

Consultation Statement Regulation 12 Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)



Contents

1	Introduction	4
1.1	Overview	4
1.2	Scope	4
1.3	What we consulted on	5
2	The Consultation: Publicity undertaken	6
2.2	Consultation website	6
2.3	Other publicity measures	7
2.4	Member engagement	7
3	Consultation	8
4	Conclusion and next steps	9
	Appendix 1: Statutory and other consultation bodies	10
	Appendix 2: Consultation hub	12
	Appendix 3: Slough Borough Council Planning Policy webpage	15
	Appendix 5: Consultation email and letter notification	18
	Appendix 6: Public notices	23
	Appendix 7: Consultation press release	26
	Appendix 8: Social media	28
	Appendix 9: Summary of the responses to the SCI consultation	29

1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

1.1.1 This consultation statement provides a record of the consultation process and stakeholder engagement for the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) public consultation. The public consultation ran from 4th July 2025 until the 29th August 2025.

1.1.2 The regulations do not require that an SCI is consulted on. However, Slough Borough Council as Local Planning Authority decided that it was important for the SCI to have engagement with communities, local organizations, businesses, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees prior to adoption.

1.1.3 However, the content of this document includes how the council has complied with the consultation requirements prescribed in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 2012 (as amended)¹ and the National Planning Policy Framework. Although this is not required for SCI, we still followed the consultation requirements set out in the legislation.

1.1.4 The diversity of methods used sought to proactively raise awareness of the consultation and invite comments from those with an interest in the SCI. The consultation process sought to comply with the Council's accessibility and equalities standards. More information on Equalities can be seen in para 1.4.3.

1.1.5 It sets out engagement with our statutory consultees and other stakeholders and all of the publicity methods we undertook to publicise and promote public consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement.

1.1.6 This consultation statement provides an overview of who responded to the SCI, see Section 3.

1.2 Scope

1.2.1 This report documents what we consulted on, who and how, provides information on who responded and summarizes the feedback received. It includes a summary of the council's response to each of the consultation responses.

¹ Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) Section 20(3) [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk) and

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) 2012 Regulation 22(1), =

Para.,22 Submission of documents and information to the Secretary of State

22.— (1) The documents prescribed for the purposes of section 20(3) of the Act are—

(a) the sustainability appraisal report.

(b) a submission policies map if the adoption of the local plan would result in changes to the adopted policies map.

(c) a statement setting out—

(i) which bodies and persons the local planning authority invited to make representations under regulation 18,

(ii) how those bodies and persons were invited to make representations under regulation 18,

(iii) a summary of the main issues raised by the representations made pursuant to regulation 18,

(iv) how any representations made pursuant to regulation 18 have been taken into account;

(v) if representations were made pursuant to regulation 20, the number of representations made, and a summary of the main issues raised in those representations; and

(vi) if no representations were made in regulation 20, that no such representations were made;

1.3 What we consulted on

- 1.3.1 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) is a document the council is legally required to publish under Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 in order to explain how effective community involvement at all stages of planning process will be achieved. The document had a section on planning policy and development management.
- 1.3.2 Local Planning Authorities are legally obliged to review their SCI's every five years to reflect changes to engagement and to respond to changes in policy. This requirement is derived from Section 10A(b) of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

1.4 Consultation Techniques used /data protection/equalities

- 1.4.1 Respondents had a range of options in which they could respond to the SCI consultation. Methods of responding included filling in the online response form on slough.citizenspace.com or using a QR code. More information was available at www.slough.gov.uk/localplan
- 1.4.2 To maximise opportunities for responding to the consultation the council accepted comments by post and email as well as via the consultation portal.
- 1.4.3 Draft SCI and all promotional material provided contact details for those who wanted to participate but could not access these methods.
- 1.4.4 Equalities Impact Assessment and Data Protection Impact Assessment was undertaken as part of the preparation of the SCI.

2 The Consultation: Publicity undertaken

- 2.1.1 The SCI exercise ran for eight weeks and began at 9am on 4th July 2025 and closed at midnight on 29th August 2025.
- 2.1.2 The consultation documents were made available digitally and on paper. An explanation of the consultation, requirements for making a valid submission, and forms for doing were made available for inspection:
 - on Slough Borough Council's website, www.slough.gov.uk/planning-policy/new-local-plan-slough
 - at the council's libraries in Langley, Britwell, Cippenham and the Curve during normal opening hours
 - at the council offices Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road Slough, SL1 2EL during normal opening hours
 - via email from Planningpolicy@slough.gov.uk
- 2.1.3 Hard copies of the consultation document were available to be mailed out if requested.
- 2.2.1 The SCI consultation was published on Citizen Space, the council's online consultation hub at slough.citizenspace.com (Appendix 3). This provided people with an introduction to the consultation, and information on how to respond.
- 2.2.2 A link to the Citizen Space consultation hub was made available on the council's website on the Planning Policy webpages (Appendix 4) at www.slough.gov.uk/planning-policy.
- 2.2.3 A consultation email was sent out to all those on the Planning Policy contacts list. The contacts list included specific consultees, residents, and key stakeholders.

2.3 Other publicity measures

- 2.3.1 Details of the SCI consultation was sent via internal email to SBC staff.
- 2.3.2 For external communications, a press release was issued on 4th July 2025, to its circulation list of press contacts (see Appendix 7).
- 2.3.3 For internal communications, a press release featured in the weekly staff e-newsletter on 26th August (see Appendix 5), and the consultation was added to the corporate consultation register.
- 2.3.4 The SCI consultation was posted on all of the council's social media platforms: Facebook, X' Twitter, (see Appendix 8). There were 7 posts made in total on each platform. The content of the post was the same on each day.

