

# Consultation Statement

## Statement of Community Involvement

[February 2021]



# Contents

1 Introduction .....	1
2. Preparation of the Draft Document.....	1
3. Public Consultation .....	2
Appendix 1: Consultation Bodies .....	4
Appendix 2: Questionnaire .....	5
Appendix 3: Consultation Poster and Twitter Post.....	11
Appendix 4: Responses on Draft Statement of Community Involvement .....	13
Appendix 5: Questionnaire Analysis .....	96

# 1 Introduction

The Statement of Community Involvement sets out the measures and actions East Suffolk Council will take to consult and engage with the community during the preparation of planning policy documents, such as Local Plans and Supplementary Planning Documents, and when determining planning applications. In line with the Public Sector Equalities Duty, any consultation measures used by the Council must ensure that all groups and individuals in the community have equal opportunities to participate.

The Statement of Community Involvement is required by section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act of 2004. These regulations state that local planning authorities need to explain how they will engage local communities and other interested parties in the production of planning policy documents and the planning application process.

There are currently no regulatory requirements to consult during the preparation of a new Statement of Community Involvement. However, in order to follow best practice, the Council took the decision to undertake consultation on the Draft Statement of Community Involvement. This Consultation Statement was produced to accompany the Draft Statement of Community Involvement which was published for consultation between 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and 7th December 2020. This Statement has subsequently been updated to reflect the responses received during that consultation.

The Statement of Community Involvement has been written in collaboration with other teams in the Planning Service, including Development Management, Major Sites and Infrastructure and the Planning Support Team.

## 2. Preparation of the Draft Document

The Planning Policy and Delivery Team worked in collaboration with the following groups and teams within the Council as part of the preparation of the Statement of Community Involvement:

- East Suffolk Council Development Management Team
- East Suffolk Council Major Sites and Infrastructure Team
- East Suffolk Council Planning Support Team
- East Suffolk Council Local Plan Working Group

### 3. Public Consultation

Following the production of the Draft Statement of Community Involvement, a seven-week public consultation took place between 19<sup>th</sup> October and the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020. The consultation was advertised using posters, a press release and social media posts. The poster and an example Twitter post can be found in Appendix 3. Those on the Council's planning policy consultation database were contacted directly by email or letter and the list of consultation bodies can be found in Appendix 1.

The consultation was made up of two parts:

1. Draft Document

The first part of the consultation was the full Draft Statement of Community Involvement document, which was made available for comment. Comments could be made on the document directly through the Council's website. Comments were also accepted via email and letter. A summary of the comments received and the Council's response are set out in Appendix 4.

2. Questionnaire

A questionnaire was used to supplement the Draft Statement of Community Involvement consultation. This gave members of the public who may not want to read and engage with a long technical document the opportunity to provide their thoughts and ideas to further develop the Council's consultation processes.

The questionnaire consisted of seven questions, focussing on the public's experience of Planning Policy consultations to date, as well as exploring different consultation methods which the Council could use. This questionnaire only related to Planning Policy consultations (Local Plan, Supplementary Planning Documents, Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule and Neighbourhood Plan consultations), and not consultations on planning applications.

The questionnaire was available to complete online via the Council's website. Paper copies of the questionnaire were also available on request. A copy of the questionnaire can be found in Appendix 2. A summary and analysis of the response can be found in Appendix 5.

The consultation documents were made available on the East Suffolk Council website at:

<https://eastsuffolk.inconsult.uk/consult.ti/DraftSCI2020/consultationHome>

Due to the social distancing restrictions and the national lockdown as the result of the Covid-19 pandemic, libraries and other public spaces were not accessible during the consultation period. Therefore, paper copies of documents could not be made available at these locations. Physical copies of documents were, however, sent out on request.

In total 97 individuals and organisations responded to the consultation through both the questionnaire and commenting directly on the draft document. In total, 267 comments were received.

Full copies of the consultation responses have been published on the Council's website at:

<https://eastsuffolk.inconsult.uk/consult.ti/DraftSCI2020/consultationHome>

## Appendix 1: Consultation Bodies

### **Specific consultation bodies**

The Coal Authority  
 Environment Agency  
 Historic England  
 Marine Management Organisation  
 Natural England  
 Network Rail  
 Highways Agency  
 Suffolk County Council  
 Parish and Town Councils within and adjoining the East Suffolk District  
 Suffolk Constabulary  
 Adjoining local planning authorities – Ipswich Borough Council, Babergh District Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, South Norfolk District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council and the Broads Authority  
 NHS England and the Care Commissioning Groups  
 Anglian Water  
 Essex and Suffolk Water  
 Homes England  
 Electronic communication companies who own or control apparatus in the District  
 Relevant gas and electricity companies

### **General consultation bodies**

Voluntary bodies some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the District  
 Bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the District  
 Bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the District  
 Bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the District  
 Bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in the District

### **Other individuals and organisations**

Includes local businesses, high schools, individuals, local organisations and groups, planning agents, developers, landowners, residents and others on the Local Plan mailing list.

The Council also directly approached a number of organisations who were considered to have contacts with groups and individuals who may not always be able to engage with the planning system. The contacts were provided by the Communities Team. These were:

- Kirkley Peoples Forum
- Good Neighbour Scheme
- GYROS
- Halesworth Volunteer Centre
- Lowestoft Community Church
- Neighbourhood Watch
- St Luke's Church

## Appendix 2: Questionnaire

### Draft Statement of Community Involvement How to get Involved in Local Planning



**You can also complete this questionnaire online [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy)**

Local planning affects everyone by shaping the areas where people live, work and visit. The Local Plan identifies sites for new housing and employment and sets out policies to shape future development. Other policy documents set out more detail and guidance on how Local Plan policies are to be used in coming to decisions on planning applications.

We have prepared a draft Statement of Community Involvement which sets out how East Suffolk Council could engage with the community during the preparation of Local Plans and other planning policy documents, as well as coming to decisions on planning applications. You can view the draft at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy). The following questions will help us understand how best to engage the community in the planning process.

**Please Note** – This questionnaire only relates to the preparation of Local Plans and other planning policy documents, as well as the stages where the Council has specific responsibilities during the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans. **This questionnaire does not relate to planning application consultations.**

#### Your details

Name	<input type="text"/>
Organisation (if applicable)	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>
Address (Optional)	<input type="text"/>
Postcode (Optional)	<input type="text"/>

**Do you wish to be kept informed of progress on planning policy documents?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**1 Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

If not, what would encourage you to do so?

**2 How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk planning policy documents?**

- ☐ Online through the Council's website
- ☐ Online through Council's social media platforms
- ☐ In person at Customer Service Centres
- ☐ In person at public libraries
- ☐ Reports in local newspapers
- ☐ Radio announcements
- ☐ Public events
- ☐ Site notices
- ☐ I don't

If not, what could we do to help make more people aware of these consultations?



**3 If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would you want to access them?**

- ☐ Online through the Council's website
- ☐ Online through Council's social media platforms
- ☐ In person at Council Customer Service Centres
- ☐ In person at public libraries
- ☐ Public events
- ☐ I don't want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents

If you don't want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents, what would encourage you to do so?

**4 How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?**

- ☐ Email
- ☐ Submitting comments through an online consultation portal
- ☐ Letter
- ☐ I don't usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations

If you don't usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations, what would encourage you to do so?

**5 In the future, would you participate in any of the following events or types of document? *(Please select all you would participate in)***

- ☐ Interactive online documents
- ☐ Interactive online maps
- ☐ Public exhibitions staffed by planning officers

☐ Public displays such as noticeboards in libraries

☐ Virtual online exhibitions

☐ Virtual online workshops

☐ Other (please describe)

☐ None of the above (If not, what would encourage you to do so?)

**6 In the future, how would you prefer to respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?** *(please select all methods you would use to respond)*

- ☐ Emails
- ☐ Submitting comments through an online consultation portal
- ☐ Commenting on interactive documents
- ☐ Commenting on interactive maps
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Letters
- ☐ In person at public events
- ☐ Other (please describe)

- ☐ I probably won't respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations

If not, what would encourage you to do so?

## 7 General comments about East Suffolk's approach to planning policy consultations

**Thank you for your comments. Please return this form to East Suffolk Council, Planning Policy & Delivery Team, Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 0EQ. Alternatively, email to [planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk). Comments cannot be kept confidential.**

The information you have supplied is being collected in accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and will be used to inform the preparation of the Statement of Community Involvement.

By responding to this consultation, you are accepting that your name and response will be made available for public inspection and published online in accordance with the Act stated above. However, other personal information such as email addresses and telephone numbers will not be published or shared with third parties. Your personal information will be retained for a period of five years to enable preparation and Adoption of the Statement of Community Involvement.

Data will be processed and held securely and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulation (and any updates).

Further information about data protection and your rights can be found in our Privacy Notice on the East Suffolk Website [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/yourcouncil/access-to-information/general-data-protection-regulation-and-data-protection-act/gdpr-privacy-notice/](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/yourcouncil/access-to-information/general-data-protection-regulation-and-data-protection-act/gdpr-privacy-notice/)

## Appendix 3: Consultation Poster and Twitter Post



**EASTSUFFOLK**  
COUNCIL

Consultation period  
19 October to 07 December 2020

# HOW DO YOU WANT TO ENGAGE WITH LOCAL PLANNING?

Local planning identifies sites for new housing and employment  
and sets out policies to shape future development.

### What are we doing?

We would like to hear your views on how we can better engage you in the planning process.

We have prepared a draft Statement of Community Involvement which sets out how we could engage with the community as we create planning documents and determine planning applications.

### How can you get involved?



**COMPLETE A QUESTIONNAIRE**  
Help us by answering seven key questions about how you think we should involve the community in planning.



**COMMENT ON THE DOCUMENT**  
The draft 'Statement of Community Involvement' sets out our proposals for community engagement in the planning process. Let us know your thoughts on this draft.

**Find out more and give your views:**  
**[www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/  
planningpolicy](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy)**

Alternatively, please send comments to:  
East Suffolk Council, Planning Policy & Delivery Team, Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 0EQ

 [planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)  
 01394 444557 / 01502 523029

### Other consultations

We are also seeking views on a new Supplementary Planning Document mitigating the impact of new housing development on protected habitat sites. Visit [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy) to find out more and give your views.



**East Suffolk Council Planning**  
@eastsuffolkplan

...

The consultation for the draft Statement of Community Involvement is currently underway. Only 3 weeks remain to submit comments before the consultation deadline on Monday 7th December 2020.

[eastsuffolk.inconsult.uk/consult.tj/Dra...](https://eastsuffolk.inconsult.uk/consult.tj/Dra...)

**East Suffolk Council**

Consultation period  
19 October to 07 December 2020

## HOW DO YOU WANT TO ENGAGE WITH LOCAL PLANNING?

Local planning identifies sites for new housing and employment and sets out policies to shape future development.

### What are we doing?

We would like to hear your views on how we can better engage you in the planning process.

We have prepared a draft Statement of Community Involvement which sets out how we could engage with the community as we create planning documents and determine planning applications.

### How can you get involved?

**COMPLETE A QUESTIONNAIRE**  
Help us by answering seven key questions about how you think we should involve the community in planning.

**COMMENT ON THE DOCUMENT**  
The draft 'Statement of Community Involvement' sets out our proposals for community engagement in the planning process. Let us know your thoughts on this draft.

**Find out more and give your views:**  
[www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy)

Alternatively, please send comments to:  
East Suffolk Council, Planning Policy & Delivery Team, Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 0EQ

✉ [planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)  
☎ 01304 444557 / 01502 523029

### Other consultations

We are also seeking views on a new Supplementary Planning Document mitigating the impact of new housing development on protected habitat sites. Visit [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planningpolicy) to find out more and give your views.

3:49 PM · Nov 16, 2020 · Twitter Web App



## Appendix 4: Responses on Draft Statement of Community Involvement

<b>Name/ Organisation</b>	<b>Comment ID</b>	<b>Type of response</b>	<b>Document section</b>	<b>Comment Summary</b>	<b>Council Response</b>	<b>Action</b>
Andrew White	1	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the preparation of the Local Plan?	Local Development Scheme – Want some understanding as to when consultations for proposed development sites commence to provide meaningful input and inclusivity.	The Local Development Scheme is updated annually to provide a timeline for the creation of Planning Policy documents such as the Local Plan. This is just one of the methods used to promote the beginning of the Local Plan creation process. Other methods are outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.
Marya Parker	2	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Councils website – Using website is very helpful when policies are clearly explained as at present, however not everyone has access to internet, dedicated library PCs could be useful.	The Council appreciates that not everyone will have access to the internet. Therefore, efforts are made to ensure that any documents being consulted on are available in other formats and in public locations, such as	None.

					libraries and Customer Service Centres, when this is possible. However, the Council does not have the authority to determine what Libraries display or to dedicate computers to Council services.	
Marya Parker	3	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Council should seek consent to email all council tax payers with notification of upcoming consultations.	Due to the regulations outlined in the General Data Protection Regulations, the Council can only use personal data for the purposes of which it was originally collected. Therefore, using data such as email addresses for planning matters that have been collected for the purposes of council tax payments would be against these regulations.	None.



Marya Parker	4	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the preparation of the Local Plan?	I assume you notify charities, community interest companies and community projects that may have valuable contributions.	The Council has a number of organisations, both public and private, listed on its Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List, who are all informed of new Planning Policy consultations. The Council will also approach organisations who may have a special interest in a document where this is relevant.	None.
Norman Castleton	5	Observation	Introduction	I have tried to participate. Perception we are generally ignored with no feedback. Feedback could encourage participation.	The Council agrees that feedback from consultations is valuable in showing how the public have influenced the development of a document. The Council produces a Consultation Statement following most consultations to show this and will endeavour to publicise these further to encourage greater participation in the future.	The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and that these will be publicised to show how comments have been considered.

Norman Castleton	6	Observation	Introduction	If new planning regulations/developers charter allow development under almost any circumstance without community involvement, what is point in Statement of Community Involvement?	The proposals in the recent government White Paper 'Planning for the Future' have only recently been consulted on and so any potential changes to the planning system are likely to be some time away. Also, it is not yet known what changes may result from the White Paper. Therefore, there is still a need for the Statement of Community Involvement to be developed.	None.
Norman Castleton	7	Observation	The Planning Service	Won't be any participation according to government policy.	The proposals in the recent government White Paper 'Planning for the Future' have only recently finished their consultation and no changes to the planning system have been confirmed. It will likely be some time before any potential changes, whatever these may be, will come into force.	None.

					Therefore, there is still a need for the Statement of Community Involvement to be developed.	
Norman Castleton	8	Observation	Role of the Council	Planning Policy and Delivery – Neighbourhood Plans are good if followed but evidence they can be overridden by Council.	Once a Neighbourhood Plan is 'made', the policies contained within it hold the same weight as those contained within the Local Plan. The only time a Neighbourhood Plan policy may not be implemented is when there is a conflict with the Local Plan. In this situation, the Local Plan policy takes priority as according to the national regulations. However, situations such as this are rare.	None.

