

## **SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORT AND STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

**(Report by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being))**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 At its meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2012, the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) considered two reports by the Head of Planning Services on the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and Statement of Community Involvement. The following paragraphs contain a summary of the Panel's discussions on the reports.

### **2. THE PANEL'S DISCUSSIONS**

- 2.1 Having regard to the Sustainability Appraisal process, the Panel has noted that Planning Officers have received dedicated training to enable them to carry out this work in-house. Once completed, the Sustainability Appraisal will be examined by the Council's Legal Team to ensure that it is fit for purpose and to safeguard the Council from legal challenges. The Panel recommend the Cabinet to authorise the Head of Planning Services, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning and Housing, to finalise and approve the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.
- 2.2 The Panel has considered the outcome of consultation on the draft Statement of Community Involvement. Having been advised that any interested party may register with the Council to be consulted on planning policies, Members recommend the Cabinet to authorise the Head of Planning Services, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning and Housing and the Chairman of the Development Management Panel, to finalise and approve the Statement of Community Involvement.

### **3. CONCLUSION**

- 3.1 The Cabinet is invited to consider the discussions of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) as part of their deliberations on these items.

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**Background Documents** - Reports and Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) held on 10th April 2012.