2.4 Member engagement

- 2.4.1 All council members were notified directly of the consultation via the internal weekly update email and the 'Members Bulletin' on 4th July 2025.
- 2.4.2 A publicly available report was presented to Planning Committee in July 2025. That included advance notification that the Statement of Community Involvement was out for consultation for 8 weeks. A further report was presented to Planning Committee in October 2025 to notify members of the consultation responses and that it was going to Cabinet in November for adoption.
- 2.4.3 Further press notice was included in the Members Bulletin on 26th August reminding Members that the consultation period is now closing.

3 Consultation: Responses received

- 3.1.1 We received 10 responses to the consultation. Appendix 9 sets out the summary of the responses received. This included 2 local resident, Historic England, Thames Water, Colne Valley Regional Park Trust, Natural England, Canal and River Trust, National Highways, Burnham Parish Council and a Councillor.
- 3.1.2 Some of the responses raised no specific comments, just requested we continue to consult them in the future and provided updated contact details. Colne Valley Regional Park (CVRP) and Canal River Trust wanted to be included on the general consultation list in Appendix 2 of the Statement of Community Involvement. This was modified in the final version of the SCI that will be adopted document.
- 3.1.3 Further responses related to the Development Management section rather than Planning Policy. This included comments on Housing in Multiple Occupation (HMO), statutory consultee process for planning applications, and the planning committee process. Some comments raised were outside of the scope of the SCI. As a result, modifications were made to the Development Management section to address these comments. Some comments raised were just noted or were outside the scope of the SCI.

4 Adoption

- 4.1.1 This consultation statement provides a record of the consultation process and stakeholder engagement for the Statement of Community Involvement document.
- 4.1.2 The SCI is not required to be consulted on. Reports went to planning committee for information purposes before the consultation and after for reporting of the results.
- 4.1.3 The SCI was adopted at Cabinet on 17th November 2025. An adoption statement will be published along with the adopted SCI on Slough Borough Council website.

Appendix 1: Statutory and other consultation bodies

As stated before, the SCI is not required to be consulted on.

However, in preparing the Local Plan, the council has a statutory duty to engage with the following bodies listed in Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (England) Regulations:

List of specific consultation bodies

- The Environment Agency
- Historic England
- Natural England
- Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
- National Highways
- A relevant authority, any part of whose area is in or adjoins the local planning authority's area. For Slough this is Buckinghamshire Council, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Spelthorne District Council and the London Borough of Hillingdon and the Greater London Authority (GLA).

Any person:

- To whom the electronic communications code applies by virtue of a direction given under section 106(3)(a) of the Communications Act 2003, and
- Who owns or controls electronic communications apparatus situated in any part of the local planning authority's area.

If it exercises functions in any part of the local planning authority's area:

- a Primary Care Trust established under section 18 of the National Health Service Act 2006 or continued in existence by virtue of that section.
- (ii) a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 6(1)(b) or (c) of the Electricity Act 1989;
- a person to whom a licence has been granted under section 7(2) of the Gas Act 1986;
- a sewerage undertaker; and
- a water undertaker;
- Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government.

List of General consultation bodies

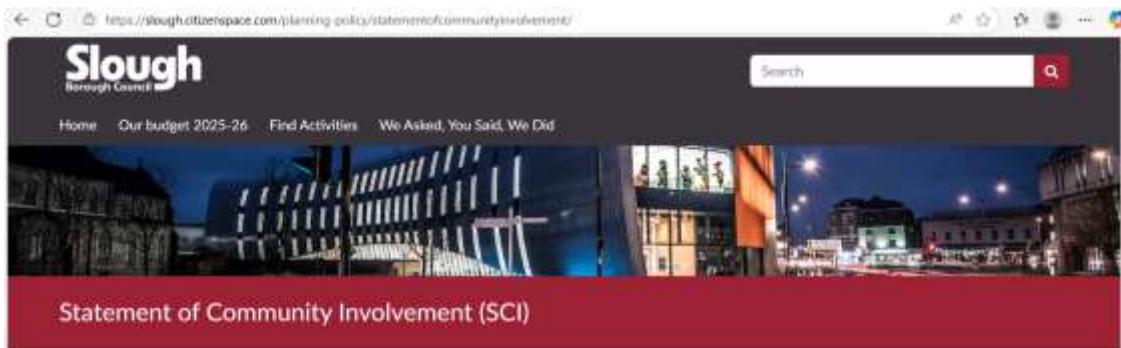
"General consultation bodies" means the following:

- (a) voluntary bodies some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the local planning authority's area,
- (b) bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the local planning authority's area,
- (c) bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the local planning authority's area,
- (d) bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the local planning authority's area,
- (e) bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in the local planning authority's area; (The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

The following is a sample of other stakeholders, businesses, and organisations that we engage as they represent communities and community interests in Slough that the Local Plan may affect:

- Berks Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust
- Berkshire Archaeology
- Berkshire Local Nature Partnership
- Bracknell Forest Council
- Britwell Parish Council
- Burham Parish Council
- Canal River Trust
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council
- Colne Valley Park Regional Trust (CVRP)
- Heathrow Airport Limited
- Office of Rail and Road
- Reading Borough Council
- Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Runnymede Borough Council
- Slough Council for Voluntary Service (SCVS)
- Sport England
- Surrey County Council
- Thames Valley Environmental Record Centre
- Transport for London (TfL)
- West Berkshire Council
- Wexham Parish Council
- Wokingham Borough Council

Appendix 2: Consultation hub



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Slough Citizen Space website. The URL in the address bar is <https://slough.citizenspace.com/planning-policy/statementsofcommunityinvolvement/>. The page title is "Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)". The header includes the Slough Borough Council logo and navigation links for Home, Our budget 2025-26, Find Activities, and We Asked, You Said, We Did. A search bar is also present. The main content area features a large image of a city street at night. Below the image, the text "Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)" is displayed in a red box.

