Posters displayed at each of the car parks. These included a weblink to the survey, QR code and how to take part if no access to the internet. Posters displayed by the Neighbourhoods team. Printed copies of the survey made available at Stamford Arts Centre, 27 St Mary's Street, Stamford PE9 2DL
The Police – Lincolnshire Police and the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner	Neighbourhoods Team for Lincolnshire Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner contacted	SKDC 's Neighbourhoods Team contacted Stamford Neighbourhood Policing Team (Lincolnshire Police) and also the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner Marc Jones mailto:lincolnshire-pcc@lincs.pnn.police.uk
Town, District and County Councillors representing Stamford	Contacted by email	Neighbourhoods Team contacted the following: Stamford Town Council: Clerk Mrs Sarah Dorson townclerk@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

		District Council Councillors: Cllr Habib Rahman habib.rahman@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Max Sawyer max.sawyer@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Gloria Johnson gloria.johnson@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Rhea Rayside rhea.rayside@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Richard Cleaver richard.cleaver@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Susan Sandall susan.sandall@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Harrish Bisnauthsing harrish.bisnauthsing@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Jane Kingman jane.kingman@southkesteven.gov.uk Lincolnshire County Council Councillors: Cllr Kelham Cooke cllrk.cooke@lincolnshire.gov.uk Cllr Richard Cleaver (see above)
Lincolnshire County Council		Neighbourhoods Team contacted LCC. This done by email: cschighways@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Those representing community groups/ other organisations	Email community groups with a link to the survey	The following community groups contacted by KC: Street Pastors stamford@streetpastors.org.uk

Details

10. The survey included the following sections:

- An introduction to the consultation, why their help is needed and how their feedback will be used to inform the decision(s) that will be taken in respect of renewing a PSPO for vehicle nuisance and ASB in car parks in Stamford.
- Details of the proposal including the draft Order and associated map of restricted areas. Map to make clear that the Cattle Market Car Park has been extended

- A question to identify the type of user (individual, community group or town/parish council)
- A question to establish the degree of support for the proposal to renew the PSPO in respect of vehicle nuisance and ASB which covers the Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows Car Park and Bath Row Car Park in Stamford
- Respondents to be made aware that the renewal of the PSPO will incorporate the extension to the Cattle Market Car Park
- A space for them to suggest any amendments to the existing PSPO
- A space for them to detail any negative impacts approving the renewal of the PSPO may have
- An option for them to ask questions or make further observations about the proposal
- An opportunity for them to supply their details so that they can be contacted in relation to their query
- A statement on how any personal data they supply will be treated
- A question to identify their gender, age, and postcode
- A thank you and closing date

11. The webpage included an introduction to the consultation, why their help was needed and how their feedback will be used to inform any decision that might be taken in respect of a decision to implement a Public Space Protection Order.

12. Because the consultation was focused on specific locations in Stamford, the opportunity to participate was promoted at a local level, rather than district wide. No press release was issued, and the survey was not promoted on the Council's social media channels. Efforts were made to engage with the local community – posters promoting the consultation were displayed in each of the car parks in Stamford and the councillors representing Stamford (town, district and county) were contacted directly by email.

The email included:

- An introduction to the consultation
- A link to the survey and the QR code
- What to do if they wanted a printed copy of the survey
- Next steps

The poster included:

- Information on the proposal
- How those seeing the poster could help

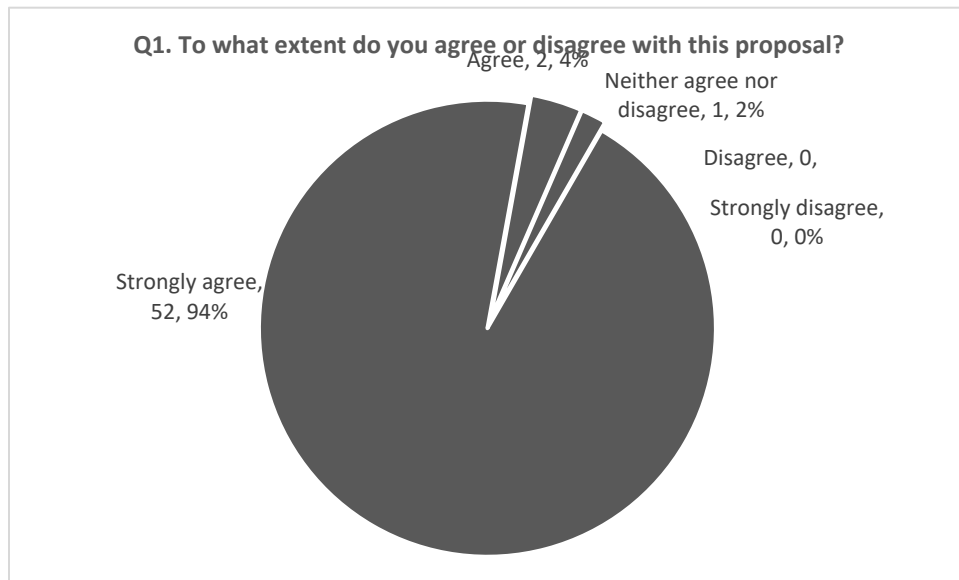
- Next steps

The results

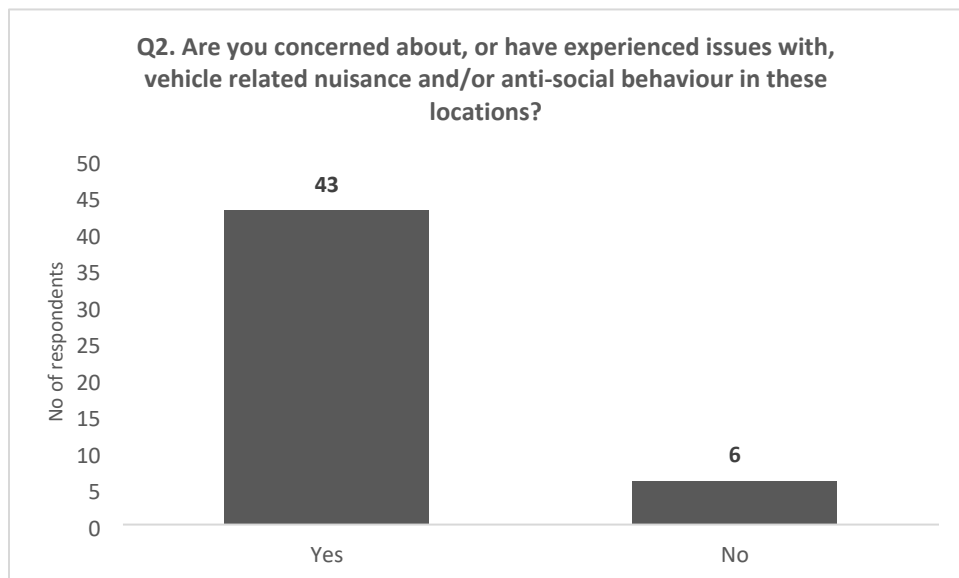
13. The introduction to the survey included some information on Public Spaces Protection Orders, set out in a question-and-answer format. Those taking part were told what public spaces protection orders are, what types of PSPO the Council currently has in place, and what they are for, which public spaces protection order this consultation is focused on, and why they are being asked about it. Respondents were also provided with a link to the PSPOs currently in place and maps of the areas they cover.
14. Respondents were informed that SKDC is proposing to renew the Vehicle Nuisance and Anti-Social Behaviour Public Spaces Protection Order, currently in place for car parks in Stamford, with a slight variation. This is because Stamford Cattle Market Car Park has been extended – with work to provide an additional 146 spaces completed in June last year. This means the boundary of the area which will be covered by the order, if it is renewed, has changed.
15. If approved, the purpose of the order will continue to be to prohibit vehicles being used to cause a nuisance and anti-social behaviour in Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows and Bath Row Car Park, Stamford. The activities to be controlled under the terms of the order, if renewed, will be:
 - Revving of engines as to cause a public nuisance
 - Sudden and/or rapid acceleration as to cause a public nuisance
 - Repeated sudden and/or rapid acceleration as to cause a public nuisance
 - Racing by two or more vehicles
 - Performing stunts as to cause a public nuisance
 - Sounding horns as to cause a public nuisance
 - Playing music from a vehicle as to cause a public nuisance

Under the terms of the order, individuals will also be required to stop

- Acting in a manner that causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress
16. When asked the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with this proposal, all respondents, except one, answered either “strongly agree” or “agree”. This is illustrated in the pie chart overleaf:



17. To collect more information on the extent of the issue, respondents were asked if they were concerned about, or had experienced issues with, vehicle related nuisance and/or anti-social behaviour in these locations. Nine out of ten (43 or 87.8%) said that they were either concerned about or had experienced issues, as illustrated here:



18. Respondents were prompted to give further details. Their comments could be grouped into one of four interrelated themes. These were:

- Dangerous or anti-social vehicle use
- Noise and loud music – disturbing sleep
- Drugs, alcohol and intimidation
- Public safety concerns

Quotes illustrating each of these themes are detailed below:

“Cattle Market Car Park is consistently being used as a racetrack. Cars regularly perform “doughnuts” etc....”

“On occasions, mostly in the evenings, car radios are played excessively loudly, cars are revved up unnecessarily and cars go too quickly - in Bath Row - and in the past there has been 'racing' in the station car park with all the noise that can create.”

“.....Drug dealing near Bath Row car park on private property...”

“Safety to the public is paramount”

19. The fourth question on the survey asked respondents “Do you think there are any other options the council could consider?” Given the support for the renewal of the existing Public Spaces Protection Order, it is perhaps not surprising that this question was interpreted by respondents as meaning in addition to or as well as, rather than as a substitute for, a PSPO. Their comments could be grouped into the following:

Policing, enforcement and penalties

“I welcome the extension of the PSPO but more active and visible policing in these areas at evening/nights would be even better”

Surveillance, CCTV and ANPR

“...ANPR cameras for all when arriving and departing....”

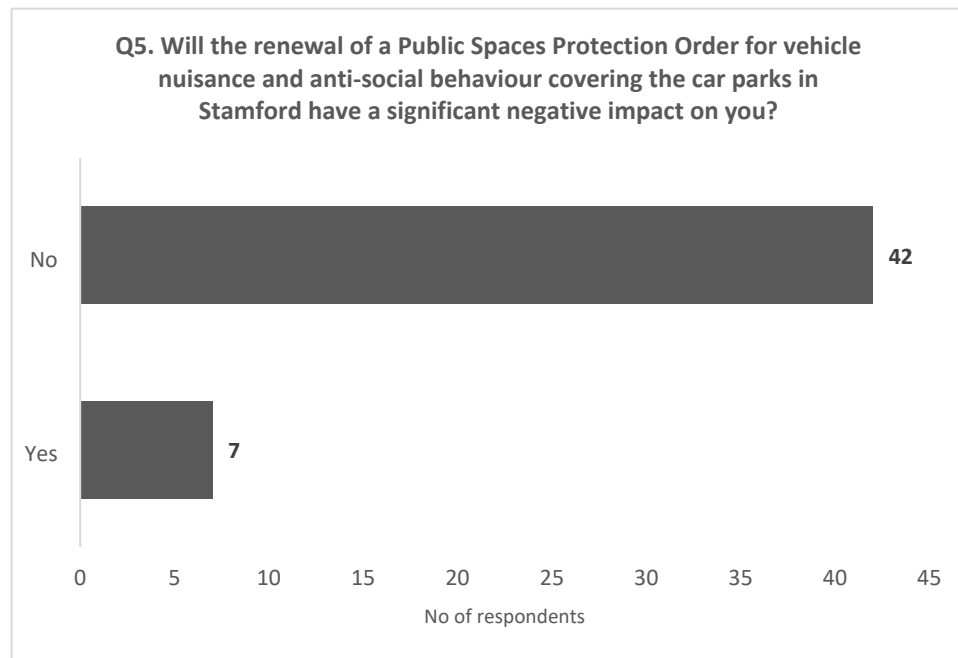
Restricting access and site design changes

“.... Sunken bollards that could be raised. Close off far car park after 21:00 hours....”

Traffic Calming and speed reduction

“I believe that speed bumps installed on the main approach road would also assist with slowing vehicles as they enter and exit the car park.”