Norman Castleton	9	Observation	Role of the Council	Development Management – no need for this as current process is proficient, just a means of developers overriding the council's precautionary principals and procedures.	This is outside the scope of the Statement of Community Involvement and explains the role of the Development Management Team.	None.
Norman Castleton	10	Observation	Role of the Council	Major Sites and Infrastructure Team – entirely unnecessary.	The Major Sites and Infrastructure Team will allow the Council to provide the sufficient resources and time that is needed to ensure large scale sites are delivered in a sustainable way.	None.
Norman Castleton	11	Observation	Role of the Council	Councillors - Process could be swayed by political influences.	Councillors are required to be impartial during the planning process, such as at a planning committee, according to the East Suffolk Constitution.	None.
Norman Castleton	12	Observation	Getting involved in the preparation of Planning Policy Documents	Yet to see how comments affect application. Would like to see more environmental enhancements. Restrict building on greenfield	These comments have been noted. The Council agrees that feedback from consultations is valuable in showing how the public have influenced the	The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and that

				and building more roads, no evidence people use cycle ways, stop parking in dangerous areas, cyclists use pavements recklessly, pedestrian and nature should be more predominant in plan.	development of a document. The Council produces a Consultation Statement following most consultations to show this and will endeavour to publicise these further to encourage greater participation in the future.	these will be publicised to show how comments have been considered.
Norman Castleton	13	Support	Methods the Council can use	Councils Website – Agree.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Norman Castleton	14	Support	Methods the Council can use	Social Media – Agree.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Norman Castleton	15	Support	Methods the Council can use	Public Exhibitions – Agree.	These comments have been noted.	None.

Norman Castleton	16	Support	Methods the Council can use	Press and Radio – Agree.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Norman Castleton	17	Support	Methods the Council can use	Workshops – Agree.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Norman Castleton	18	Support	Methods the Council can use	Emails and Letters – Agree.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Norman Castleton	19	Support	Methods the Council can use	Questionnaires – Agree.	These comments have been noted.	None.

Norman Castleton	20	Support	Methods the Council can use	Direct Contact – Agree.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Norman Castleton	21	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents?	Pre-production and evidence gathering – only if there is serious intent.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Norman Castleton	22	Observation	Housing Land Supply	No public say or involvement?	The Housing Land Supply Statement is a technical analysis of the deliverability of sites which are already allocated or have permission. Consultation with stakeholders such as the development sector enables the Council to understand matters specifically relating to site delivery.	Provide clarity that the Housing Land Supply Statement relates to sites which already have permission, have a resolution to grant subject to S106 agreement or are allocated.

Norman Castleton	23	Observation	Appendix 2	Many of these are not observed at the moment, e.g. building on greenfield agricultural sites, floodplains, affordable housing and density.	The list explains what matters can and cannot be considered in respect of determining planning applications rather than an assessment of the acceptability of a proposal.	None.
Judie Shore	24	Observation	Introduction	Need to consider hidden bias towards development. Wording should allow for support and objection to development whether high quality or not.	Sites considered for development and planning applications are all considered on their own merit. Judgements are made based on the opportunities and constraints of the site or proposal. Comments from the public, whether in support or objection, are welcomed by the Council to ensure that a balanced and robust decision is taken.	None.
Michelle Golding	25	Observation	Approach to Engagement	Can all documents be produced in 'easy read' format to make them more accessible?	The Council does its upmost to ensure that plain English is used and that technical language is avoided as much as possible. The Council also tries to keep	None.



					documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	
Michelle Golding	26	Observation	Appendix 2	Very long document and devil is in the detail. A short easy read summary for each section would benefit everyone including those who may wish to refer to the main document.	The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the	None.

					Council to be able to legally adopt them.	
Margaret Hallett	27	Observation	Introduction	Statement is worthy but sceptical will be adhered to.	Once the Statement of Community Involvement has been adopted by the Council, all consultations that the document covers will be required to meet its conditions.	None.
Margaret Hallett	28	Observation	Introduction	Locals without internet must be able to access documents in an accessible location or be able to receive by post.	The Council appreciates that not everyone has access to the internet. Therefore, wherever possible, we will provide copies of documents in different formats at accessible locations, such as libraries and Customer Service Centres, to ensure individuals are not excluded from engaging. The Councils position on sending out physical documents by post will be kept under review,	None.

					this has been an integral part of our consultation processes during the COVID-19 crisis.	
Margaret Hallett	29	Observation	Role of the Council	Planning Policy and Delivery – unclear how much weight Neighbourhood Plans have when Local Plan is being developed, experience in former Suffolk Coastal area shows they can be overridden.	The policies of a ‘made’ Neighbourhood Plan hold the same weight as those contained within the Local Plan. The only time a Neighbourhood Plan policy may not be implemented is when there is a conflict with the Local Plan. In this situation, the Local Plan policy takes priority as according to the national regulations. However, situations such as this are rare.	None.
Margaret Hallett	30	Observation	Role of the Council	Development Management – Officers have useful role in pre-application discussions but feel that decision delegated too readily, committees should be consulted more often,	Pre-application discussions are confidential between applicant and officer. In providing responses officers do widely promote community and parish engagement prior	None.

				large developments should have co-opted unpaid members with expertise such as health, highways etc. Unhappy so much advice comes from paid members of Council	to formal submission in line with the Statement of Community Involvement although it is the applicants choice whether to engage. If an application is formally submitted then consultation with the community ensues.	
Margaret Hallett	31	Observation	Role of the Council	Major Sites and Infrastructure – very unclear especially in relation to CIL and S106 Agreements. They appear to be applied correctly but haphazard in checking that the aim is fulfilled and checked.	These comments have been noted. The Council is currently working towards the implementation of the Execom system, which will provide clarity on how and why Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy payments have been applied and spent.	None.
Margaret Hallett	32	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Councils website – submitting duplicate apps with different reference numbers should be banned, happened recently and it was not clear if public	These comments have been noted. This issue is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.

				should comment on both apps.		
Margaret Hallett	33	Objection	Methods the Council can use	Social media – not sensible, told that it is difficult to secure these platforms.	Social media is extremely valuable when trying to engage with certain members of the community, however it is just one of the methods the Council will use to promote consultations. The Council does monitor these platforms to ensure any discussions taking place are appropriate.	None.
Margaret Hallett	34	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Public Exhibitions – frequently they are for a very brief time, can be difficult to organise but should be open 9:30 – 18:00, virtual events are only helpful for those with high-speed broadband.	The durations of public exhibitions are based on the availability of officers and the location. The Council will always organise public exhibitions so as many people as possible would be able to attend. Virtual exhibitions can be very useful for reaching a	Further references to the use of both physical and virtual exhibitions and workshops has been added throughout the Statement of Community Involvement.

					large audience who may not be able to attend an event in person, however using both virtual and physical exhibitions would be the best practice to ensure as many members of the public can attend as possible.	
Margaret Hallett	35	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Direct contact – this is essential for those who do not use computers.	The Council agrees that direct contact with officers can be one of the most effective ways to convey the Councils ambitions and visions for the area. The Council will endeavour to make the most effective use of direct contact wherever possible.	None.
Margaret Hallett	36	Observation	How will the Council involve you in Neighbourhood Planning?	Pettistree decided not to pursue a Neighbourhood Plan with Wickham Market as it was designated 'no further development'. Now included in Wickham Market extended settlement boundary	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the process that is followed when reviewing or creating a new Local Plan. Throughout the Local Plan process there is a number of public	None.

				with no consultation, useless having rules that can be easily over-turned.	consultation periods for the community to become engaged. These periods need to be adhered to in order for the Local Plan to meet the regulatory requirements and to be found 'sound' at Examination.	
Margaret Hallett	37	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of the Local Plan?	Evidence Gathering – until 2019 Pettistree designated as 'no further development', without consultation now allocated as part of Wickham market extended settlement boundary. We were first time aware of this at a Hopkins event. Need to engage responsibly with residents particularly in small villages.	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the process that is followed when reviewing or creating a new Local Plan. Throughout the Local Plan process there is a number of public consultation periods for the community to become engaged. These periods need to be adhered to in order for the Local Plan to meet the regulatory requirements and to be found 'sound' at Examination.	None.

Margaret Hallett	38	Observation	How will the Council involve you in Neighbourhood Planning?	Same as above – had been informed Pettistree boundary was fixed and could only be altered by Act of Parliament.	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the process that is followed when reviewing or creating a new Local Plan. Throughout the Local Plan process there is a number of public consultation periods for the community to become engaged. These periods need to be adhered to in order for the Local Plan to meet the regulatory requirements and to be found 'sound' at Examination.	None.
Margaret Hallett	39	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Current computer system is irritating and slow, especially need to log in and limits to characters (2000) which is insufficient. Whole process is complicated and time consuming	These comments have been noted. This issue is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.



Margaret Hallett	40	Observation	Community Engagement and Masterplans	Local objectors rarely have expertise or resources to refute consultants, also difficult to arrange Zoom meetings etc. especially with mass of applications coming in. BIMBY does not seem to feature and all local ideas on design have been considered unnecessary. Hopkins Homes made adjustments for disabled but not for environment. Recent application only one 4 hour meeting held with no feedback.	These comments have been noted. Some of these comments go beyond the scope and remit of the Statement of Community involvement. All comments received during a consultation are considered equally regardless of the individual or organisation that has made them. The Council will also work with stakeholders and developers to ensure that community engagement conducted at an appropriate level and that there is evidence provided as to how the comments received have been considered.	None.
------------------	----	-------------	--------------------------------------	--	---	-------

Margaret Hallett	41	Observation	Appendix 2	What about consideration of local infrastructure, adding housing where already problems such as school places, sewerage, medical capacity and traffic should be considered.	Local infrastructure capacity is a key consideration when both allocating sites for development in the Local Plan and when determining planning applications. In both cases the Council will engage with key providers of services and infrastructure to determine the current capacities of each and if the proposed development would push these services to over-capacity. If there is a need for capacity to be increased, this will be considered in relation to the development.	None.
James Coulson	42	Observation	Introduction	Welcome new approach. Information needs to be easier to obtain and more concise, work has been done but can go further especially on website. Also link on portal straight to	The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in	None.

				consultation would be helpful.	order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them. The consultation portal used for consultations has been created by an organisation outside of the Council. While the Council does have influence over how it works, there are some processes that are fixed that the Council is unable to change. The Council will, however, always endeavour to make consultations as easy to access as possible.	
--	--	--	--	--------------------------------	---	--

James Coulson	43	Observation	Approach to Engagement	Welcome new means of communication and social media is more relevant now, however should be wary of those who galvanise the community to skew responses. Need to keep information concise.	The Council agrees that social media is becoming more important for communicating with the public. The Council is also aware that there is the potential for communication on these platforms to become skewed and therefore monitors the communication on these platforms carefully. The Council will try to keep documents concise and using plain English where possible, however the documents must still meet the national Regulations in order to be adopted by the Council.	None.
James Coulson	44	Observation	The Planning Service	Some people do not understand planning process. East Suffolk Council should offer clear information, for example in Trimley the general perception is that they don't want	One of the aims of the Statement of Community Involvement is to provide clarity as to the roles and processes of the planning service. One of the roles, especially at the early	None.

				development. Would be better to engage on where it should be built along with amenities.	stages of developing planning policy documents, is to determine the purpose of the document and the need for development. The Council will, as said in the Statement of Community Involvement, actively engage with local councils and the public to highlight where and why development is needed to meet the needs of East Suffolk.	
James Coulson	45	Observation	How will the Council involve you in Neighbourhood Planning?	Public should be made more aware of how to be involved, need to understand need for housing and other projects to make more informed comments. Council should also guide on need for new amenities, what can be asked for and preferences, prevent developers providing a few shops of little value, type and value should be	One of the aims of the Statement of Community Involvement is to provide clarity as to the roles and processes of the planning service, which the Council appreciates can be complex. One of the roles, especially at the early stages of developing planning policy documents, is to determine the purpose of the document and the	None.

				chosen alongside housing so fits with area.	need for development. The Council will actively engage with local councils and the public to highlight where and why development is needed to meet the needs of East Suffolk.	
Karrie Langdon	46	Observation	Appendix 1	Resident of Hollesley which has a number of bird reserves, a national footpath and AONB which all bring in tourists. RSPB and SWT should be consulted as part of climate emergency which shows incorporating wildlife is key.	The Development Management Procedure Order (2015) sets out the statutory consultation requirements on applications. In addition, the Council consults additional parties if appropriate at the discretion of officers depending on the issues arising. Notwithstanding, the lack of formal consultation does not preclude other parties from commenting on applications.	None.

Karrie Langdon	47	Observation	The Planning Service	Current system too narrow. Process needs an impact statement of effect of proposal against current infrastructure and should be costed.	The potential impact on infrastructure is one of the key considerations when proposing sites for development and when determining planning applications. The Council regularly engages with infrastructure and service providers to determine existing capacities and any potential projects that may be needed to support development. Wherever possible, these projects are also costed based on predicted or known costs at the time.	None.
Karrie Langdon	48	Observation	Role of the Council	Planning Policy and Delivery – Habitats Regulations Assessment should be extended to urban environments due to climate emergency. New builds do not take wildlife into account. More proactive	This issue is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.

				willingness to keep or enhance nature should be in planning process.		
Karrie Langdon	49	Observation	Housing Land Supply	Should be coupled with impact statement on existing infrastructure and cost analysis to ensure infrastructure can cope. No overall analysis on impact of new development. From a village where new housing proposed but no information on sewerage.	The Housing Land Supply Statement is an assessment of the anticipated timing of delivery of sites which have planning permission, have a resolution to grant subject to S106 agreement or are allocated. When proposing sites for development and when determining planning applications, the potential impact on infrastructure is one of the key considerations. The Council regularly engages with infrastructure and service providers to determine potential projects that may be	Provide clarity that the Housing Land Supply Statement relates to sites which already have permission, have a resolution to grant subject to S106 agreement or are allocated.



					needed to support development.	
No Comment – comment was submitted into the wrong consultation, then removed.	50					
David Robertson	51	Observation	Introduction	Use as many methods as possible not just social media, perhaps make use of Council Tax bills?	The Council will make use of as many methods as possible to engage the local community. This way we can ensure that as many people as possible have been actively engaged. Due to the regulations outlined in the General Data Protection Regulations, the Council can only use personal data for the purposes of which it was originally collected.	None.

					Therefore, using data such as email addresses for planning matters that have been collected for the purposes of council tax payments would be against these regulations.	
David Robertson	52	Observation	Introduction	Council should do utmost to communicate what has changed due to COVID 19, such as no site notices.	Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, the Council has released publicity material and updates on the Council website outlining the measures that have been taken to mitigate the impacts of the crisis whilst also allowing consultations to continue.	None.
David Robertson	53	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Council should do more to ensure applications are appropriate before accepting them, especially regarding nature of drawings which are not always to scale and clear maps.	The Council has a Local Validation List which sets out what documents are requiring to enable an application to be submitted.	None.