Overview

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how the Council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications. It explains who will be consulted, when and how.

Closed 29 Aug 2025

Opened 4 Jul 2025

Contact

Planning Policy

Slough's first SCI was adopted in 2006. The SCI needs updating to meet the latest regulations, changes in national planning policy and guidance. The revised SCI, once adopted, will replace the current SCI.

Planning Policy
Slough Borough Council
Observatory House, 25 Windsor Rd
Slough SL1 2EL
planningpolicy@slough.gov.uk

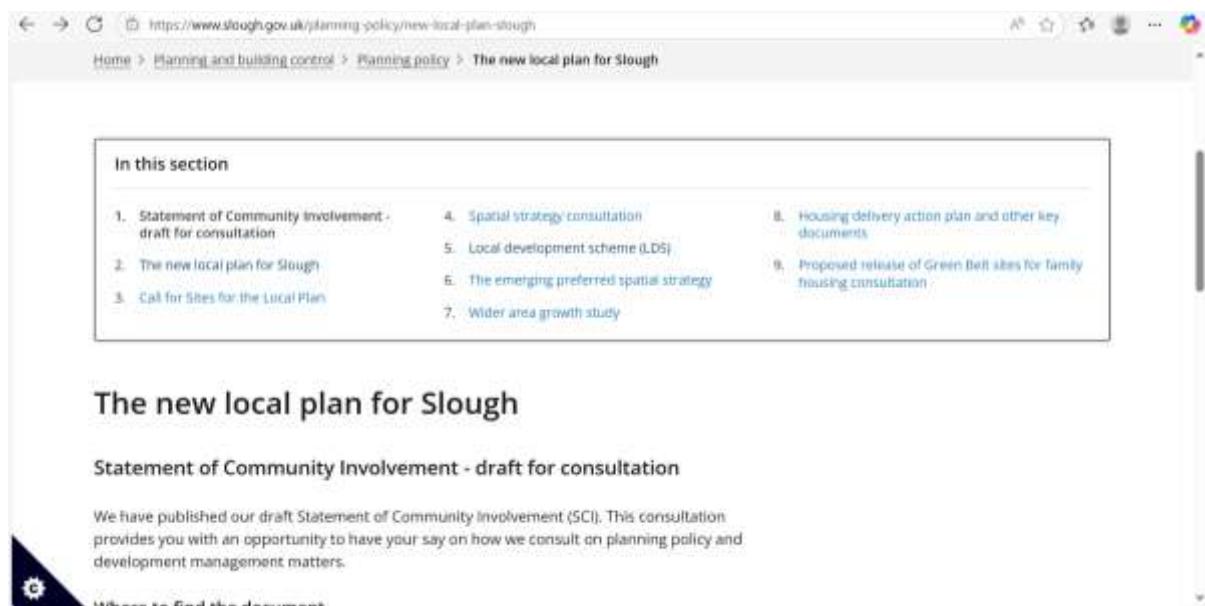
Why your views matter

The Council wants **your** views on the SCI. Comments and views will be taken into account and help shape the document before it is finalised and adopted by the Council.

What happens next

Following this consultation period, all comments will be considered and summarised in a consultation statement, and the final SCI will be prepared for adoption.

Appendix 3: Slough Borough Council Planning Policy webpage



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.slough.gov.uk/planning-policy/new-local-plan-slough>. The page title is "The new local plan for Slough". A sidebar on the left is titled "In this section" and contains a list of nine items, each with a small icon and a brief description:

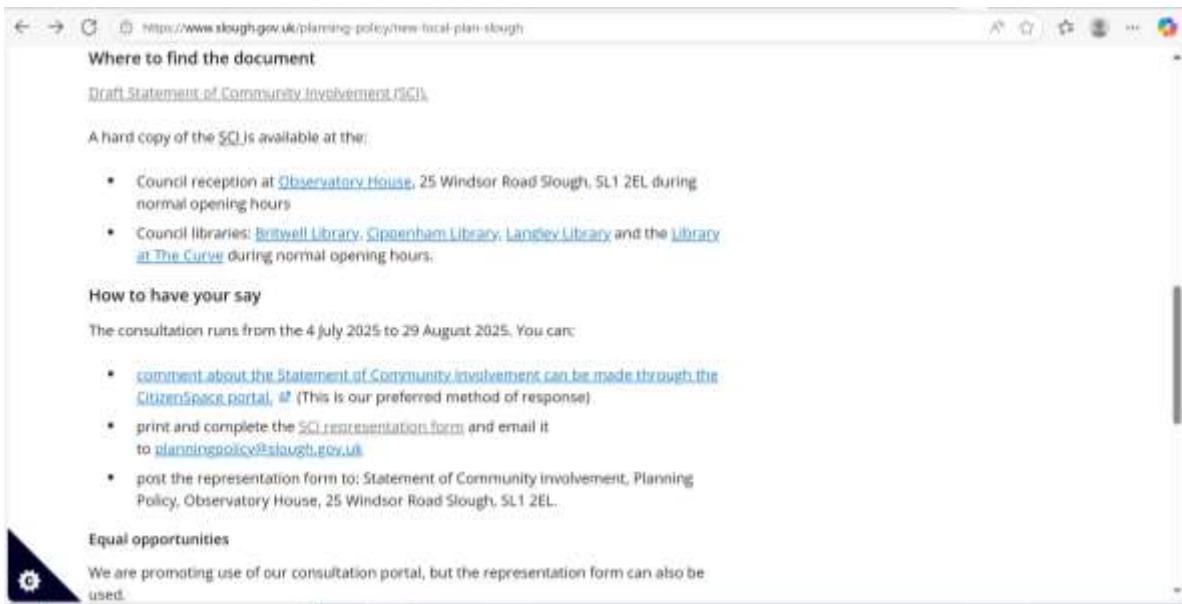
- 1. Statement of Community Involvement - draft for consultation
- 2. The new local plan for Slough
- 3. Call for Sites for the Local Plan
- 4. Spatial strategy consultation
- 5. Local development scheme (LDS)
- 6. The emerging preferred spatial strategy
- 7. Wider area growth study
- 8. Housing delivery action plan and other key documents
- 9. Proposed release of Green Belt sites for family housing consultation

The new local plan for Slough

Statement of Community Involvement - draft for consultation

We have published our draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). This consultation provides you with an opportunity to have your say on how we consult on planning policy and development management matters.

[Where to find the document](#)



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.slough.gov.uk/planning-policy/new-local-plan-slough>. The page title is "The new local plan for Slough". A sidebar on the left is titled "Where to find the document" and contains a link to "Draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)".

A hard copy of the SCI is available at the:

- Council reception at [Observatory House](#), 25 Windsor Road Slough, SL1 2EL during normal opening hours
- Council libraries: [Britwell Library](#), [Cippenham Library](#), [Langley Library](#) and the [Library at The Curve](#) during normal opening hours.

How to have your say

The consultation runs from the 4 July 2025 to 29 August 2025. You can:

- comment about the Statement of Community Involvement can be made through the [CitizenSpace portal](#). (This is our preferred method of response)
- print and complete the [SCI representation form](#) and email it to planningpolicy@slough.gov.uk
- post the representation form to: Statement of Community Involvement, Planning Policy, Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road Slough, SL1 2EL.

Equal opportunities

We are promoting use of our consultation portal, but the representation form can also be used.

If you or someone you know wants to take part and has accessibility requirements please contact us so we can assist your participation.

- In person at the council offices during opening hours.
- By post to Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road Slough, SL1 2EL.
- Through the call centre on 01753 475111.
- Call 07514 723179.

Next  [The new local plan for Slough](#)

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 [Sitemap](#) [Accessibility](#) [Contact](#) [Cookies](#) [Privacy](#) [Work for us](#) [News](#)

Slough
Borough Council

Appendix 5: Consultation email notification



Growing a place of opportunity and ambition

Via email only

3rd July 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

SLOUGH'S STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT [SCI], DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

Slough's first SCI was adopted in 2006. The SCI needs updating to meet the latest regulations, changes in national planning policy and guidance. The revised SCI, once adopted, will replace the current SCI. The SCI sets out how Slough Council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications. It explains who will be consulted, when and how.

The consultation is open from **Friday 4th July 2025 to Friday 29th August 2025 (11:59pm)**.

The document can be found on the Council's website: [The new local plan for Slough – Slough Borough Council](https://www.slough.gov.uk/planning-policy/statement-of-community-involvement)

Hard copies of the document are available at the following locations: -

- at the Council Offices, Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road Slough, SL1 2EL during normal opening hours
- at the Council's libraries in Langley, Britwell, Cippenham and the Curve during normal opening hours.
- We strongly promote representations via the council's online consultation portal, <https://slough.citizenspace.com/planning-policy/statementofcommunityinvolvement> or scan the QR code to take you to the consultation portal.

Alternatively you can fill out response form which can be found on the Council's website [The new local plan for Slough – Slough Borough Council](https://www.slough.gov.uk/planning-policy/statement-of-community-involvement) and email it to planningpolicy@slough.gov.uk or post to Planning Policy, Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road Slough, SL1 2EL.

Anonymous representations will not be accepted. Summaries of comments received during the course of the consultation will be made available for the public to view on the Council's website. Comments therefore cannot be treated as confidential. Personal details will be redacted prior to publishing. Data will be processed and held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 (see privacy statement at the end of the email).

Please note, you are being consulted as we hold your details on our planning policy consultation database. If you no longer wish to be kept informed of the production of planning policy documents, please email planningpolicy@slough.gov.uk so we can update our records.



Equal Opportunities

If you need different formats or have accessibility requirements please contact us via email planningpolicy@slough.gov.uk, via post or in person at Council Offices Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road Slough,

SL1 2EL during normal opening hours, call centre or on 07514 723179 so we can assist your participation.

Yours sincerely,

Slough Borough Council Planning Policy Team

Your Privacy

Slough Borough Council takes your privacy seriously. You have been sent this email as you, or someone on your behalf, has requested the Local Plan team notify you directly about any updates on the production of the Local Plan (primarily about the statutory process) and its evidence base.

