**Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames - Consultation on the Draft Statement of Community Involvement3**

‎12‎ ‎Apr at ‎14‎:‎27

Dear Sir/Madam,

**CONSULTATION ON THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: SECTION 18 OF THE PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004.**

We would like to invite you to share your views and comments on our new draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) document.

**What is a SCI?**

All local authorities are required to have a SCI that explains how the council will involve residents, local groups, stakeholders and statutory consultees in preparing the council’s planning policy and guidance documents, and in the process of deciding planning applications.

**Public consultation**

We’d like to hear your views on our new draft SCI - you can have your say in a number of ways outlined below. The consultation will take place for a period of six weeks starting on Friday 12 April 2019 and involving specific bodies, general consultees and persons and organisations registered on the Local Plan consultee database. This is being undertaken in advance of the separate public consultation on the Early Engagement for the Local Plan, which will commence on 1 May, so that we can take account of any views on the consultation techniques and apply these during the Local Plan consultation.

You can read the draft SCI online at [www.kingstonletstalk.co.uk/SCI](http://www.kingstonletstalk.co.uk/SCI) or alternatively paper copies are available at all libraries within the borough during their normal opening hours, and at the council’s Information and Advice Centre on the ground floor of Guildhall 2 from 9am–5pm Monday to Friday.

**Drop in events**

There is an opportunity for you to find out more about the draft SCI at the forthcoming Neighbourhood Forums which will take place during May, as detailed below. We’d like to encourage you to attend one of these drop in sessions and would welcome any feedback you may have.

* Kingston Town Centre - Tuesday 7 May
* Surbiton - Thursday 16 May
* Maldens and Coombe - Tuesday 21 May
* South of the Borough - Wednesday 15 May

For further information on these Neighbourhood Forums, including venues, please visit the following web page which will be updated as further information becomes available:

[www.kingston.gov.uk/info/200157/planning\_strategies\_and\_policies/1353/new\_local\_plan](https://www.kingston.gov.uk/info/200157/planning_strategies_and_policies/1353/new_local_plan)

**How can I have my say?**

Our preferred method for you to comment is using our online survey where possible, however there are many ways in which you can share your views:

* Online: [www.kingstonletstalk.co.uk/SCI](http://www.kingstonletstalk.co.uk/SCI) to complete a short survey
* Email: localplan@kingston.gov.uk
* Write to: Strategic Planning Team, The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, Guildhall 2, High Street, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 1EU

Views on the document should be submitted to the council by 11.59pm on **Friday 24 May 2019**.

**Next steps**

Feedback from the SCI consultation will be considered and a final version will be discussed at the Strategic Housing and Planning Committee in September 2019, where a decision will need to be made on whether it’s adopted, as this is a statutory planning document. It will address all responses received during public consultation and a summary of key changes will be presented to Committee. Once adopted the SCI will be made available on the council's website.

If you have any queries please contact our Strategic Planning Team on 020 8547 5002.

Kind regards

**Strategic Planning Team**

The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Guildhall 2, High Street, Kingston upon Thames KT1 1EU

Telephone: 020 8547 5002

Email: localplan@kingston.gov.uk

Website: [www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/)