David Robertson	54	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	More transparency of various dates for planning applications. Validation date, expiry date and determination date do not mean anything to residents. Need to know how long we have to respond which is not clear.	These comments have been noted. This issue is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.
David Robertson	55	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Planning website should include better explanation of what cases are seen by planning committee	The Scheme of Delegation is available on the Council's website and sets out the mechanism by which applications will be considered by Committee. If an application is presented to Committee then the website is updated accordingly for public inspection.	None.
Saxmundham Town Council	56	Observation	Introduction	Use as many avenues as possible. Need to enshrine role for local councils.	The Council will endeavour to use as many methods of consultation and engagement as possible to ensure as many people are engaged as	None.

					possible. Local councils play a vital role in the planning service as advocates for the views of the local community, and will continue to be engaged as much as possible on planning matters.	
Norfolk County Council	57	Support	Appendix 1	Draft Statement of Community Involvement is welcomed, and Norfolk County Council welcomes being listed as a statutory consultee	These comments are noted.	None.
Trimley St Martin Parish Council	58	Observation	Approach to Engagement	Document considered at November meeting. Only comment is expression of concern that statement does not sit comfortably with change proposed in the 'Planning for the Future' White Paper.	The proposals in the recent government White Paper 'Planning for the Future' have only recently been consulted on and so any potential changes to the planning system are likely to be some time away. Also, it is not yet known what changes may be the result of the White Paper. Therefore there is still a need for the Statement of Community	None.

					Involvement to be developed.	
Framlingham Town Council	59	Observation /Objection	Role of the Council	Development Management - pre-application discussions are confidential which is counter to LGA 'Pre-Application Suite' (2014). Freedom Of Information Act 2000 includes presumption in favour of disclosure of information, including pre-application discussions, unless this would cause adverse impacts (Regulation 12 Environment Information Regulations 2004). Should not be presumption of confidentiality.	Pre-application discussions are confidential between applicant and officer. In providing responses officers do widely promote community and parish engagement prior to formal submission in line with the Statement of Community Involvement although it is the applicant's choice whether to engage. If an application is formally submitted, then consultation with the community ensues.	None.

Framlingham Town Council	60	Observation	Role of the Council	Councillors – this section continues potential for lack of transparency concerning Referral Panel where Officer is 'minded to' make a decision contrary to Town/Parish Council, Ward Member or Statutory Consultee. Need to inform these parties of the decision, explain the reason and opportunity to explain to Officer why we disagree. Framlingham Town Council have not been informed on a number of occasions.	These comments have been noted. This issue is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.
Framlingham Town Council	61	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Current paperless process does not work well and document largely silent about details of notification. Teething problems since moving to paperless, not smooth or error free.	These comments have been noted. This issue is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.

Framlingham Town Council	62	Objection	Introduction	<p>'Responding to Exceptional Circumstances' is too loose, East Suffolk Council taking too much advantage from relaxed rules, should be more proactive to ensure town and parish councils are consulted efficiently at all stages whatever exceptional circumstances. These should not lead to a loss of transparency and openness.</p>	<p>The COVID-19 crisis has meant that some of the methods often used by the Council to consult (such as the provision of physical copies of documents in libraries) has not been possible due to social distancing restrictions. In the short term, to mitigate the impact of the restrictions, the Council introduced a number of alternative measures to ensure continued involvement in consultations. These measures are temporary, and the normal methods outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement will be reinstated once it is safe to do so.</p>	None.
--------------------------	----	-----------	--------------	---	--	-------

Bungay Village Hall Management Committee	63	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Social media – does not cover all constituents and can only be used as a support system and not MAIN means of communication.	Social media is just one of the methods the Council will use to promote consultations. Other methods such as press releases will be used to ensure members of the public who do not use social media are still made aware of upcoming consultations.	None.
Historic England	64	Observation	General Comment	Thank you for consulting on Statement of Community Involvement. No specific comments at this stage but will be interested in receiving subsequent consultations on this and related documents.	These comments are noted.	None.
Boyton Parish Council	65	Observation	The Planning Service	Proposals in 'Planning for the Future' run contrary to the aims here to increase local input. They look to substantially reduce role of local government and stakeholders in decisions (such as Neighbourhood Plans being overruled),	The proposals in the recent government White Paper 'Planning for the Future' have only recently been consulted on and so any potential changes to the planning system are likely to be some time away. Also, it is not yet known what	None.



				pre-suppose a growth rate for area and mandate housing quotas based on this, and reduce affordable housing. Unclear how these can be guarded against.	changes may be the result of the White Paper. Therefore, there is still a need for the Statement of Community Involvement to be developed.	
Boyton Parish Council	66	Observation	The Planning Service	Consultation process does not focus on climate change. All policies should be consistent with climate emergency, not just 'planning policies'. Local level planning policy should be led by climate emergency e.g. pre-supposition against most development rather than for it.	Climate change and its potential impacts are integral to all planning decisions. However, all planning decisions have to be made considering the planning balance, weighing up the opportunities and threats such as the local economy, housing need and others. This way the Council can ensure that development is sustainable socially, economically and environmentally.	None.

Joanna Barfield	67	Observation	Introduction	<p>Planning is one of the Councils most important roles. Only by being involved have an understanding of the complex system. Many are unaware of many processes including Local Plan production. They can become disenfranchised when a decision is made without their knowledge. Do not assume people have access to technology or register all emails they receive. Physical copies are surest way to ensure engagement despite costs and logistics. Local media has a key role in informing people, as do local libraries. Should publish leaflet outlining people's roles and rights in the process.</p> <p>Exhibitions have been very informative as well, especially due to the provision of physical</p>	<p>The Council understands that the planning system can be complex. One of the purposes of the Statement of Community Involvement is to outline the role of each part of the system to assist individuals and communities who wish to engage in planning. The Council appreciates that not everyone will have access to the internet. Therefore, efforts are made to ensure that any documents being consulted on are available in other formats and in public locations, such as libraries and Customer Service Centres, when this is possible. Public exhibitions in accessible locations are also integral to this. Leafletting is a process that the Council has</p>	<p>Further references to the use of both physical and virtual exhibitions and workshops has been added throughout the Statement of Community Involvement.</p>
-----------------	----	-------------	--------------	---	--	---

				documents and being able to talk to officers.	made use of, however the process is resource intensive and is not often viable for many consultations. While the Council can use this method when it is possible, it can only do so when it is viable.	
Joanna Barfield	68	Observation	Introduction	Need to explain what CIL is, how it works, what the implications are in terms of an application being approved and what it means for community. Need to explain what developer having an 'option' on a site is. What does 'reserved matters' mean?	The Council's website has pages dedicated to Community Infrastructure Levy, including how it works and how it is spent, as well as the planning process as a whole. These pages are also currently being reviewed.	None.
Joanna Barfield	69	Observation	Introduction	Responding to Exceptional Circumstances – Some of this is worrying, has relaxing anything led to loss of rights for citizens? Commendable to send copies on request but requires people to be	This section of the document was drafted in response to the COVID-19 crisis, which has meant that some of the methods often used by the Council to consult (such as the provision of physical copies of	None.

				<p>aware they exist. Is there a summary of changes on website? What publicity material are you referring to? Only found recent planning application consultation due to interest but these can't be accessed by everyone, especially those without computers. Consider postponing decisions on major applications where it has not been possible to involve community through events such as exhibitions. Physical copies in libraries are often the first thing that make people aware.</p>	<p>documents in libraries) has not been possible due to social distancing restrictions. In the short term, to mitigate the impact of the restrictions, the Council introduced a number of alternative measures to ensure continued involvement in consultations. These measures are temporary, and the normal methods outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement will be reinstated once it is safe to do so.</p>	
Joanna Barfield	70	Observation	Approach to Engagement	<p>Not clear what happens once comments are made on applications; website is not clear as important dates is often unavailable. Also need to make clear what other organisations you expect</p>	<p>The Council's website contains a list of all parties consulted on applications and as soon as a response is received it is uploaded to the public access system for inspection.</p>	None.

				to see commenting on application (e.g. Historic England, Suffolk County Council Highways, Environment Agency). How is it fair to consult on major application when most forms of engagement are unavailable?		
Joanna Barfield	71	Observation	The Planning Service	This section of document is very important. The service communicates strategic needs and site-specific policies which shape the area. Different roles need to be clear to avoid confusion and misinterpretation, especially who to send comments to. Officers also need to be fully aware of roles and responsibilities to ensure full engagement.	Outlining the roles of each part of the system and highlighting the work that they do is one of the key aims of the Statement of Community Involvement. By doing this the Council believes this will make the planning system clearer for members of the public to become more engaged with planning.	None.

Joanna Barfield	72	Observation	Role of the Council	Planning Policy - To what extent does CIL influence the outcome of an application? What is a Local Development Order? Worrying that the need for permission can be removed.	The Community Infrastructure Levy is a set charge per square metre which most new development needs to pay. The rate is not negotiable and therefore has no impact on the on the outcome of an application. Local Development Orders are local grants of planning permission that only allow certain types of building work to commence without needing a planning application. These orders however still have a number of requirements that need to be met, depending on the type of work being carried out.	None.
Joanna Barfield	73	Observation	Role of the Council	Development Management – Second sentence confusing, what are material considerations? Hard for those unfamiliar to understand this. Also, 'of	Appendix 2 provides a list of what can be considered a material consideration (and what can't) when assessing planning applications. The list is not exhaustive	A link to the East Suffolk Council Constitution has been added to the document. A link to the Planning Practice Guidance providing

				<p>which the NPPF may be a consideration' does not make sense. How is the process communicated to residents? Why do some schemes go through referral process? Could a flow chart be included to explain? What sorts of development are automatically permitted? Why is pre-application advice confidential? Does it provide a way for developers to be more likely to secure approval?</p>	<p>as it is defined by case law. The Referral Process is outlined in East Suffolk Council's Constitution which is available on the website. The General Permitted Development Order sets out what works are considered permitted development and therefore exempt from planning control.</p>	<p>further information on permitted development rights has been added to the document.</p>
Joanna Barfield	74	Observation	Role of the Council	<p>Major Sites and Infrastructure - What is the difference between CIL and S106 Agreement?</p>	<p>The Community Infrastructure Levy is a set charge on new development that raises funds for the development of infrastructure to support development. A Section 106 Agreement is negotiated between the Council and the developer which</p>	<p>None.</p>

					determines what will be delivered on a development site, including the infrastructure to support the development.	
Joanna Barfield	75	Observation	Role of the Council	Councillors – Can a member of the community attend a site visit? If so, under what conditions? Are planning applications normally determined by a single planning officer?	No application is considered by a single officer. If the matter is delegated, there are robust checks and balances are in place to ensure that more than one officer reviews the matter and applications are signed off by a senior officer. Due to COVID-19 all site visits are only undertaken by Members of the planning committee. Under normal circumstances Ward members and representatives from the Town and Parish Council are invited although they can only witness the visit rather than engage in the process. Any third party is able to attend	None.



					although permission may need to be provided to access any private land.	
Joanna Barfield	76	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Important to ensure public have an equal and fair chance to participate, applications should continue to be published in local press.	The Council agrees that is important that all members of the public to have an equal opportunity to engage with the planning system. Press releases are a valuable part of publicising consultations to ensure as much of the community is informed as possible.	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Joanna Barfield	77	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Councils website – Could you have a link on homepage to current consultations? Only aware of these as asked to be contacted, not obvious on homepage these are taking place, wouldn't randomly click	The planning service has created a page on the Council's website which highlights all of the planning policy consultations that are currently open, as well as past consultations ( <a href="#">Planning Policy</a> )	None.

				to see if any are taking place. Have to know it exists.	<a href="#">consultations » East Suffolk Council</a> ). However, at present it is not possible to have such a page linked on the home page of the website due to the vast number of service areas that the Council has. Having a single page of all consultations for the Council would be unmanageable.	
Joanna Barfield	78	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Social media – I was informed of this consultation by email but not that there had been an extension until December 7 <sup>th</sup> , that would have been helpful.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Joanna Barfield	79	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Public Exhibitions – virtual only useful to those with computers but could help with younger residents and could be offered alongside physical ones. Have been extremely successful in Halesworth and are vital for large	The Council will always organise public exhibitions so as many people as possible are able to attend. Virtual exhibitions can be very useful for reaching a large audience who may not be able to attend an event in person,	Further references to the use of both physical and virtual exhibitions and workshops has been added throughout the Statement of Community Involvement.

				developments which require maps, plans etc.	however using both virtual and physical exhibitions is the best practice to ensure as many members of the public can attend as possible.	
Joanna Barfield	80	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Workshops – very important to provide this opportunity.	The Council agrees that workshops can be extremely valuable in giving the opportunity for members of the public to engage directly with officers of the Council. The Statement of Community Involvement also makes specific references to the use of workshops.	None.
Joanna Barfield	81	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Press and Radio – also very important, use Look East too. Keep listing applications in local press and community newspapers.	The Council will make appropriate use of media outlets based on the document that is being consulted on. However, it may not be appropriate to use all media outlets for all documents. The Council agrees that press releases are extremely	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not

					valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Council's control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Joanna Barfield	82	Support	Methods the Council can use	Emails and Letters – Good!	These comments have been noted.	None.
Joanna Barfield	83	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Questionnaires – Hard copies of these and letters for those without computers, could also go to libraries.	The Council will ensure that physical copies of documents such as questionnaires are made available at accessible public locations wherever this is possible.	None.

Joanna Barfield	84	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Direct contact – On recent application it was not clear who to contact directly, it gave name of officer but no details on how to contact him.	These comments have been noted. Processes are in place to ensure that all consultation letters and site notices provide case officer contact details to make contact easier for customers.	None.
Joanna Barfield	85	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of the Local Plan?	Local Development Scheme – timeline needs to be clear, perhaps on home page have a link to current consultations and their timelines. This can show what is happening as people need to know in order to comment. Applies to consultations beyond planning. Wasn't informed of extension.	The planning service has created a page on the Council's website which highlights all of the planning policy consultations that are currently open, as well as past consultations ( <a href="#">Planning Policy consultations » East Suffolk Council</a> ). However, at present it is not possible to have such a page linked on the home page of the website due to the vast number of service areas that the Council has. Having a single page of all consultations for the	None.

					Council would be unmanageable.	
Joanna Barfield	86	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of the Local Plan?	<p>Evidence gathering – All very important! Many residents unaware of process of site allocations until too late. Probably most significant impact to residents so must be communicated early and clearly. Accompanying significance of the sustainability must also be clearly communicated. Workshops and exhibitions are vital, as well as press releases and physical documents. Transparency also needed, e.g. who owns what, who is buying what etc.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted. The Council agrees that exhibitions and workshops are extremely valuable in engaging the community and will make use of these when it is appropriate. The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Council's control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council</p>	<p>Further references to the use of both physical and virtual exhibitions and workshops has been added throughout the Statement of Community Involvement. The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.</p>

					will continue to make use of them. The ownership and buying of land is at the discretion of the private landowners,, the Council is unable to report on the ownership of sites being considered for development.	
Joanna Barfield	87	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of the Local Plan?	Evidence gathering – More frequent press releases to keep people up to date. Use local media like Look East, Community News, local newspapers. Procedures are complicated so can be easy to feel disenfranchised. Inform local schools so parents can be informed by newsletters as well as younger residents.	The Council will make appropriate use of media outlets based on the document that is being consulted on. However, it may not be appropriate to use all media outlets for all documents. The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access the to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Councils	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.

					control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	
Joanna Barfield	88	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of the Local Plan?	Examination, Public Hearings – Issue press release here to keep residents informed. Unless you are involved you would have no idea this takes place. Need to know it exists.	The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Council's control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Joanna Barfield	89	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of the Local Plan?	Examination – Will all the usual methods be used to engage residents in the public consultation at this stage as well?	If there is a public consultation on the Main Modifications which result from the Examination, the methods used at the Publication Stage	None.