The Council's rules about how the Local Plan policy team use your data are set out at <http://www.slough.gov.uk/council/data-protection-and-foi/your-privacy.aspx>; DataProtectionOfficer@slough.gov.uk

Please note the Council is still required to keep details of representations made on the evolution of the plan since 2015. If you have made a formal representation to us as part of this, then the team will retain your contact details in line with the statutory requirements. Please contact us by reply if you do not want this to be the case.

Data Protection:

Under the Data Protection Act 2018, we are required to gain your permission to keep personal details for you. Slough Borough Council and its agents may share this information with government and local authority departments and other authorised organisations for administrative, statistical and research purposes. For further information please see [Your privacy](#).

Emailing personal details to this email address gives us your informed consent. If you have a query in relation to fair processing, please email DataProtectionOfficer@slough.gov.uk



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail or its attachments

Appendix 6: Internal communication



Slough Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) draft for consultation

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how Slough Council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications. It explains who will be consulted, when and how. Slough's first SCI was adopted in 2006. The SCI needs updating to meet the latest regulations, changes in national planning policy and guidance. The revised SCI, once adopted, will replace the current SCI.

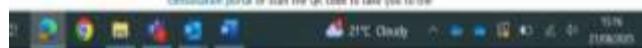
The consultation is open from Friday 4 July to Friday 29 August (158 days).

The document can be found on the Council's website [The new local plan for Slough – Slough Borough Council](#).

Hard copies of the document are available at the following locations:

- at Observatory House, 23 Windsor Road Slough, SL1 2BL, during normal opening hours
- at the libraries in Langley, Brinsford, Cippenham and the Curve, during normal opening hours.

We strongly encourage representation via the council's online consultation portal or scan the QR code to take you to the



newsround

Slough Borough Council www.slough.gov.uk

To all managers: Please print off a copy of Newsround for all your staff who do not have email/remote access.
Please note: Different information and instructions may apply for Slough Children First

SBC news

Have your say – Slough Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) draft

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how Slough Borough Council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications. It explains who will be consulted, when and how. Slough's first SCI was adopted in 2006. The SCI needs updating to meet the latest regulations, changes in national planning policy and guidance. The revised SCI, once adopted, will replace the current SCI.

You can find the document along with how to have your say on our website: [The new local plan for Slough – Slough Borough Council](#).

The consultation will close on 29 August.

Appendix 7: Member bulletin

Consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement - 4th July 2025

Members are informed of the consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement as of Friday 4th July, 2025 which will run for 8 weeks.

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how Slough Council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications. It explains who will be consulted, when and how.

The details will be published online [The new local plan for Slough – Slough Borough Council](#), and paper copies put in the Curve, Britwell Hub, Langley and Cippenham Libraries and the reception at OH.

The consultation process is open from ***4th July to 29th August, 2025.***

 Comments via the council's online consultation portal, [Statement of Community Involvement](#) or scan the QR code to take you to the consultation portal.

If you require any further details on the above, the contact Officer details are below:

Contact Officer: [Kerry Hobbs](#), Senior Planning Policy Officer, 07514 723 179

Appendix 8: Consultation press release



news release

4th July 2025

Consultation about community involvement in planning issues

The council's planning team is seeking resident comments on its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

The SCI sets out how the council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications.

It is a crucial document that ensures residents have a voice in decisions that affect their communities.

The SCI details a range of consultation methods, including online consultation portal, and social media engagement. The first SCI was adopted in 2006, and it needs updating to meet the latest regulations, changes in national planning policy and guidance.

The revised SCI, once adopted, will replace the current SCI.

The council is committed to making the SCI accessible to all, including those with disabilities and those who may not have access to technology.

Councillor Paul Kelly, lead member for Planning, Parking, Highways and Transport, said: "We would encourage residents to take a look at the SCI and review the consultation methods suggested. Your input is valuable in shaping the future of our community."

Hard copies of the document will be available at:

- the council offices, Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, Slough, SL1 2EL during normal opening hours
- at the council's libraries in Langley, Britwell, Cippenham and The Curve, during normal opening hours.

Visit the Local Plan webpage to read the SCI - www.slough.gov.uk/localplan and visit the online portal, Citizen Space, to submit comments - <https://slough.citizenspace.com/planning-policy/statementofcommunityinvolvement/>

Alternatively, you can fill out a response form on the Local Plan webpage - www.slough.gov.uk/localplan and email it to planningpolicy@slough.gov.uk or post to Planning Policy, Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road Slough, SL1 2EL.

If you want to be kept informed of progress on the new Local Plan, visit the link above, or email your contact details to planningpolicy@slough.gov.uk.

The consultation runs for eight weeks from 4 July until 29 August.

Ends

Appendix 9: Social media

X (formerly Twitter)

These were posted on 4th July, 9th July, 16th July, 30th July, 8th August, 20th August and 29th August.

Slough Borough Council @SloughCouncil · Jul 4     The council's planning team is seeking resident comments on its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). Read more at slough.gov.uk/news/article/5... and slough.citizenspace.com/planning-polic...



Slough Borough Council @SloughCouncil · Aug 8     Give your views on the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which sets out how the council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in planning policy and the consideration of planning applications. Visit slough.citizenspace.com/planning-polic...



Slough Borough Council @SloughCouncil · Jul 9     Give your views on the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which sets out how we will involve local communities, businesses and stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications - slough.citizenspace.com/planning-polic...



Slough Borough Council @SloughCouncil · Jul 16     The council's planning team is seeking resident comments on its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). Read the draft SCI and complete the survey at slough.citizenspace.com/planning-polic...





