



Item

Response to Anglian Water Section 47 Planning Act (2008) Consultation on Draft Statement of Community Consultation with Local Planning Authorities

To:

Planning and Transport Scrutiny Committee 14 January 2020

Report by:

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Wards affected:

All

NOT FOR PUBLICATION: The appendices to this report relate to an item during which the public is likely to be excluded from the meeting by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Not a Key Decision

1. Executive Summary

On 18th December the Council (and South Cambridgeshire District Council) received communications from Anglian Water outlining their proposed arrangements for public consultation in respect of the project to relocate the Cambridge Waste Water Treatment works. The project plays an important part in the Councils Joint Area Action Plan for North East Cambridge which sees the area become a major area for change. The proposed Statement of Community Consultation (attached as an exempt appendix 1) has been the subject of informal engagement with Anglian Water's team prior to its submission. The Council has a period of 28 days to reply with its view on the proposed consultation. This report seeks approval for the Councils response – enclosed as Appendix 2.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

- A Note the details of the proposed statement of community consultation
- B Delegate to the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development the submission of the Council's response to the proposed statement of community consultation set out in Appendix 2

3. Background

- 3.1 The Cambridge Local Plan 2018 (and South Cambridgeshire District Local Plan) identify the area at North East Cambridge as an area of significant change (Policy 15). The land is accordingly allocated for mixed use employment led development. The Council is in the process of preparing an Area Action Plan DPD which seeks to respond to a successful bid under the Housing Infrastructure Fund that would provide for the relocation of the Cambridge Water Treatment Works. This would serve to unlock significant new opportunities (beyond Policy 15) including new residential development which, because of the odour profile around the existing site, would not otherwise be achievable.
- 3.2 Anglian Water have begun the process of securing consent for a new Water Treatment Works. The project has been determined to be a "Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project." Planning permission for the new facility would accordingly not be via the County Council (as the Local Planning Authority for waste) but instead would be via a "Development Consent Order" (DCO). The DCO process is defined by regulations and overseen/administered by the Planning Inspectorate.
- 3.3 Cambridge City Council and SCDC have, along with the County Council, been consulted formally under that process on the proposed community consultation process which Anglian Water will follow as they prepare to submit the application for Development Consent in 2021. The proposed phase 1 consultation (attached as Exempt Appendix 1) is scheduled to begin in January in line with a programme that would comprise three stages – two "non statutory" consultations ahead of a pre-submission statutory consultation phase next year.

- 3.4 Officers have reviewed the proposed statement of community consultation and have previously provided comprehensive comments on an earlier, draft. Those comments have been incorporated into the revised statement and for this reason, the proposed comments on the draft submitted formally are limited to points of detail (Appendix 2).

4. Implications

a) Financial Implications

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- 4.1 The cost of preparing the submission/response is covered by the service budget.

b) Staffing Implications

- 4.2 None.

c) Equality and Poverty Implications

- 4.3 None. Responsibility for ensuring a well-run, accessible consultation rests with Anglian Water and their consultancy team. The proposed response seeks to assist in providing advice to AW to ensure that the consultation is accessible to as wide an audience as possible.

d) Environmental Implications

- 4.4 None

e) Procurement Implications

- 4.5 None.

f) Community Safety Implications

- 4.6 None

5. Consultation and communication considerations

- 5.1 None. This report relates to a third-party consultation programme.

6. Background papers

North East Cambridge Area Action Plan Issues and Options 2019

7. Appendices

Appendix 1: Draft Statement of Community Consultation

Appendix 2: CCC proposed response to Draft Statement of Community Consultation