					(Regulation 19) will be applied, as stated in the Statement of Community Involvement.	
Joanna Barfield	90	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of the Local Plan?	Publication of Inspectors Recommendations – Press Release needed here.	The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Council's control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Joanna Barfield	91	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of the Local Plan?	Adoption – press release needed here.	The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet.	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It

					However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Councils control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Joanna Barfield	92	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents?	Evidence gathering – Press releases, exhibitions and workshops, along with other methods, are a good way to engage with most people (especially those without computers).	The Council agrees that workshops and exhibitions are valuable tools for engaging with the public and will make use of them where appropriate. The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Councils control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them. Further references to the use of both physical and virtual exhibitions and workshops has been added throughout the Statement of

					will continue to make use of them.	Community Involvement.
Joanna Barfield	93	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents?	Adoption – press release with brief summary and notification that the document can be viewed in the library. I suspect many residents are not aware that planning documents are in libraries.	The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Council's control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Joanna Barfield	94	Observation	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule?	Suspect residents are totally unaware of CIL and how it works. It is right they should be consulted but difficult for them to comment if they don't understand what it is. How does	The Council's website has pages dedicated to Community Infrastructure Levy, including how it works and how it is spent, as well as the planning process as a whole.	None.

				Council intend to explain this? Should have a section on website to explain this.	These pages are also currently being reviewed.	
Joanna Barfield	95	Observation	Housing Land Supply	At what point of the year is this statement produced? Does it contain the number of houses known to be unoccupied, that are second homes, or which have been purchased by foreign investors? If not, where is this available? Does it include information on sites not being delivered on, an analysis of why and how long this will continue? Known to be an issue which can force other to become available unnecessarily.	The Statement is produced after the Council has completed its housing monitoring for the year, which ends on 31 <sup>st</sup> March. The timing is dependent on stakeholder engagement. The 2019 Statement was published in August 2019 and the 2020 Statement was published in October 2020. The Statement follows the policy in the National Planning Policy Framework and guidance in the Planning Practice Guidance with the aim of setting out the anticipated yearly completions to demonstrate a five year supply, to maintain a	None.

					planned approach to development. The Council's Housing Action Plan focuses on ways of improving delivery.	
Joanna Barfield	96	Observation	How will the Council involve you in Neighbourhood Planning?	Notify those who do not have a computer/don't usually access website by press release at Submission.	The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Council's control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Joanna Barfield	97	Observation	How will the Council involve you in Neighbourhood Planning?	Notify those who do not have a computer/don't usually access website by press release at Submission, including how to make comments and the procedure.	The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet.	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It

					However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Councils control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Joanna Barfield	98	Observation	How will the Council involve you in Neighbourhood Planning?	Town Council could release statement as part of monthly news to encourage participation and access those without computers.	The Council will support Parish and Town Councils as they develop their Neighbourhood Plans. This includes providing advice on how to actively engage with the community. However, this is ultimately the responsibility of the Neighbourhood Plan group.	None.
Joanna Barfield	99	Observation	How will the Council involve you in Neighbourhood Planning?	Notify those who do not have a computer/don't usually access website by press release at Referendum.	The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet. However, it should also	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated

					be noted that it is not within the Councils control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Joanna Barfield	100	Observation	How will the Council involve you in Neighbourhood Planning?	Notify those who do not have a computer/don't usually access website by press release at Adoption.	The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Councils control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Joanna Barfield	101	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Things you do not consult on, such as Discharge of Conditions, would be helpful to know what they are. Every effort should be made to engage. You are	The Council consults on all 'applications'. There are some submissions which are technical matters (i.e. non material amendments and discharge of	None.

				working away for us but sometimes we don't know what's happening. Applications must continue to be published in local press.	conditions) which are not applications and therefore fall outside the scope of any formal consultation requirement set in legislation. If, however, it is a technical matter, i.e. highways then relevant bodies are engaged to ensure they meet their requirements.	
Joanna Barfield	102	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Consultation should be encouraged where development is proposed in area used or part of the view of whole community. This can range from new supermarket to extensions and change of use could affect availability and look, especially in conservation areas.	The Statement of Community Involvement describes the public consultation measures that will be undertaken for all applications. The Council is committed to receiving the views of interested parties on matters.	None.



Joanna Barfield	103	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Include list of 'material considerations' on planning section of website and advise to look at this before submitting comments. Many do not know what it means and could be helpful to them. Are hard copies of applications available for those without computers?	The Statement of Community Involvement includes a list of example material considerations in Appendix 2, although the list is not exhaustive as defined by case law.	None.
Joanna Barfield	104	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Is the case officers report made public?	Yes, the case officer report is made publicly available on the Council's website.	None.
Joanna Barfield	105	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Are decisions listed in libraries/community service centres?	All decisions are available on the Council's website.	None.

Joanna Barfield	106	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Planning Appeals - Press release to inform community of appeals on large developments.	All appeals are listed on the Council's website and appropriate notification undertaken in accordance with the requirements set down by the Planning Inspectorate.	None.
Joanna Barfield	107	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Thank you for opportunity to comment on this draft statement.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Harry Brightwell	108	Observation	Introduction	Responding as a member of the public but also a Parish Councillor. Only found out about consultation on day of deadline. What chance do general members of the public have?	These comments have been noted.	None.
Harry Brightwell	109	Observation	Approach to Engagement	Tuddenham Parish Council and residents submitted various options for Local Plan but felt they were ignored. May have met requirements but felt alienated and that	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the process that is followed when reviewing or creating a new Local Plan. Throughout the Local Plan process there are a	The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and that these will be

				<p>'planners knew best'. Public meetings have no impact. Need to provide feedback to anyone who comments as this would create more acceptance of final results.</p>	<p>number of public consultation periods for the community to become engaged. These periods need to be adhered to in order for the Local Plan to meet the regulatory requirements and to be found 'sound' at Examination. The Council agrees that feedback from consultations is valuable in showing how the public have influenced the development of a document. The Council produces a Consultation Statement following most consultations to show this and will endeavour to publicise these further to encourage greater participation in the future.</p>	<p>promoted to show how comments have been considered.</p>
--	--	--	--	---	--	--

Harry Brightwell	110	Observation	The Planning Service	Better assistance to Parish Councils in producing Neighbourhood Plans would promote community engagement.	The Council will continue to support Parish and Town Councils as much as possible as they develop their Neighbourhood Plans. This can include providing publicity resources and contacts and providing advice on how to actively engage with the community.	None.
Walberswick Parish Council	111	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Experienced diminishing role for public consultation because input, while encouraged, has very little influence on decisions. Since 2019 42 app, 18 recommended refusal, East Suffolk Council only agreed 4 times and overturned one on appeal. 16% East Suffolk Council has supported parish council. The arguments put forward are carefully considered, meaning the situation leads to parish council	The Development Management Procedure Order (2015) sets out the consultation requirements for planning applications. The consultation period is 15 working days for all parties. It may on occasions be possible to allow an extension of time this should be agreed with case officer to ensure that determination timescales can be met. It is ultimately the responsibility of	A link to the East Suffolk Council Constitution has been added to the document.

				<p>and residents feeling like the system is ineffective as local knowledge has very little impact. Deadlines are overly prescriptive as they do not account for legislative restrictions on how and when Parish Councils can meet, and decisions need to be made at public meetings not over email. East Suffolk Council should adopt timing flexibility to coincide with public meetings. Other districts in Suffolk take similar approach. Officers should take greater account of inputs from Parish Councils and where suggestion is not taken there should be specific explanation. All applications when Parish Council objects should be taken to planning committee for consideration and should</p>	<p>interested parties to organise their processes to ensure that comments can be provided within the required timescales. The Referral Process as included in the East Suffolk Constitution outlines the process by which applications are considered by Committee and is a Council approved approach.</p>	
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

				take into account Parish Council and Ward members views.		
Harry Brightwell	112	Observation	General Comment	Only seen on final day in afternoon, responded as individual but is also a Parish Councillor. Short and not as articulated as hoped. Could only read couple of chapters.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Natural England	113	Observation	General Comment	Thank you, no comments at this time.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Beccles Town Council	114	Support	General Comment	Extend our thanks for this comprehensive, factual reference and request it is implemented in the future.	These comments have been noted.	None.

Suffolk County Council	115	Support	How will the Council involve you in the Preparation of the Local Plan?	Suffolk County Council welcomes the section on Local Plans.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Suffolk County Council	116	Observation	How will the Council involve you in Neighbourhood Planning?	Welcomes section neighbourhood planning. We would like to encourage parish councils to get in contact with Suffolk County Council and assorted services within to ensure that neighbourhood planning group can include additional specific information from these areas at the earlier stage of the process.	The Council will continue to encourage Neighbourhood Planning groups to engage with the County Council while developing their Neighbourhood Plan. It is recognised that the teams of the County Council can provide valuable information for the development of the plans.	None.
Suffolk County Council	117	Observation	General Comment	Page 24 – switch top 2 bullet points. Page 26 – top of green box missing, start of sentence absent. Request to be kept updated and engaged at later developments.	These comments have been noted.	The formatting on these pages has been corrected.

Waldringfield Parish Council	118	Observation	General Comment	Councillors were impressed by this useful, comprehensive and well written document. Request physical copies for reference as new councillors have joined and would be useful. Having to register and log in for comments was not 'customer friendly'. For Parish Councils, having to add individual comments to document is impractical, more suited for individuals. Being able to submit whole document for all comments would be easier.	These comments have been noted. The consultation portal used for planning policy consultations has been created by an organisation outside of the Council. While the Council does have influence over how it works, there are some processes that are fixed that the Council is unable to change. The Council will, however, always endeavour to make consultations as easy to access as possible.	None.
Waldringfield Parish Council	119	Observation	Introduction	Councillors raised concerns that the planning white paper may lead to planning law changes and therefore the document could quickly become irrelevant.	The proposals in the recent government White Paper 'Planning for the Future' have only recently been consulted on and so any potential changes to the planning system are likely to be some time away. Also, it is not yet known what	



					changes may be the result of the White Paper. Therefore there is still a need for the Statement of Community Involvement to be developed.	
Westleton Parish Council	120	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Presumed consultation ran out at midnight. Electronic consultation on planning applications has worked generally well. Often difficult to read detailed maps on computer screens so would like the option of physical copies as it is often not possible/viable to print themselves and PC does not have a projector. There may be situations where longer periods for responses would be beneficial, particularly on large proposals. Would Council be open to exceptional extensions? Deadlines often shift	The Council aims to keep consultations fair to all participants and will generally keep to stated timeframes. However, in the case of planning applications the Council will consider extensions where the statutory determination timescales will support such and all requests should be made in the first instance to the case officer. The final consultation date is 15 working days from the last means of consultation (site notice, paper, letter) and is clearly stated on the Council's website.	

				form those stated on cover letters as statutory period starts from when notice is posted, this needs to be clear and consistent.		
Bourne Leisure Ltd	121	Observation	General Comment	Community and consultation strategy proposed adequately covers the majority of details one would expect from such a document. Request provision is included to enable full stakeholder engagement in reviews of the Shoreline Management Plan. Important in setting long term strategy to manage coastal flooding and erosion and can impact the lives of large coastal populations. PPG – Authorities preparing local plans should assess the future needs and opportunities for their areas, explore and identify options for	These comments have been noted. The Shoreline Management Plan is a document that is not produced by the Planning Policy and Delivery team or the Development Management team. It is therefore not covered by the Statement of Community Involvement. The Shoreline Management Plan is reviewed when it is appropriate and any change in policy will be accompanied by a full community consultation.	None.

				<p>addressing these, and then set out a preferred approach...This involves gathering evidence, carrying out a Sustainability Appraisal to inform the preparation of Local Plans, and effective engagement and consultation with local communities, businesses and other interested parties.” (Paragraph: 034 Reference ID: 61-034-20190315). In planning for the business requirements of areas, the PPG highlights the importance of “...engaging with the business community to understand their changing needs and identify and address barriers to investment...” Paragraph: 040 Reference ID: 61-040-20190315). However great weight is being</p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

				<p>given to document that is not subject to full public consultation, this cannot be right. BLL have significant holdings in these areas but there is limited scope to engage in the Shoreline Management Plans. Tends to be focussed on East Suffolk Council, Environment Agency, Natural England, Suffolk County Council, Historic England and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Unit. In future, should be fully publicly consulted to provide opportunity to comment. Would be grateful to be kept informed.</p>		
Lowestoft Town Council	122	Observation	Approach to Engagement	<p>Given the backdrop of de-regularisation of the planning system, Lowestoft Town Council welcomes this consultation. The planning authority needs</p>	<p>The Council recognises that some groups and individuals in the community may find it more difficult to engage with the planning system than others. This</p>	None.

				to improve engagement with harder to reach sectors and not reliant on digital consultation. Should ensure notices and neighbour consultation letters are posted, which has not been consistent recently.	document has been designed to make the best use of all of the methods currently available to the Council so as many people can be engaged as possible. The Council will also continue to explore new methods as they become available. Recently the COVID-19 crisis has made some of the methods normally used by the Council more difficult or even impossible to act on, however mitigation measures are being introduced.	
Lowestoft Town Council	123	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Review current system of public representation at planning committees and offer more realistic time slot for public speakers. 3 minutes is not an appropriate time for the public to properly engage. Perhaps 3	These comments have been noted. This issue is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.

				minutes per person, up to 15 minutes total.		
Woodbridge Society	124	Observation	Introduction	<p>Welcome principle of Statement of Community Involvement. Coincided with planning white paper which could radically change planning process. Not clear on Councils own views or if any consultation with public took place. Document sets out processes Councils should follow, however no commitment to take any views expressed into account.</p>	<p>The proposals in the recent government White Paper 'Planning for the Future' have only recently been consulted on and so any potential changes to the planning system are likely to be some time away. Also, it is not yet known what changes may be the result of the White Paper. Therefore there is still a need for the Statement of Community Involvement to be developed. The Council will consider all comments that are received during consultation periods and will make changes to documents where</p>	None.

					material considerations have been raised.	
Woodbridge Society	125	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Well known instances of local opinions being ignored and where Local Plan policies have been ignored. Greater accountability and transparency are required. For example, how councillors vote on specific applications should be recorded and publicly available.	These comments have been noted. This issue is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.
Felixstowe Town Council	126	Observation	Approach to Engagement	Supports public and stakeholder engagement with local planning process. Recognise that digital technologies can offer more ways for people to access planning documents, however to make as accessible as possible this should include documents being	The Council appreciates that not everyone will have access to the internet. Therefore, efforts are made to ensure that any documents being consulted on are available in other formats and in public locations, such as libraries and Customer	None.

				available at public buildings such as libraries. We recognise that some matters, such as a pandemic, are beyond the councils control and may prevent access at times.	Service Centres, when this is possible. The COVID-19 crisis has meant that some methods have not been available for recent consultations, however whenever this occurs the Council will always introduce mitigation measures to ensure consultations can continue in an open and transparent way.	
Felixstowe Town Council	127	Observation	Role of the Council	Councillors – page 13 does not clearly explain referral process, what are the criteria for when an application goes to committee or not? Historically this occurs when a Town or Parish Council, Ward member, or statutory consultee raises a material planning matter in contrary to the 'minded to' position of the planning officer.	The referral process is contained in the Council's Constitution and on the website. In addition this has been shared with T&PCs, Ward members and agents through training sessions and newsletters.	A link to the East Suffolk Council Constitution has been added to the document.