Slough Borough Council @SloughCouncil · Aug 20



...

Give your comments on planning's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) at orio.uk/lsalR before 29 August.

It sets out how planning will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy & applications.



Slough Borough Council @SloughCouncil · Aug 29



Today (Fri) is the last chance to give comments on planning's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). Visit orio.uk/ay58y



Slough Borough Council @SloughCouncil · Jul 30



...

Have your say on planning's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which sets out how we'll involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications - slough.citizenspace.com/planning-polic...



Facebook



Slough Borough Council

4 Jul ·

The council's planning team is seeking resident comments on its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

The SCI sets out how the council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications.

It is a crucial document that ensures residents have a voice in decisions that affect their communities.

Link to the full news release in comments, and the link to complete the survey.



Slough Borough Council

9 Jul ·

The council's planning team is seeking resident comments on its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

The SCI sets out how the council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications.

Read the draft SCI and complete the survey via the link in the comments.



Slough Borough Council

30 Jul ·

The council's planning team is seeking resident comments on its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

The SCI sets out how the council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications.

Read the draft SCI and complete the survey online (link in comments).



Slough Borough Council

16 Jul ·

The council's planning team is seeking resident comments on its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

The SCI sets out how the council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications.

Read the draft SCI and complete the survey online (link in comments).





Slough Borough Council

8 Aug -

Give your views on the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which sets out how the council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in planning policy and the consideration of planning applications.

Visit <https://slough.citizenspace.com/planning-policy/statementofcommunityinvolvement/>



SURVEY



Slough Borough Council

20 Aug -

Give your comments on planning's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which sets out how the council will involve local communities, businesses and other stakeholders in the preparation and review of planning policy and the consideration of planning applications.

Read the draft SCI and complete the survey at <https://orio.uk/jSfBn> before 29 August.



SURVEY

Appendix 9: A table setting out the responses to the SCI consultation.

Name/organisation/comment ID	Summary of response	Officer response	Proposed modification (if any)
Colne Valley Park Regional Trust (ID) Response ID ANON-AW8B-QBHV-3	<p>The CVRP asks to be consulted on all major development proposals within the CVRP part of the Borough and any planning policy documents, including Supplementary Planning Documents. Please use this email address for consultations: enquiry@colnevalleypark.org.uk</p> <p>The Colne Valley Regional Park should be added to the list of organisations in Appendix 2. Please use this email address for contact purposes: enquiry@colnevalleypark.org.uk. Add contact details to Local Plan database.</p>	<p>Once GIS has been updated with a Colne Valley Regional Park (CVRP) layer, CVRP will automatically be consulted for all major developments. It should be noted CVRP are not a statutory consultee in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 regulations, Schedule 4. Standard consultation period of 21 days will apply.</p> <p>Noted. Agreed Appendix 2 sets out the general consultation bodies regarding consultation on development plan documents. CVRP will be added to Appendix 2 of the SCI document. We will update the CVRP email address on our Local Plan database.</p>	CVRP will be added to the general consultation bodies in Appendix 2.
Slough Canal and River Trust	Within Slough the Canal & River Trust own and manage the Slough Arm of the Grand Union canal. The Trust recognises and values the important role of planning policy in not only protecting our network from inappropriate development, but also in unlocking the potential of the inland waterway network for the greater benefit of an area and its communities. Our waterways can provide significant benefits in terms of wellbeing, and we believe that the formation of planning policy that identifies and includes approaches for promoting access to our network is highly important for helping to realise	Noted. Appendix 2 sets out the specific consultation bodies which are statutory and listed in Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Canal and River Trust are not a statutory consultee and listed in the regulations above therefore it will not be added to Appendix 2 of the SCI document. However, we can update the Canal and River Trust email address on our Local Plan database.	CVRP will be added to the general consultation bodies in Appendix 2.

the positive benefits of our network to local communities. The Trust would therefore wish to be engaged with the production of any Local Plans or relevant Neighbourhood Plans and other policy guidance. Within the existing Statement of Community Involvement (2006) the Trust's predecessor, British Waterways, are listed within the 'general' bodies to be consulted on Policy matters. The Trust took over the guardianship of British Waterways' canals, rivers, reservoirs and docks in England and Wales in 2012 and we would therefore be grateful if the 'Canal & River Trust' could be included within the list of consultees in Appendix 2 of the draft SCI and the following contact details added to your consultation database. Canal & River Trust email: planning@canalrivertrust.org.uk.

The Trust is also a statutory consultee in the Development Management process. We currently offer a free preapplication planning advice service and consultation with consultees such as the Trust at pre-app stage could also be referenced within the SCI.

It should be noted that Canal and River Trust are not a statutory consultee in Development Management process see regulations, schedule 4. Standard consultation period of 21 days will apply.