20. When asked if the renewal of a Public Spaces Protection Order for vehicle nuisance and anti-social behaviour covering Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows and Bath Row Car Park, Stamford would have a significant negative impact on them, most respondents (42 or 85.7%) said that it wouldn't. This is illustrated on the graph below:

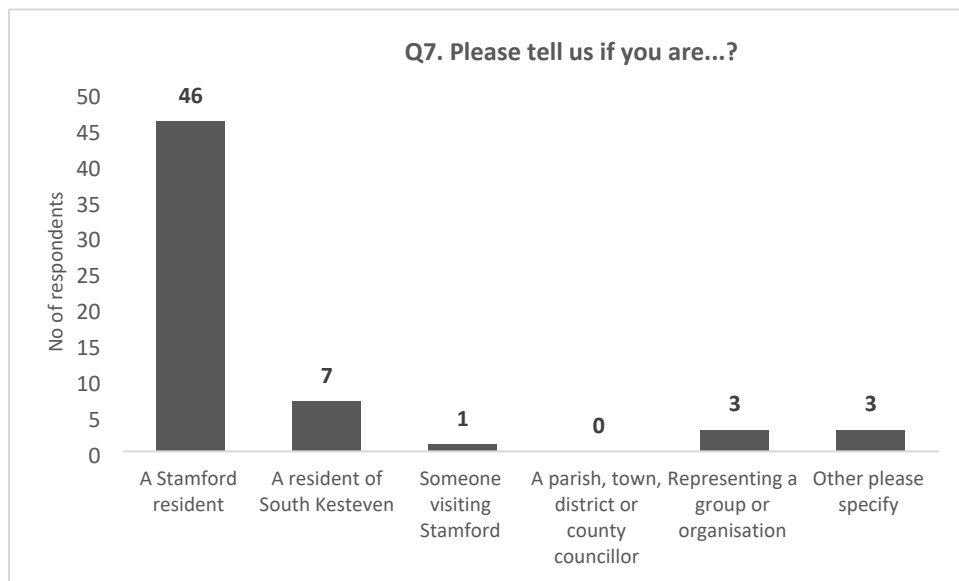


21. Those answering yes were then given the opportunity to explain why they had chosen to answer in this way. An analysis of their responses revealed that they did so because they wanted the opportunity to state why the Public Spaces Protection Order currently in place should be renewed, not to state a case for why it shouldn't. Their reasons included sleep deprivation, noise levels and anti-social drinking, as illustrated in the quotes below:

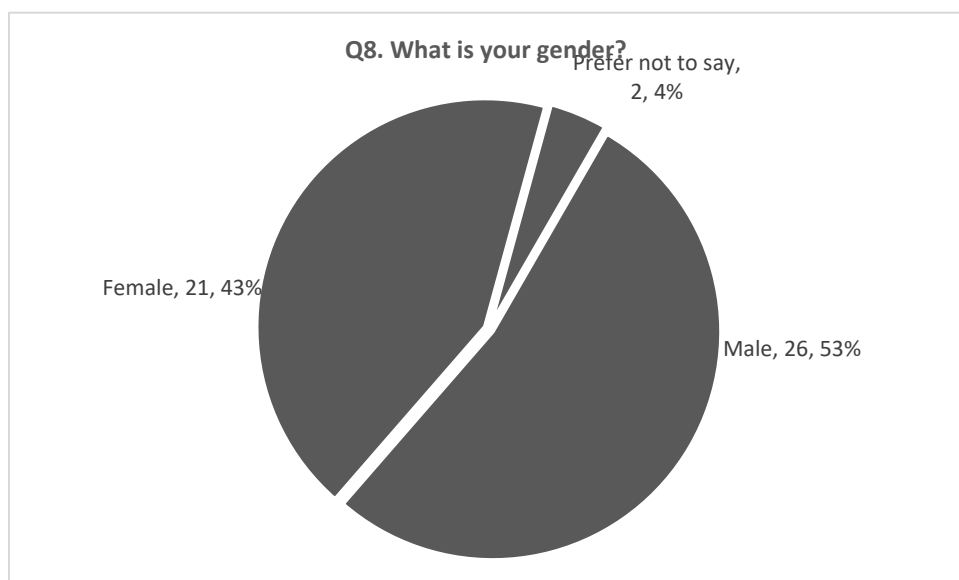
"Noise, sleep deprivation"

"Very noisy also empty bottles of vodka dumped around"