Felixstowe Town Council	128	Observation	Methods the Council can use	Community engagement is key to planning policy reviews, in particular the Local Plan development process. To improve transparency a wider range of methods should be used to promote consultations to ensure community is made aware. Printed information or leafletting should be utilised.	The Council agrees that a wide range of methods should be used during consultations, including digital and physical means of communication. Printed information is used by the Council where it is possible to do so, however these methods use a large proportion of the Councils resources and so not all printed methods, such as leafletting, may be appropriate for all consultations.	None.
Great Bealings Parish Council	129	Observation	How will the Council involve you in Neighbourhood Planning?	Clear guidance needed for communities that have a 'made' Neighbourhood Plan so they can be advised and assisted to reviews as required by revised legislation, new East Suffolk Council Local Plan provisions and experience gained across other Neighbourhood	The Council will continue to support Neighbourhood Planning groups after their Neighbourhood Plans are 'made'. However, East Suffolk Council do not lead on the development of Neighbourhood Plans, therefore it is the responsibility of the	None.

				Plans in the East Suffolk Council area. East Suffolk Council should regularly review all Neighbourhood Plans to ensure they are working and achieving objectives. Lessons learned can be very valuable and should be widely disseminated. East Suffolk Council were very helpful while writing ours, despite being one of the first to do so. Hopefully the process has now been streamlined.	Neighbourhood Plan group to determine if their plan needs to be updated or reviewed.	
Great Bealings Parish Council	130	Observation	Introduction	COVID-19 will not last forever. It is essential that roundtable engagement is reintroduced as soon as practicable. Not all local councillors are comfortable with virtual meetings.	The Council appreciates that the effects of the COVID-19 crisis are temporary, and that any methods that have not been able to be used during this period will be reintroduced once it is safe to do so.	None.

Great Bealings Parish Council	131	Observation	Methods the Council can use	There needs to be an effective audit trail, so responses are tracked and amendments noted as agreed. Our responses to the Local Plan were never responded to. Social media may be useful, but many people do not like it or use it. Should not be assumed it can replace the normal mechanisms such as written letters and newspaper advertisements.	The Council produces consultation statements following most planning policy consultations which provide details on the comments received and any subsequent changes to the relevant document. The Council appreciates that not everyone will have access to the internet. Therefore, efforts are made to ensure that any documents being consulted on are available in other formats and in public locations, such as libraries and Customer Service Centres, when this is possible.	The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and that these will be promoted to show how comments have been considered.
Great Bealings Parish Council	132	Observation	Community Engagement and Masterplans	Essential wider strategic approach is developed for major issues such as traffic and transport. For example, Sizewell C will have significant impacts on traffic across the county. How can a small	The approach towards issues such as traffic and transport is determined by Suffolk County Council as the highway authority, however the Council will always engage with Suffolk	None.

				parish ensure both East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council are sharing concerns about traffic issues such as the use of Boot Street as the 'de facto' Ipswich Northern Bypass?	County Council to ensure a strategic and considered approach is taken. Sizewell C is a nationally Significant Infrastructure Project which is subject to its own consultation requirements which are beyond the scope of the Statement of Community Involvement.	
Great Bealings Parish Council	133	Observation	General Comment	East Suffolk Council must recognise that each community is different. Suffolk has a unique blend of market towns, large villages and small villages. They drive the attractive socio-economic characteristics of Suffolk and their Respective concerns and attributes should be at the heart of East Suffolk Council's and Suffolk County Council's strategy.	These comments have been noted.	None.

Great Bealings Parish Council	134	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Developers have fiscal advantages that communities do not, thus process is unfairly tilted. East Suffolk Council should be a forefront of representing small towns and villages and current record against appeals is good. This must continue and must engage with communities while do so. Closure of Woods Lane by Bloor Homes example of what happens when this goes wrong.	These comments have been noted. This issue is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.
Great Bealings Parish Council	135	Observation	Appendix 1	East Suffolk Council should recognise many third-party bodies, such as Suffolk Wildlife Trust, are valuable consultees. Why not included? Such bodies are widely supported by local communities and we expect to see them consulted and listened to. Why, for example, is	The Development Management Procedure Order (2015) sets out the statutory consultation requirements on applications. In addition, the Council consults additional parties if appropriate at the discretion of officers depending on the issues arising.	None.

				there no East Suffolk Council equivalent the Suffolk County Council's Suffolk Wildlife Strategy?	Notwithstanding, the lack of formal consultation does not preclude other parties from commenting on applications.	
Great Bealings Parish Council	136	Objection	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Pre-application - Rules of pre-application discussions should be changed. Grossly inequitable that a parish with a 'made' Neighbourhood Plan not automatically informed as it is part of statutory development plan and hence Parish Council is a partner of East Suffolk Council. No reason why a Parish Council can't recognise the confidentiality involved. Currently a developer has a head start.	Pre-application discussions are confidential between applicant and officer. In providing responses officers do widely promote community and parish engagement prior to formal submission in line with the Statement of Community Involvement although it is the applicants choice whether to engage. If an application is formally submitted then consultation with the community ensues.	None.

Great Bealings Parish Council	137	Objection	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	<p>Decision – New housing developments must be conditioned with appropriate infrastructure. Often mitigations are local with no test is they work within wider community. East Suffolk Council's planning committees should take full account of local concerns and priorities.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plans are supposed to allow local opinion to determine approach in the local area. Sustainability is frequently argued by developer on grounds that community does not recognise. For example, a new home may be within cycling distance of a shop, but this does not mean a week's shopping can be carried as such.</p>	These comments have been noted. This issue is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.
-------------------------------	-----	-----------	--	---	--	-------

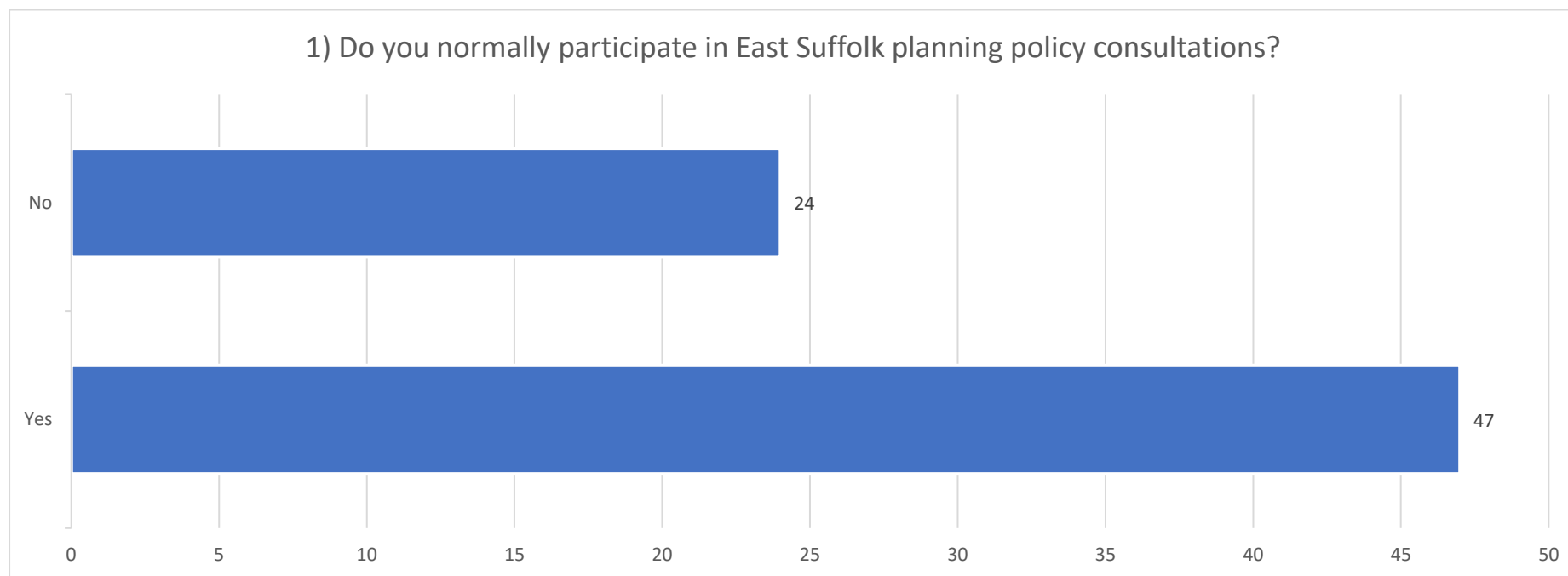
Great Bealings Parish Council	138	Objection	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Planning Appeals – Appeals are a valuable way to learn what carries weight and what does not. East Suffolk Council should allow communities to question relevant officer and discuss lessons learned.	All appeal decisions are presented verbally and in paperwork to the Strategic Planning Committee, the papers which are publicly accessible. In addition, the Parish Council and Ward Members are notified of all appeal decisions in their geographical area.	None.
Stuart Carruthers	139	Observation	General Comment	Statement of Community Involvement is deeply flawed. Local Plan based on flawed strategy. Needs to address how Council deals with instructions from head of Planning/Chief Executive to register land which the Council has no interest. Also needs to address how the Council deals with failures to properly register planning enforcement notices.	The issues raised in this comment go beyond the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement. The Council appreciates the time that was taken to submit these comments, however there are no actions that can be taken in regards to the Statement of Community Involvement that could address them.	None.



Campsea Ashe Parish Council	140	Observation	Getting Involved in the Planning Application Process	Parish Council concerned about the notification of medium and larger developments. In such a rural area the cumulative effect of developments on restricted road infrastructure has not been taken in account sufficiently. Neither have the comments from affected parishes. Developments from beyond the A12 affect a larger amount of parish councils not just immediate neighbours. Therefore geographic reach of consultees should be increased.	The Development Management Procedure Order (2015) sets out the legislative consultation requirements. On occasions, where the application proposed is of such significance, wider Parish Councils are consulted formally. Notwithstanding, the lack of formal consultation does not preclude other interested parties in providing a response on an application if they wish to interrogate plans and make comments.	None.
-----------------------------------	-----	-------------	---	---	--	-------

## Appendix 5: Questionnaire Analysis

### Question 1 – Multiple Choice Analysis



The results of this question show that most people who responded to the questionnaire do normally participate in other planning policy consultations. A large proportion (around a third) of respondents said they don't normally get involved in planning policy consultations.

An analysis of the written responses to this question suggest a number of reasons why some may not always participate. This included:

- the use of technical language which is seen as isolating,
- a lack of public awareness of most consultations,

- a lack of time to read long documents,
- the potential impact of the consultation on the given person, and,
- the public feeling their views are not genuinely taken into account.

The Statement of Community Involvement has been updated to make greater use of different publicity methods to try to access a larger proportion of the community. The Statement of Community Involvement also reinforces the Council's continuing work to reduce the amount of technical language used and to write in plain English wherever possible. Changes have also been made to ensure that Consultation Statements, and the feedback within them, are more widely publicised so the public can see how their views have been taken into account.

**Question 1 – Written Comments**

<b>Name/ Organisation</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Type of response</b>	<b>Comment Summary</b>	<b>Council Response</b>	<b>Action</b>
Kevin Cross	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	<p>People aren't interested until they know there's buildings going up in their back yard now.</p> <p>No good using boring local authority speak. To evoke a meaningful response the consultation for Local Plan needs to be in modern day ordinary language which conveys the real and likely possibility of what might happen.</p>	These comments have been noted. One of the aims of the Statement of Community Involvement is to promote plan making at the earliest possible stage, giving the community the opportunity to engage so they can help determine the appropriate locations for development. The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However, national Regulations set out requirements that must be met. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt a planning policy document.	None.
Alison Ballantyne	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	More public awareness that they are taking place. Online via zoom or other such set ups is the way to go. Invite people to an online presentation. Then put the online presentation on a	One of the aims of the Statement of Community Involvement is to promote plan making at the earliest possible stage to give the community the opportunity to engage. This includes making use	None.

			<p>well-advertised site. You are waiting for people to be proactive about finding out. That isn't going to happen. You need a mechanism that allows you to contact everyone - electoral role whatever. People could then choose to sign up to email alerts. People could unsubscribe if not interested.</p>	<p>of various methods of promotion, including online platforms and more traditional methods to contact as many members of the community as possible. Due to the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations, the Council can only use personal data for the purposes of which it was originally collected. Therefore, using data such as email addresses for planning matters that have been collected for the purposes of council tax payments would be against these regulations. The Council does have a Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List for the public to subscribe to in order to be updated on the progress of planning policy documents.</p>	
Corporate Lets UK Ltd (Safdar Khan)	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Eco Sustainable Housing Developer wanting to make a change a difference by understanding and engaging in shaping the future of new developments	These comments have been noted.	None.

Lindsay Frost	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Yes and No. I will participate when have the time to read the documents. I would suggest that two documents are produced for consultation (1) a full detailed planning report/proposal and (2) a summary report/proposal with just the most pertinent facts. This would reduce the time that it takes to digest materials and allow access to those people who may have less experience with digesting reports and academic materials.	The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adopted. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	None.
Andrew White	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Greater awareness of the consultations taking place.  Giving sufficient upfront information and time to decide whether the consultations have an impact on me or my area of interest.	These comments have been noted. One of the aims of the Statement of Community Involvement is to promote plan making at the earliest possible stage to give the community the opportunity to engage so they can help determine the appropriate locations for development.	None.

Michael Roseveare	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	An email prompt	These comments have been noted. The Council does have a Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List for the public to subscribe to in order to be updated on the progress of planning policy documents.	None.
Lorna Goodwin	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	A consultation that particularly interested or affected me	These comments have been noted.	None.
Helga Ballam	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Clear concise information about proposals Also I feel that it actually makes no difference what public opinion indicates, policies are adopted anyway	These comments have been noted. The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adopted. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them. The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the processes that are followed when	None.

				producing planning policy documents. This includes periods of public consultation and producing documents which show how comments have been considered which must be met for the document to be legally adopted. All comments received are considered during this process and the document will be changed where comments raise material issues.	
Steve Wynn	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	If ESC actually listened to local residents concerns instead of just paying lip service. If you 'really' care about what we think... listen!!	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the processes that are followed when producing planning policy documents. This includes periods of public consultation and producing documents which show how comments have been considered which must be met for the document to be legally adopted. All comments received are considered during this process and the document will be changed where comments raise material issues.	None.



Alison Andrews	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	where it is relevant to the Alde and Ore area and Suffolk Coast	These comments have been noted.	None.
Beacon Hill Farm Shop (Louise Abbott)	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	If it was easy to do and not too long	These comments have been noted. The Council endeavours to make the process of submitting comments on public consultations as simple as possible. The Council uses an online consultation portal to allow members of the public to make direct comments about a document that are then saved and submitted automatically. However, the Council will always accept comments by email or by letter if this is the preferred methods for some members of the community.	None.
Julian Burton	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	So long as I get an email informing me of the process etc then that will be enough. Only just registered so a newbie.	These comments have been noted. An email notification is sent out to everyone subscribed to the Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List when a new consultation is underway.	None.

Mark Chapman	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Having more time to read all the relevant documents.	These comments have been noted. The Council will always meet the minimum requirements outlined in the regulations which determine the duration of public consultations. The Statement of Community Involvement, in most cases, also commits the Council to extending period beyond these timeframes.	None.
Annabelle Bunn	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Fed up with the rubber stamping of commercial, high impact applications with the general disregard for local feelings and objection, really.	These comments have been noted. The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the process that is followed when determining a planning application. This includes periods of public consultation which must be met for the application to be legally determined. All comments received are considered during this process and a decision is made based on these and the policies in the adopted Local Plans. All applications are considered on their own merit.	None.