Historic England	<p>We support the general approach of the draft SCI and welcome reference to engagement with Historic England when appropriate e.g. regarding Sustainability Appraisal (paragraph 3.2.10) and in Appendix 1 regarding “Specific consultation bodies”. We would welcome consultation at an informal level, in addition to the requirements of the legislation, where issues may benefit from our early involvement. For information and for further consultation please note our consultation email address e-seast@HistoricEngland.org.uk. With regards to neighbourhood planning, we would welcome notification of proposed neighbourhood planning areas as well as consultation on draft plans. The regulations state that we should be consulted on draft plans where our interests are considered to be affected. Our published advice on neighbourhood planning can be found at:</p> <p>https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/plan-making/improve-your-neighbourhood/</p>	<p>Noted. Email address will be updated on our Local Plan database. seast@HistoricEngland.org.uk</p>	<p>No changes to the SCI document.</p>
National Highways	<p>No comments.</p> <p>Please do continue to consult us on the planning matters via our team’s inbox: planningse@nationalhighways.co.uk</p>	<p>Noted.</p>	<p>No modifications</p>
Natural England	<p>We are supportive of the principle of meaningful and early engagement of the general community, community organisations and statutory bodies in local planning matters, both in terms of shaping policy and participating in the process of determining planning applications. We regret we are unable to comment, in detail, on individual Statements of Community Involvement but information on the planning service we offer, including advice on how to consult us, can be found at:</p>	<p>Noted. Continue to consult via consultations@naturalengland.org.uk</p>	<p>No modifications</p>

	<p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-planning-authorities-get-environmental-advice We now ask that all planning consultations are sent electronically to the central hub for our planning and development advisory service at the following address: consultations@naturalengland.org.uk .This system enables us to deliver the most efficient and effective service to our customers.</p>		
Thames Water	<p>Thames Water are the statutory water and sewerage undertaker for the Borough and are hence a "specific consultation body" in accordance with the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012. A key sustainability objective for the preparation of Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans should be for new development to be co-ordinated with the infrastructure it demands and to take into account the capacity of existing infrastructure.</p> <p>Development Plans Regulation 18 of the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012 states that Local Planning Authorities must consult 'specific consultation bodies' and invite them to make representations to the local planning authority about what a local plan ought to contain. The interpretation in Part 1 of the Regulations states that sewerage and water undertakers constitute 'specific consultation bodies'. We therefore support the identification of water and sewerage undertakers in Appendix 1. To make it even clearer, Thames Water could be identified as the water and sewerage undertaker for the borough. When carrying out the necessary early consultations with Thames Water regarding the capacity of sewerage and water supply systems in accordance with the Regulations, adequate time should be allowed for Thames Water to consider development options and proposals so that an informed response can be formulated. It is not always possible to provide detailed responses within a matter of weeks for example, the modelling of water and sewerage infrastructure systems</p>	<p>Noted.</p>	<p>No modifications</p> <p>.</p>

<p>will be important to many consultation responses and this can take a long time to carry out (for example modelling of sewerage systems can be dependant on waiting for storm periods when the sewers are at peak flows).</p> <p>Planning Applications In relation to consultation on Planning Applications, Thames Water would expect to be consulted on most major planning applications. The adequacy of infrastructure can be a material consideration in deciding whether permission should be granted. Early engagement between the developers and Thames Water would be beneficial to understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water supply requirements; • What drainage requirements are required on and off site; • Clarity on what loading/flow from the development is anticipated <p>It should be noted that in the event of an upgrade to our sewerage network assets being required, up to three years lead in time is usual to enable for the planning and delivery of the upgrade. As a developer has the automatic right to connect to our sewer network under the Water Industry Act, we may also request a drainage planning condition if a network upgrade is required to ensure the infrastructure is in place ahead of occupation of the development. This will avoid adverse environmental impacts such as sewer flooding and / or water pollution. Waste-water/Sewage Treatment Works upgrades take longer to design and build. Implementing new technologies and the construction of a major treatment works extension or new treatment works could take up to ten years to plan, design, obtain approvals and build. Thames Water offers a pre-planning service where developer can engage Thames water to understand what if any upgrades will be needed to serve the development where and when.</p>		
		4.4.1 to be amended to

<p>Burnham Parish Council (Response ID ANON-AW8B-QB2N-5)</p>	<p>It should refer to 'Slough and surrounding communities' not solely to Slough - given the impact parts of the plan will have on the surrounding areas and their communities (such as Burnham), the diversity of those other communities is also relevant.</p> <p>The council is required to meet its statutory requirements but will in addition, consult anyone who has requested to be added to our consultation list. It is important that for any proposals that might impact on surrounding communities, Slough Council *proactively* consults local organisation in those area - both Parish Councils and other relevant organisations. It must not solely rely on statutory requirements, or on organisations being aware that they should ask to be added to the list.</p> <p>General consultation bodies mean voluntary bodies, some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the local planning authority's area, and which represent the interests of. This must also apply to bodies in neighbouring areas where particular proposals might have an impact (for example if they are on the border with Burnham)</p> <p>Flow chart on p15 and section 4.6.5: we support putting the comments on the website as above, consultation should include neighbouring communities where they are likely to be affected (e.g. if it is on a boundary)</p> <p>4.4.1 is phrased slightly ambiguously. We would suggest "It should be noted that pre-application advice is confidential from the Council's perspective. The applicant may choose to share details with the residents and local community".</p> <p>There should be no apostrophe in 'Parish Council's', and it should be a comma immediately afterwards rather than a full stop.</p>	<p>Our SCI should refer to Slough only as it applies to the area within the borough.</p> <p>Noted. The Local Plan consultation database includes voluntary and other businesses already.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted will be amended in SCI.</p>	<p>"It should be noted that pre-application advice is confidential from the Council's perspective. The applicant may choose to share details with the residents and local community".</p> <p>Remove apostrophe in 'Parish Council's', and insert comma</p>
			<p>Appendix 2</p>