22. When asked if they lived in Stamford, represented the area or were visiting, most of those taking part in the survey were local. 46 out of 50 responses received (92.0%) were from Stamford residents. One response was received from a visitor (2.0%) and three from individuals representing groups or organisations (6.0%). Also describing themselves as "other", responses were received from Stamford's Neighbourhood Policing Team, a landlord from a local pub and the Stamford Street Pastors. The distribution of responses is illustrated overleaf:



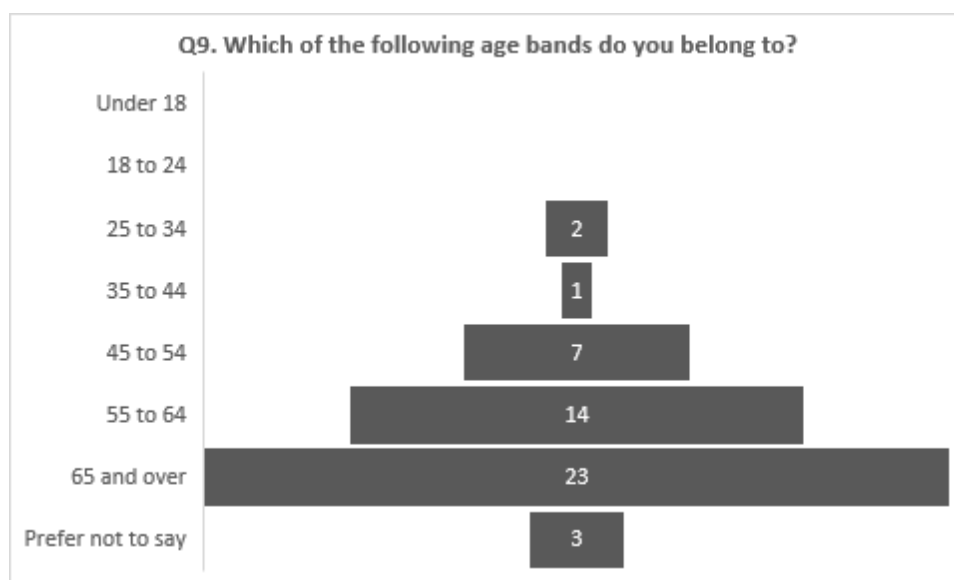
23. Respondents were asked to provide some demographic information. Just over half (26 or 53.1%) of those taking part were male. Around two fifths (21 or 42.9%) were female, as illustrated in the chart below:



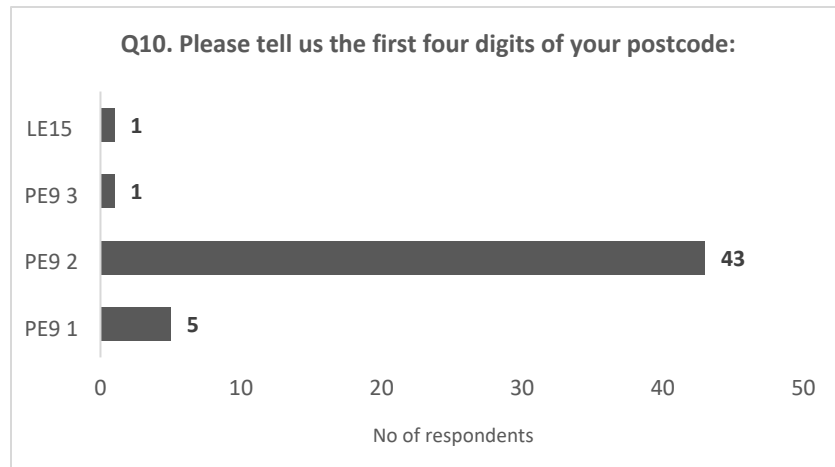
24. Comparing these demographics to those of South Kesteven revealed the sample is representative of gender, as illustrated in the table overleaf:

Gender	ONS % (B)	Sample % (C)	B/C
Male	47.2	53.1	0.9
Female	52.8	42.9	1.2

25. The sample was not representative across age bands. No responses were received from those under the age of 25, and three from those aged between 25 and 44. Three quarters of responses (37 or 74.0%) were from people aged 55 or over, as shown in the funnel chart below:



26. An analysis of postcodes revealed all responses (apart from one) were received from people living locally in either PE9 1 or PE9 2. This is perhaps not surprising given the subject matter of the consultation but should be acknowledged as it illustrates the importance of the issue to people in these areas of Stamford. The distribution of responses is shown on the graph overleaf:



27. The final question in this consultation asked respondents if they had any questions or would like to comment on anything included in the survey. The comments made by respondents centred on the lack of police and enforcement – particularly at night, anti-social behaviour linked to driving and the danger this poses to those who live near these locations. A selection of comments received are listed below:

“There never seems to be any police in town late at night. A police car or two parked in the right places should reduce the dangerous driving....”