David Greenacre	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Had not engaged with process as I was unaware it existed.	These comments have been noted. The Council has a Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List, as stated in the Statement of Community Involvement, which member so the public can sign up to so they can be informed of new planning policy consultations. The Council also uses multiple digital and non-digital methods to advertise consultations, such as social media, press releases and the Council's website.	The Statement of community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of publicity techniques, such as press releases, to increase awareness of planning policy consultations.
Trevor Barrel	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	To see more evidence that the people who decide what happens to the environment are not politically driven or by big powerful industrial influences but take into consideration what people need and are happy with. The local councillors although democratically elected, once in power they need to engage with the people they represent and not go on a self-orientated ego trip.	Councillors are required to be impartial during the planning process in accordance with the East Suffolk constitution.	None.

James Parker	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Impending change in regulations	The proposals in the recent government White Paper 'Planning for the Future' have only recently been consulted on and so any potential changes to the planning system are likely to be some time away. Also, it is not yet known what changes may be the result of the White Paper. Therefore there is still a need for the Statement of Community Involvement to be developed.	None.
Nik Bestow	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Knowing they are happening (like this one) A questionnaire approaches. Seeing the output from the consultation. Action being taken in response to the consultation.	These comments have been noted. One of the aims of the Statement of Community Involvement is to promote plan making at the earliest possible stage to give the community the opportunity to engage so they can help determine the appropriate locations for development. The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the processes that are followed when producing planning policy documents. This includes periods of public consultation and producing documents which show how comments have been considered which must be met	None.

				for the document to be legally adopted. All comments received are considered during this process and the document will be changed where comments raise material issues.	
Karrie Langdon	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	The increased pressure of people from urban areas wanting to move to rural areas due to covid-19 situation. The problems that it is causing with local people not be able to afford local housing. The increased pressure of visitors to the area due to a guardian article identifying this as a secret gem, and people travelling to a beach that was cheap. There was a negative impact on the locals living in the area, wildlife due to disturbance from uncontrolled dogs and people not caring that they were damaging an ISS area.	These comments go beyond the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.

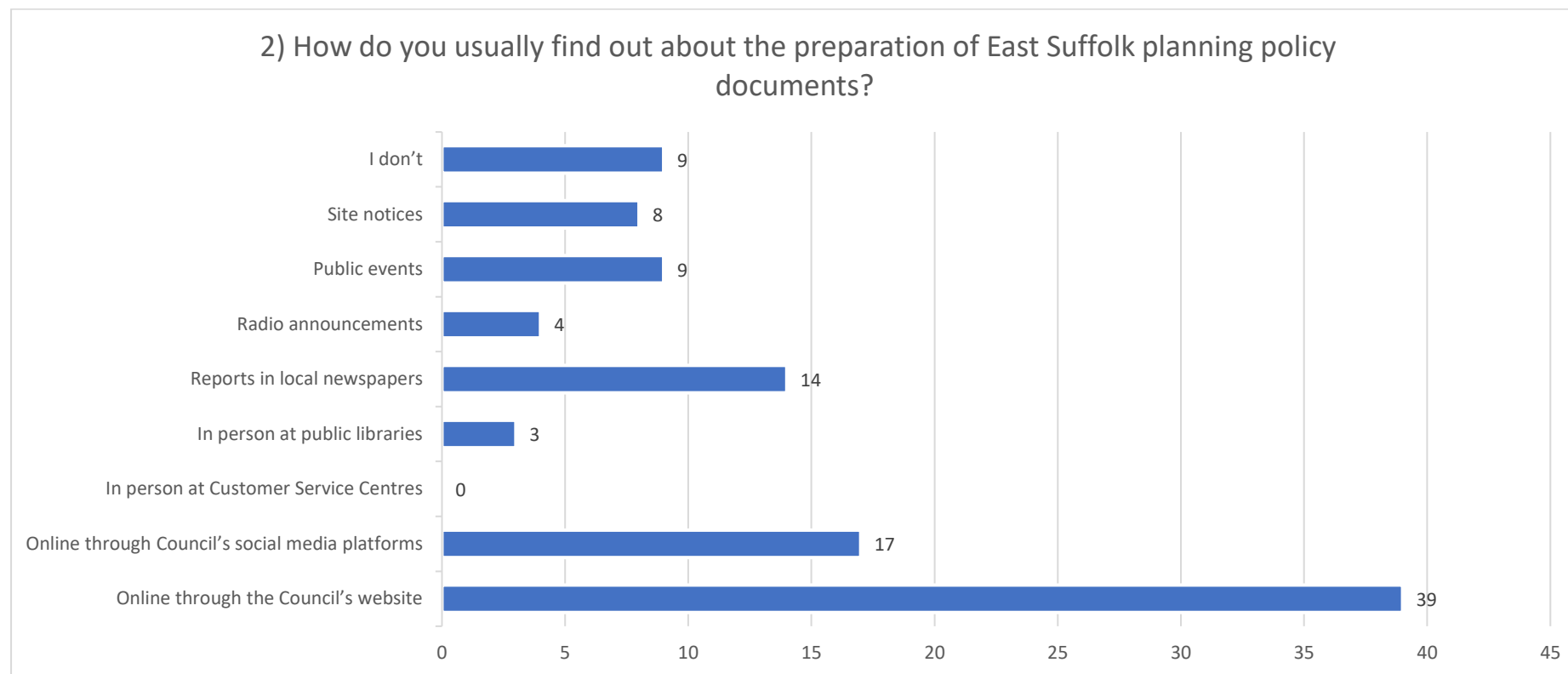
Mike Nicolson	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Knowing that I will be listened to and my comments considered.	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the processes that are followed when producing planning policy documents. This includes periods of public consultation and producing documents which show how comments have been considered which must be met for the document to be legally adopted. All comments received are considered during this process and the document will be changed where comments raise material issues. The Council produces consultation statements following most planning policy consultations, which outline the responses received during the consultation and any resulting changes to the relevant document.	The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and that these will be promoted to show how comments have been considered.
David Robertson	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Clear explanation of what will happen to responses - and evidence that public engagement has been considered going forward. Don't usually have time to read through docs	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the processes that are followed when producing planning policy documents. This includes periods of public consultation and producing documents which show how comments have been	The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and

				considered which must be met for the document to be legally adopted. All comments received are considered during this process and the document will be changed where comments raise material issues. The Council produces consultation statements following most planning policy consultations, which outline the responses received during the consultation and any resulting changes to the relevant document.	that these will be promoted to show how comments have been considered.
David Thomas	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	To be invited	These comments have been noted. The Council does have a Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List for the public to subscribe to in order to be updated on the progress of planning policy documents.	None.
Ms Cresswell	1) Do you normally participate in East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	To see that comments by local people are acted upon and not paid lip service to	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the processes that are followed when producing planning policy documents. This includes periods of public consultation and producing documents which show how comments have been considered which must be met	The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and that these will be

				<p>for the document to be legally adopted. All comments received are considered during this process and the document will be changed where comments raise material issues. The Council produces consultation statements following most planning policy consultations, which outline the responses received during the consultation and any resulting changes to the relevant document.</p>	<p>promoted to show how comments have been considered.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--



## Question 2 – Multiple Choice Analysis



Most people find out about the preparation of planning policy documents through the Council's website, which reinforces the Statement of Community Involvement's continued use of this resource. A number of people also usually find out about consultations through the Council's social media platforms and reports in local newspapers, again showing the value of these outlets. Very few people said they find out about consultations at libraries or Customer Service Centres, however this is not surprising as we would expect the public to find out about the consultations through other means, then travel to these places to view to documents.

The written comments suggest that a few participants find out about the preparation of planning policy documents via emails from the Council, from their parish councillors or through village notice boards. Other responses suggested that Councillors and parish councils could be

used to further promote consultations and that the Council could make more use of online methods to promote participation. Both of these have been highlighted in the Statement of Community Involvement and will continue to be explored further.

### **Question 2 – Written Responses**

<b>Name/ Organisation</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Type of response</b>	<b>Comment Summary</b>	<b>Council Response</b>	<b>Action</b>
Southwold Town Council (Jessica Jeans)	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	I find out through our Parish Clerk who sends Councillors an email	These comments have been noted. Notifying Parish and Town Councils of new consultations is an important method of publicity the Council utilises and this is highlighted throughout the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.
Karrie Langdon	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	There are local publications such as Village Notices and emails that are sent out by Parish Clerks. These would get to more people who do not use social platforms like myself.	These comments have been noted. Notifying Parish and Town Councils of new consultations is an important method of publicity the Council utilises and this is highlighted throughout the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.
Aldringham- cum-Thorpe Parish Council (Eric Atkinson)	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	Direct email to the clerk of the council	These comments have been noted. Parish and Town Councils are notified of new planning policy consultations as standard practice.	None.

David Thomas	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	Notification by email	These comments have been noted. The Council does have a Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List for the public to subscribe to in order to be updated on the progress of planning policy documents.	None.
Margaret Hallett	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	Email.  Post on village notice boards.	These comments have been noted. The Council does have a Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List for the public to subscribe to in order to be updated on the progress of planning policy documents. This is highlighted in the Statement of Community Involvement and will continue to be an important aspect for publicising consultations.	None.
Nik Bestow	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	You seem to be making better use of social media (Facebook and Twitter) so more of this. Plus the parish council (Martlesham) has a good social media presence - asking them to forward things on works well. There is also a Parish Magazine	These comments have been noted. The Statement of Community Involvement highlights the importance of social media as one of the methods the Council should utilise to increase awareness of consultations.	None.

Trevor Barrell	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	Use the local councillors to promote awareness of these consultations by using a cross section of the community to express their views. The councillors do not link the people's needs to the full council; they put forward their own views.	Councillors are required to be impartial during the planning process according to the East Suffolk constitution.	None.
Paul Garwood	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	Easy, tell the Parish Councils	These comments have been noted. Parish and Town Councils are notified of new planning policy consultations as standard practice.	None.
Alison Ballantyne	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	I don't because I do not subscribe to any of the above. I am responding today because you sent me an email. I suggest online accessible presentations. Make sure the presentation includes a mechanism for asking questions and ensuring the response gets to the right person as well as being seen on the site	These comments have been noted. The Statement of Community Involvement states that the Council will investigate the use of online forms of engagement, including online meetings. The Council appreciates that these can be very useful for some members of the community to engage.	None.

Julian Burton	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	I can't see email in the above list - that's all I'll need in the future. You sent me an email telling me about these three new initiatives, but it appears my email wasn't registered. (I thought it was.)	These comments have been noted. Emails will continue to be used as an effective means to directly communicate with members of the public. The Council will encourage anyone who has an interest in planning policy consultations to sign up to the Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List.	None.
Hilary Hill	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	Email all council tax payers	Due to the regulations outlined in the General Data Protection Regulations, the Council can only use personal data for the purposes of which it was originally collected. Therefore, using data such as email addresses for planning matters that have been collected for the purposes of council tax payments would be against these regulations. The Council does have a Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List for the public to subscribe to in order to be updated on the progress of planning policy documents.	None.

Jean Ellinor	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?		I hear via Parish Council. More localised targeting of issues affecting my village would be useful	These comments have been noted. The Statement of Community Involvement does outline some situations where more focussed consultation may be appropriate, such as during the production of a Supplementary Planning Document or Neighbourhood Plan.	None.
Alison Andrews	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	It is very hard to keep up with everything despite buying the EADT most days. So we may miss things	These comments have been noted.	None.
Andrew White	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	<p>Social media is obviously the modern means of getting the word out. Simply advertise the need to hold consultation and offer sufficient info to engage potential stakeholders.</p> <p>Getting people to link in with you to be able to get this information to hand is the key. No immediate answer as to how you would do this.</p>	These comments have been noted. The Statement of Community Involvement states that the Council will continue to explore the use of social media as a method of engaging the community.	None.

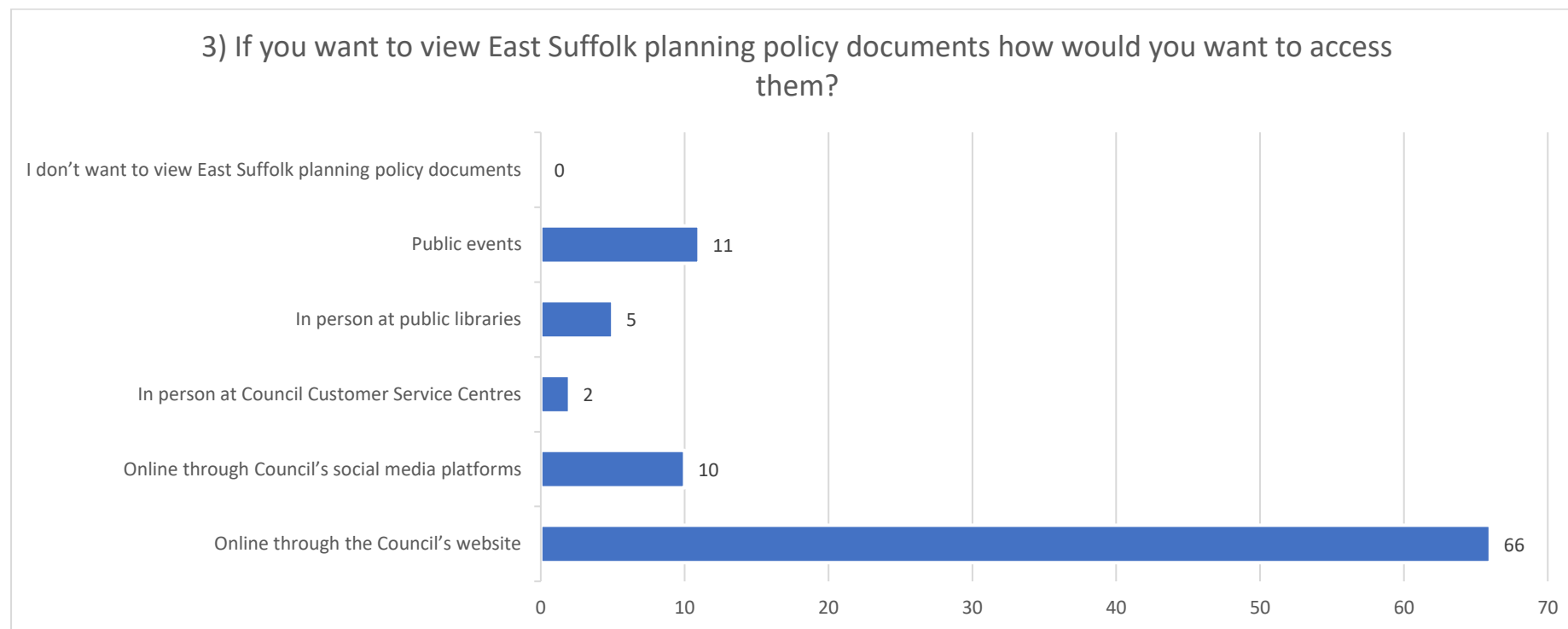
Suffolk Coast Acting for Resilience (Keith Martin)	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	Create a voluntary consultation mailing list.	The Council does have a Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List for the public to subscribe to in order to be updated on the progress of planning policy documents.	None.
Henning Sieverts	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	I usually learn about consultations from the Council's emails, supplemented by The Woodbridge Society, of which I am a long-time member	These comments have been noted. Emails will continue to be used as an effective means to directly communicate with members of the public. The Council will encourage anyone who has an interest in planning policy consultations to sign up to the Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List.	None.
Kevin Cross	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	Identify most popular social media pages / sites in locality and then:  No good using boring local authority speak. To evoke a meaningful response the consultation for Local Plan needs to be in modern day ordinary language which conveys the real and likely possibility of what might happen	These comments have been noted. The Statement of Community Involvement states that the Council will continue to explore the use of social media as a method of engaging the community. The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be	None.

				adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	
Helga Ballam	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	I sometimes get emails about planning policies	These comments have been noted.	None.
Lorna Goodwin	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	Email notifications Door drops Encouraging sign up to social media accounts where posted	These comments have been noted. The Council does have a Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List for the public to subscribe to in order to be updated on the progress of planning policy documents. Leafletting and door dropping is a process that the Council has made use of, however the process uses a great deal of Council resources and so is not often viable for many of the processes outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement. While the Council can use this method when it is	None.



				possible, it can only do so when it is viable.	
Kristen Hecktermann	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	I get emails from my local councillors	These comments have been noted.	None.
Lindsay Frost	2) How do you usually find out about the preparation of East Suffolk Planning Policy documents?	Observation	I receive emails with the documents from the council	These comments have been noted. Emails will continue to be used as an effective means to directly communicate with members of the public. The Council will encourage anyone who has an interest in planning policy consultations to sign up to the Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List.	None.