	Just to reiterate the important of engaging with and consulting communities who are not within the Slough Area but are impacted by policies and/or plans - if for example they are particularly large, are on the boundary, increase demand on local infrastructure etc We feel that neighbouring parishes, such as Burnham, should be added to Appendix 2.	Burnham Parish Council is not within Slough and regulations state: this be added to appendix 2.	
Local Resident Response ID ANON-AW8B-QB2T-B	HMOs, no matter how small, should be consulted on and included in the Planning Policy. Affected residents should be notified by mail, and allowed to comment on and object to a HMO.	Noted. If an HMO application is submitted, it will follow the development management procedures and legislation.	No modifications .
Councillor Response ID ANON-AW8B-QB2W-E	<p>1) Improve communication with neighbours about planning applications: Currently, we rely on tying notices to lampposts and expect residents to see them and respond. It would be much better to return to the pre-Covid practice of writing directly to neighbours, so they are properly informed and encouraged to share their views.</p> <p>2) Educate residents on planning decisions: Many residents are not aware that planning applications can be approved even if objections are raised. It would be helpful to proactively explain why certain applications may still be approved despite local concerns, so residents understand the basis of these decisions.</p> <p>3) Clarify public speaking rights at planning committee meetings: Some residents don't know that they must pre-register to speak at committee meetings. More could be done to make residents aware of their rights and the process for sharing their views formally.</p> <p>4) Provide</p>	<p>1) We also use a wide variety of methods to publicise new planning applications including social media, the Council website, and press notices in local papers (for specific types of applications), as well as displaying site notices, which is the legal minimum requirement. Sending out letters exceeds the minimum and would cost the Council significant money.</p> <p>2) Agreed. We will expand on 4.6.8 to make it explicit that we make decisions based on law.</p> <p>3) Agreed. We will expand 4.6.1 in the SCI document, and provide further detail on the webpage Scheme of delegation for planning decisions – Slough Borough Council which</p>	<p>4.6.8 to be amended to read:</p> <p>Planning decisions are made in accordance with current legislation, development plan policy, and all material considerations identified, and not on the number</p>

<p>feedback on residents' comments: Are we currently writing to residents who have submitted comments to confirm we've received their feedback and to explain whether—and why—their feedback has or hasn't been taken into account? A clear communication loop would help build trust.</p> <p>5) Prevent enforcement issues through better guidance: Many residents extend their homes or build outbuildings, only to later receive enforcement notices. What steps is the council taking to improve residents' knowledge of the planning process, so they know what permissions are needed, rather than relying solely on builders' advice?</p> <p>6) Support for immigrant communities: Slough has many residents who have immigrated to the UK and may not be familiar with local planning rules and processes. What is the council doing to help these residents understand what is and isn't permitted regarding extensions, construction, and site management?</p> <p>7) Support for local builders and architects: What guidance or training is offered to local builders and architects to ensure they do not inadvertently mislead residents, especially regarding planning requirements and restrictions?</p> <p>8) Addressing construction-related damage: When builders damage pavements, green verges, or the surrounding area during construction, what measures are in place to ensure they repair this damage before leaving the site?</p> <p>9) Explaining controversial planning approvals: Some residents are frustrated by decisions they feel go against community sentiment—for example, illegal construction at Willow Tree (Langley), or the approval of 68 flats on Elmshott Lane in Cippenham despite objections. What is the council doing to keep residents informed about the reasoning behind such decisions and any enforcement or mitigation measures being taken?</p> <p>10) Involving ward councillors earlier in the process: What steps are in place to ensure that ward councillors and neighbouring ward councillors are aware of major</p>	<p>links from it. During the current planning process, when an application is one which is due to go to committee (major), the consultation response letter gives instructions on how to register to speak for those that have made representations.</p> <p>4) All representations received relating to a planning application receive a consultation response letter which provides details on how to track the application's progress. If it is a major application, the letter also contains information on the committee process and details on how to register to attend or speak.</p> <p>5),6),7),8),9) These falls outside the scope of the SCI.</p> <p>10) We do already provide the tools to allow ward councillors to be made aware of applications via the weekly lists and Citizen Portal. A session educating ward councillors on how to set up alerts on the Citizen Portal may be useful and encouraging them to explore the functionality of our website may benefit them. Providing a training session to Councillors can be arranged to self-serve as this will also allow them to assist their constituents to do the same. Please also note that under the Scheme of Delegation, ward members can 'call-in' a planning application with the 7 days additional consultation window, citing planning reasons/grounds and this would be brought to planning committee should matters be</p>	<p>of representations in support or against a development. This may mean that some planning applications are approved even when representations against the development have been received. A summary of how the planning officer considered all matters and representations is included within the officer report which is issued with the planning decision.</p> <p>4.6.1 to be amended to read:</p>
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<p>planning applications at an early stage? Early engagement would allow councillors to work proactively with residents and the council to address concerns before committee meetings, rather than having to raise objections as a last resort</p>	<p>unresolved after a discussion with Planning Officers.</p>	<p>If the application is considered at Planning Committee, provide applicants, Ward Members, and those who have commented on a planning application, an opportunity to register to speak at Planning Committee. Only parties who pre-register are allowed to speak at the planning committee. More information about the responsibilities of the planning committee can be found at our website</p>
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Local resident Response ID ANON- AW8B-QB26-D	Why so much emphasis on diversity, what will be done to ensure the forgotten white English folk are not marginalised?	SCI is required to assess Equalities and prepare an Equalities Impact Assessment this will be published on adoption of the SCI.	No modification.
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Statement of Community Involvement - Planning Policy and Development Management