“... I have witnessed, the lights shining through into the apartments from the car park, noise, music and spinning cars....”

A couple of respondents were worried that the survey hadn’t been promoted widely enough, as illustrated in the quote below:

“Very few people were aware of this survey, so any response will be very limited. I live in one of the crucial areas (Bath Row) but only heard about it v recently....”

Conclusion

28. Undertaking this consultation has been an important and interesting exercise. The feedback received has been strongly in favour of renewing the Public Spaces Protection Order currently in place across all council run car parks in Stamford. 54 respondents (98.2%) supported the proposal. Only one respondent chose to answer “neither agree nor disagree”.

29. Members of South Kesteven District Council's joint meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and Cabinet are asked to note the results of this consultation and in particular, the extent of support from the local community to renew the Public Spaces Protection Order currently in place.

30. The quote below expresses the strength of feeling respondents have towards this issue

"Please, please, please address this dangerous and anti-social issue properly once and for all. It has been allowed to go on too long and I believe lives are at risk with the way they drive, including to themselves...."

Prepared by Deb Wyles
Communications and Consultation
6th July 2026

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The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. Section 59

**South Kesteven District Council (Vehicle Nuisance and Anti-social Behaviour) Public Spaces
Protection Order 2023**

South Kesteven District Council (in this Order called "the Council") in exercise of its powers under Section 59 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act hereby makes the following Order:

The Order is made on the XXX and shall have effect for a period of 3 years from XXX, unless extended by further orders under the Council's statutory powers.

General provisions:

1. This Order applies to all land in the Restricted Areas to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.
2. The Council is satisfied that both of the conditions set out in Section 59 of the Act are satisfied, because the activity, identified in paragraph 5 of this Order, which is carried on in a public place ("the Restricted Area") has a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality and this effect is or is likely to be of a persistent or continuing nature, such as to make the activities unreasonable and justifies the restrictions imposed by this Order.
3. The Order is available for inspection on the Council's website and also by appointment, at the offices of South Kesteven District Council. Appointments can be made by contacting 01476 406080 or emailing neighbourhoods@southkesteven.gov.uk
4. If any interested person desires to question the validity of this Order on the grounds that the Council had no power to make it or that any requirement of the Act has not been complied with in relation to this Order, he or she may apply to the High Court within six weeks from the date on which this Order is made.

Prohibitions:

5. Vehicle related nuisance and Anti-Social Behaviour

The activities which are to be controlled are:

- a) Within the Restricted Area specified in the Schedule to this Order, anyone being the driver of a vehicle (motorised or otherwise) performs any of the following activities
 - i Revving of engine(s) as to cause a public nuisance
 - ii Sudden and/or rapid acceleration as to cause a public nuisance
 - iii Repeated sudden and/or rapid acceleration as to cause a public nuisance
 - iv Racing by two or more vehicles
 - v Performing stunts as to cause a public nuisance
 - vi Sounds horns as to cause a public nuisance
 - vii Playing music from a vehicle as to cause a public nuisance

Vehicle includes a pedal cycle; power assisted pedal cycle; pedal cycle (in combination with a trailer constructed or adapted for carrying one or more passengers); scooters and electric scooters.

- b) Acting in a manner that causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress

For the purpose of this Order:

- (a) Restricted Area means the land designated in the Schedule to this Order
- (b) An "authorised officer" means an officer who is authorised in writing by the Council for the purposes of giving directions under the Order or a police constable or a community support officer designated under the Police Reform Act 2002.

Penalty

A person who fails to comply with any obligation imposed by this Order is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine on summary conviction not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

An authorised officer may issue a fixed penalty notice (currently E 100) to a person who they reasonably believe has breached the requirements of this Order. A fixed penalty notice offers the recipient the opportunity to discharge the liability to conviction for the offence by paying the fixed penalty notice within 14 days of issue of the notice

.