### **Question 3 – Multiple Choice Analysis**



The majority of respondents to this question want to access planning policy documents through the Council's website. The use of the Council's social media platforms and/or at public events was also highlighted. A smaller number of respondents still wish to view documents at libraries and Customer Service Centres. This shows that a variety of methods should be used to allow the public to view documents how they prefer, which is the approach being taken in the Statement of Community Involvement.

Written responses suggested a number of factors that could further encourage the public to view documents. This includes better communication and publicity, more public events and keeping documents concise and easy to read. All of these issues have been highlighted in the Statement of Community Involvement and changes have been made to ensure that consultations are promoted and publicised as widely as possible.

**Question 3 – Written Responses**

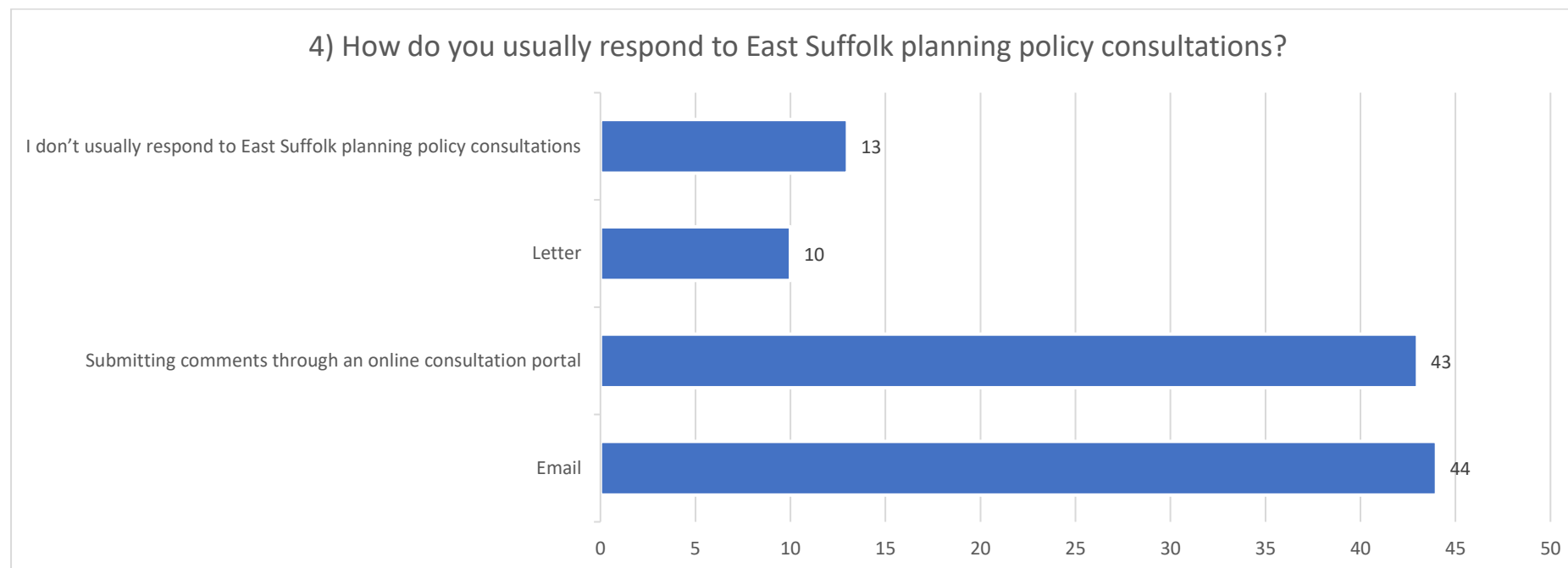
<b>Name/ Organisation</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Type of response</b>	<b>Comment Summary</b>	<b>Council Response</b>	<b>Action</b>
Yvonne Smart	3) If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would you want to access them?	Observation	Online through the Council's website – this can be a problem at times.	These comments have been noted. The Council's website is one of the key outlets that the Council can utilise when promoting consultations and to directly engage with the public. All documents being publicised for consultation will be available on the website.	None.
Warwick Faville	3) If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would you want to access them?	Observation	I do want to see them.	These comments have been noted.	None.
David Robertson	3) If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would you want to access them?	Observation	Better communication of how policies affect normal people. Many people do not get involved in such things until they want to submit their own planning application and/or they hear about a big scheme proposed locally which they do not want/like	These comments have been noted. One of the aims of the Statement of Community Involvement is to promote plan making at the earliest possible stage to give the community the opportunity to engage so they can help determine the appropriate locations for development.	None.

Trevor Barrel	3) If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would you want to access them?	Observation	Introduce a public event which is pertinent to the people who are concerned about the topic. This could include people who do not have computers and have no connection to the council other than via the councillor who SHOULD REPRESENT THEIR VIEWS but most of the time do not	The Council appreciates that not everyone will have access to the internet. The Council will always organise public exhibitions so as many people as possible would be able to attend. Virtual exhibitions can be very useful for reaching a large audience who may not be able to attend an event in person, however using both virtual and physical exhibitions would be the best practice to ensure as many members of the public can attend as possible. Councillors are required to be impartial during the planning process, such as at a planning committee, according to the East Suffolk constitution.	Further references to the use of both physical and virtual exhibitions and workshops has been added throughout the Statement of Community Involvement.
Jon Carter	3) If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would you want to access them?	Observation	Personal involvement; interest	These comments have been noted.	None.

David Greenacre	3) If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would you want to access them?	Observation	Only in library after covid probs have gone otherwise only online.	The Statement of Community Involvement has been drafted assuming that public buildings are operating as normal. However, the COVID-19 crisis has meant that some of the methods often used by the Council to consult (such as the provision of physical copies of documents in libraries) has not been possible due to social distancing restrictions. In the short term, in order to mitigate the impact of the restrictions, the Council introduced a number of alternative measures to ensure continued involvement in consultations. These measures are only temporary, and the normal methods outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement will be reinstated once it is safe to do so.	None.
Alison Andrews	3) If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would	Observation	Knowing they are there. - problem is how do people find out- as the is no predictable time when they come out or deadline, so it is easy to miss something Difficult to say as in these COVID	The Statement of Community Involvement states that the Council will use multiple methods of engagement when consulting on planning policy documents and planning applications to ensure as many people as	None.

	you want to access them?		times going to public libraries is possible but one goes to do something in particular now not to check if there are any new consultations.	possible are made aware of upcoming consultations. The Council will also continue to explore new methods as they become available. Holding physical copies of documents at public libraries is just one of the methods the Council will utilise when it is safe to do so.	
Steve Wynn	3) If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would you want to access them?	Observation	Please make them less complicated. Half the time people don't bother because it's an absolute minefield... or is that done on purpose?	The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	None.
Kevin Cross	3) If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would you want to access them?	Observation	I am a local planning nerd. Most people aren't. So, get on popular local social media pages and put a notice.  No good using boring local authority speak. To evoke a meaningful response the	These comments have been noted. The Council will make use of its own social media platforms to publicise consultations when this is appropriate. However, the Council does not have influence on what is shown on social media platforms controlled by	None.

			consultation for Local Plan needs to be in modern day ordinary language which conveys the real and likely possibility of what might happen.	organisations outside of the Council, however we would encourage other organisations to promote our consultations as well. The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	
Helga Ballam	3) If you want to view East Suffolk planning policy documents how would you want to access them?	Observation	Initial page giving basic information before being directed to pages and pages of information	The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	None.

**Question 4 – Multiple Choice Analysis**

The majority of participants respond to planning policy consultations via email or through an online consultation portal. This reinforces the importance of using these methods and exploring ways they can be improved. Some members of the public continue to prefer using letters, and therefore this option should continue to be offered. A significant proportion of the responses said they do not usually respond to planning policy consultations.

The written responses to this question highlight a number of considerations that could encourage greater response rates. This includes making the public aware of how their comments have been taken into account, greater publicity of consultations, and keeping documents concise and easy to read. As stated previously, the Statement of Community Involvement highlights all of these issues and further changes have been made to ensure that consultations are promoted and that the public are aware of how the Council have taken comments into account.



**Question 4 – Written Responses**

<b>Name/ Organisation</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Type of response</b>	<b>Comment Summary</b>	<b>Council Response</b>	<b>Action</b>
Karrie Langdon	4) How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Objection / Observation	I would respond if I really thought that my opinions would make a difference. The national house building policy does not seem to consider if building the houses in an area can be supported by existing infrastructure or local facilities. Many of the houses that are built here are used as a holiday homes and thereby destroying a village. Local people cannot afford the expensive homes that are being given planning permission and then there is a problem of people/businesses who have bought houses and they remain vacant for years. Lastly, we are being pushed to identify land to build on, planning permission is given and then the site remains undeveloped. We are told that the housing need is critical, and more land is needed. Why should we build more houses, when the actions of developers	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the process that is followed when producing planning policy documents and determining a planning application. This includes periods of public consultation which must be met for the document to be adopted or the application to be legally determined. All comments received are considered during these processes. Infrastructure capacity is a key consideration when both allocating sites for development in the Local Plan and when determining planning applications. In both cases the Council will approach the key providers of services and infrastructure to determine the current capacities of each and if the proposed development would push these services to over-capacity. If there is a need for capacity to be increased, this will be considered in relation to the development.	None.

			and businesses do not improve people's lives?		
Warwick Faville	4) How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	I respond via The Woodbridge Society.	These comments have been noted.	None.
David Robertson	4) How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Easy format. Use of letter, email or online form.	These comments have been noted. The Council will continue to provide multiple options for the public to respond to public consultations, including emails and letters. The Council also uses an online consultation portal to allow members of the public to make direct comments about a document that are then saved and submitted automatically.	None.
Nik Bestow	4) How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Knowing they exist. Being able to respond via an on-line consultation portal that is easy to use	These comments have been noted. The Council will continue to make use of online options for the public to respond to consultations. The Council uses an online consultation portal to	None.

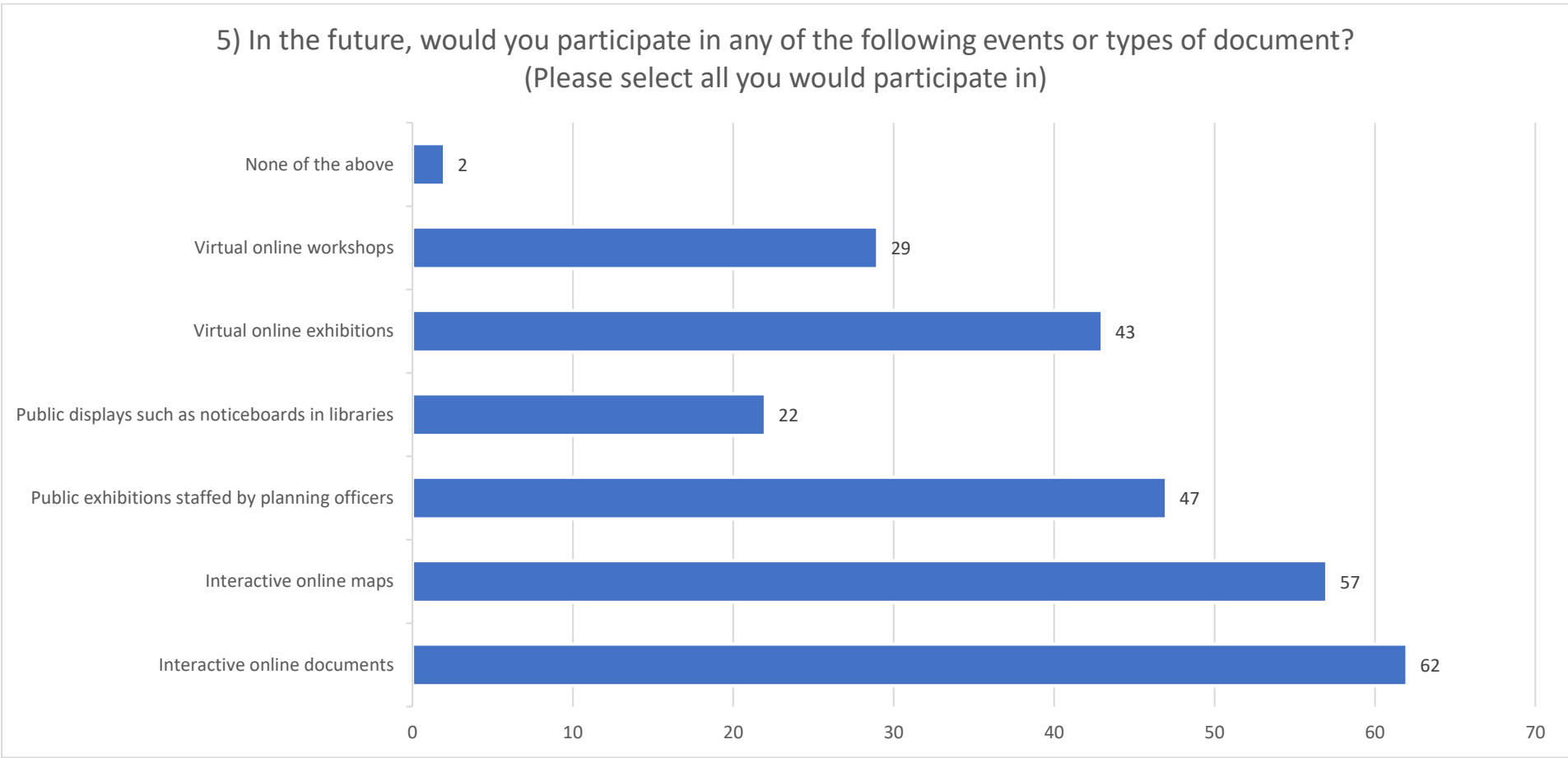
				allow members of the public to make direct comments about a document that are then saved and submitted automatically.	
Trevor Barrell	4) How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Getting the correct information relevant to the area in which I live.	The Statement of Community Involvement does outline some situations where more focussed methods of engagement may be utilised, such as during the productions of a Supplementary Planning Document or Neighbourhood Plan where it may not be appropriate to cover the entirety of East Suffolk if the document does not do so.	None.
Steve Wynn	4) How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Again, if you actually listened instead of just going ahead with a particular housing development despite local protest/concerns, otherwise what's the point?	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the process that is followed when determining a planning application. This includes periods of public consultation which must be met for the application to be legally determined. All comments received are considered during this process and a decision is made based on these and the policies in the adopted Local	None.