Date Order Made:

Executed as a DEED by affixing the
COMMON SEAL of SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

In the presence of:

Signature

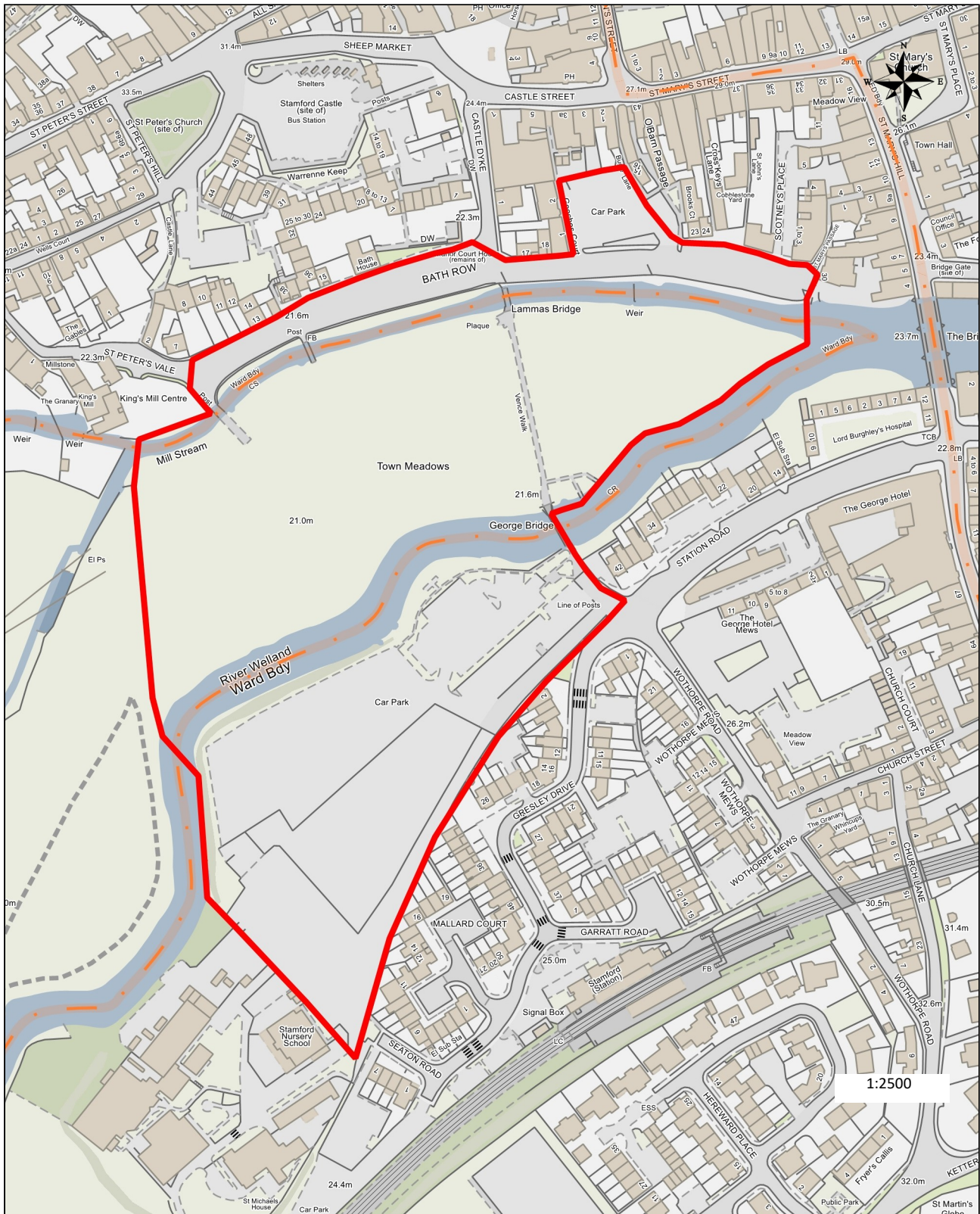
Printed name

Schedule

This Order applies to land which is within the administrative area of South Kesteven District Council, edged red in the attached plans, which is open to the air (which includes land which is covered, but open to the open air on at least one side) and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment).



Station Road (Cattle Market) Car Park, The Meadows and Bath Row, Stamford



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