				Plans. All applications are considered on their own merit.	
Kevin Cross	4) How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	<p>It would encourage people to respond if you spoke in their language.</p> <p>No good using boring local authority speak. To evoke a meaningful response the consultation for Local Plan needs to be in modern day ordinary language which conveys the real and likely possibility of what might happen.</p>	The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	None.
Christopher Burslem	4) How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Relevance.	These comments have been noted.	None.

Helga Ballam	4) How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	Response process often too long and I feel it doesn't actually make any difference what I contribute	The Statement of Community Involvement states that the Council will endeavour to make planning processes as simple and easy to understand as possible. One of the aims of the Statement of Community Involvement is to provide clarity as to the roles and processes of the planning service, which the Council appreciates can be complex. All comments received during any consultation are considered and, if material issues are raised, changes will be made where relevant. The Council produces consultation statements following most planning policy consultations, which outline the responses received during the consultation and any resulting changes to the relevant document.	The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and that these will be promoted to show how comments have been considered.
Kristen Heckterman	4) How do you usually respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations?	Observation	I would also like to see letters through the door because many Other people Still would have no idea about changes to plans or any notifications and especially during this time may not be able to get daily local newspapers	Leafletting and door dropping is a process that the Council has previously made use of, however the process is resource intensive and therefore often not viable for many of the processes outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement. While the Council	None.

				can use this method when it is possible, it can only do so when it is viable.	
--	--	--	--	---	--

**Question 5 – Multiple Choice Analysis**



Responses to this question indicated that respondents would participate in a variety of consultation methods and events, with a particularly positive response to interactive online options. The SCI states that a variety of methods, both digital and not, will be utilised during public consultations to give the public the opportunity to use the methods that suit them. The Statement of Community Involvement also states that the Council will continue to explore new methods of engagement as they become available.

In the written responses to this question some alternative methods were suggested, such as new smart phone applications, and greater use of Parish and Town Councils. The Statement of Community Involvement states that the Council will explore new methods as they become available and that local councils will be engaged at the earliest opportunity.

Those that opted for none of the above gave a number of suggestions that could encourage their participation. This included the use of emails, raised issues with the Council's use of technical language and suggested councillors could be used to represent the views of the community. They also raised concerns around the use of interactive online documents and other methods, which can put some members of the public off participating. This highlights the importance of using a variety of methods which the Statement of Community Involvement endeavours to so.

#### **Question 5 – Written Responses**

<b>Name/ Organisation</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Type of response</b>	<b>Comment Summary</b>	<b>Council Response</b>	<b>Action</b>
Warwick Faville	5) In the future, would participate in any of the following events or types or document? – Other (please describe)	Observation	It all depends how they are run. Not a lot of details above.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Trevor Barrel	5) In the future, would participate in any of the following events or types or document? –	Observation	Use of councillors to link households to councils.	These comments have been noted. East Suffolk Councillors and Town and Parish Councils are informed of new consultations when they become active. The Council would encourage them to inform their local communities to	None.



	Other (please describe)			help them become engaged in the consultation processes.	
David Greenacre	5) In the future, would participate in any of the following events or types or document? – Other (please describe)	Observation	Online is fine but I have a hearing difficulty which means I cannot use social media platforms such as zoom or Skype.	These comments have been noted. The Council appreciates that some of the methods used, such as online meetings and social media, may not be appropriate or preferred by some members of the public. This is why the Statement of Community Involvement makes clear that the Council will make use of multiple methods of engagement when consulting the public.	None.
Tony Ellison	5) In the future, would participate in any of the following events or types or document? – Other (please describe)	Observation	Online forums would be the best solution I think perhaps using the NextDoor App	These comments have been noted. The Council will continue to explore new methods of engagement as they become available.	None.

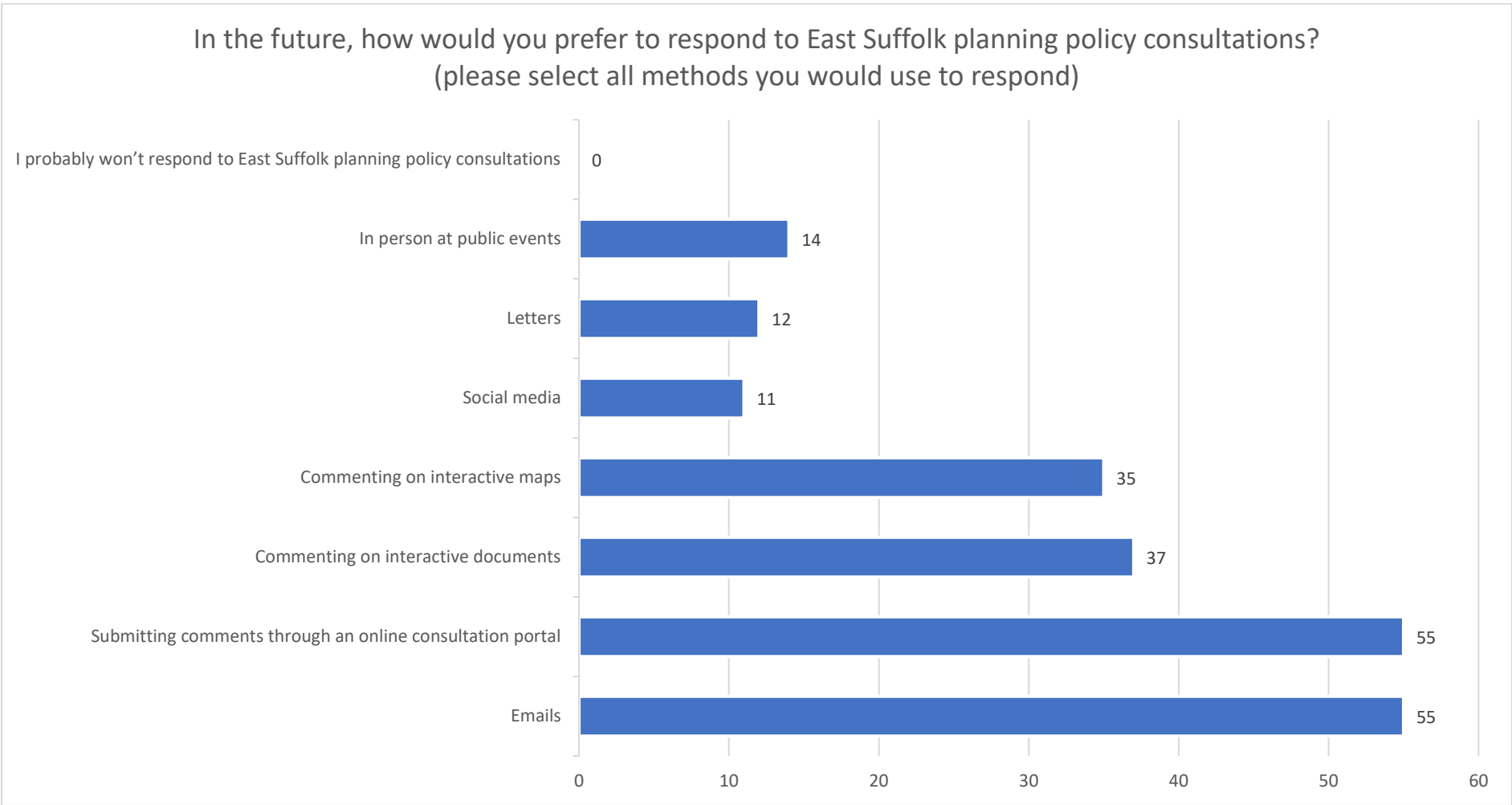
Jean Ellinor	5) In the future, would participate in any of the following events or types or document? – Other (please describe)	Observation	Information given via Local Parish Council	These comments have been noted. Notifying Parish and Town Councils of new consultations is an important method of publicity the Council utilises and this is highlighted throughout the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.
Alison Andrews	5) In the future, would participate in any of the following events or types or document? – Other (please describe)	Observation	When sending out a consultation enable people to see the questionnaire / outline question without having to register as there may be some an individual may not need to address but it is a rigmarole to register online and scroll through the questions Town/parish notice boards Local newsletters eg Aldeburgh Gazette, Aldeburgh Times, The Link, Village Voice, Village Voices, Etc	The consultation portal used for planning policy consultations has been created by an organisation outside of the Council. While the Council does have influence over how it works, there are some processes that are fixed and cannot be changed. The Council will, however, always endeavour to make consultations as easy to access as possible. The Council makes use of press releases where appropriate, but the Council cannot control if press releases are reported or not.	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.

Kristen Hecktermann	5) In the future, would participate in any of the following events or types or document? – Other (please describe)	Observation	Mailed questionnaire and door to door short questionnaires.	Leafletting and door dropping is a process that the Council has made use of, however the process uses a great deal of Council resources and so is not often viable for many of the processes outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement. While the Council can use this method when it is possible, it can only do so when it is viable.	None.
---------------------	--	-------------	---	--	-------

Name/ Organisation	Question	Type of response	Comment Summary	Council Response	Action
J Elliot	5) In the future, would participate in any of the following events or types or document? - If none of the above, what would encourage you to do so?	Observation	I would use online interactive documents if able to comment at any point in the document and no limit on the number of characters. Prefer email as comments more considered - particularly if response is on behalf of a group such as the Parish Council	The consultation portal used for planning policy consultations has been created by an organisation outside of the Council. While the Council does have influence over how it works, there are some processes that are fixed that the Council is unable to change, such as character limits. All comments, no matter how they are submitted, are considered equally.	None.

Trevor Barrell	5) In the future, would participate in any of the following events or types or document? - If none of the above, what would encourage you to do so?	Observation	Change the way the councillors work so that they represent the needs of the people and not their political party	Councillors are required to be impartial during the planning process, such as at a planning committee, according to the East Suffolk constitution.	None.
Kevin Cross	5) In the future, would participate in any of the following events or types or document? - If none of the above, what would encourage you to do so?	Observation	No good using boring local authority speak. To evoke a meaningful response the consultation for Local Plan needs to be in modern day ordinary language which conveys the real and likely possibility of what might happen.	The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adopted. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	None.

**Question 6 – Multiple Choice Analysis**



All participants stated that they are likely to respond to future consultations, with the majority preferring to either email, or submit comments online. There was also support for the use of interactive documents and maps, showing that the Council should continue to explore the use of

these methods. Some members of the public still wish to submit comments by letter, or in person at public events, and these methods will continue to be offered.

Again, other methods suggested included new smartphone applications, and greater use of local councils and organisations. These have both been highlighted in the Statement of Community Involvement.

One comment was submitted by someone answering the second part of the question, which asked what would encourage them to participate in the future if they do not wish to participate now. The issue raised here surrounded the use of technical language, which the Statement of Community Involvement highlights and the Council will continue to explore how to make documents more accessible.

#### **Question 6 – Written Responses**

<b>Name/ Organisation</b>	<b>Comment ID/ Ref</b>	<b>Type of response</b>	<b>Comment Summary</b>	<b>Council Response</b>	<b>Action</b>
Warwick Faville	6) In the future, how would you prefer to respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations? – Other (please Describe)	Observation	I would prefer to respond via the Woodbridge Society or via SPS.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Judie Shore	6) In the future, how would you prefer to respond to East Suffolk	Observation	Assuming ease of access and navigation!	These comments have been noted.	None.

	planning policy consultations? – Other (please Describe)				
Tony Ellison	6) In the future, how would you prefer to respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations? – Other (please Describe)	Observation	Use Nextdoor app	These comments have been noted. The Council will continue to explore other engagement methods as they become available.	None.
Jean Ellinor	6) In the future, how would you prefer to respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations? – Other (please Describe)	Observation	I would attend local parish council planning events & meetings	These comments have been noted. Notifying Parish and Town Councils of new consultations is an important method of publicity the Council utilises and this is highlighted throughout the Statement of Community Involvement.	None.

Alison Andrews	6) In the future, how would you prefer to respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations? – Other (please Describe)	Observation	I might be able to do interactive maps and documents but have never tried so the instructions need to be very clear	These comments have been noted.	None.
----------------	---	-------------	---	---------------------------------	-------

<b>Name/ Organisation</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Type of response</b>	<b>Comment Summary</b>	<b>Council Response</b>	<b>Action</b>
Kevin Cross	6) In the future, how would you prefer to respond to East Suffolk planning policy consultations? - If not, what would encourage you to do so?	Observation	No good using boring local authority speak. To evoke a meaningful response the consultation for Local Plan needs to be in modern day ordinary language which conveys the real and likely possibility of what might happen.	The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	None.



**Question 7 – Written Responses (No Multiple Choice Analysis)**

<b>Name/ Organisation</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Type of response</b>	<b>Comment Summary</b>	<b>Council Response</b>	<b>Action</b>
Norman Castleton	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	There should be a more general use of notices in local newspapers and magazines.	The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Council's control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them.	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.
Marya Parker	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Support / Observation	I am grateful for the notifications alerting me to consultations, which enable me to participate. Without these I would not know that consultations are open. Maybe email notifications to council taxpayers would enable others who would not normally contribute to do so.	These comments have been noted. Due to the regulations outlined in the General Data Protection Regulations, the Council can only use personal data for the purposes of which it was originally collected. Therefore, using data such as email addresses for planning matters that have been collected for the purposes of council tax payments would be against these regulations	None.

Southwold Town Council (Jessica Jeans)	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Support	East Suffolk does a good job consulting on planning documents	These comments are noted.	None.
Rosemary Simpson	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	The SCI document is hard to find - needs to be simpler routes in finding documents.	The Council's website is currently being reviewed to make it easier to navigate. This has included a new page which includes links to the current and past consultations in one place. However, due to the number of service areas that the Council covers, the planning service only has influence over its relevant sections of the website. Therefore, it is currently not possible to simplify the rest of the website.	None.
Rosemary Simpson	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	The SCI document is hard to find - needs to be simpler routes in finding documents.	See response above – comment submitted twice.	None.

Caroline Ellis	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation / Objection	Determination of a recent planning application demonstrates that this is an exercise in lip service and self-promotion only. You have no real interest in community engagement or locality. East Suffolk Council should have our interests and needs at heart. You claim to have policies to protect the environment, reduce ammonia emissions and encourage healthier lifestyles, yet you approve insensitive development close to ancient woodlands, sensitive receptors and a historic grade II* heritage asset, in the face of overwhelming	The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the process that is followed when determining a planning application. This includes periods of public consultation which must be met for the application to be legally determined. All comments received are considered during this process and a decision is made based on these and the policies in the adopted Local Plans. All applications are considered on their own merit.	None.
----------------	--	-------------------------	---	--	-------

			<p>opposition from local residents and the Parish Council, Historic England, the Woodland trust.</p> <p>Furthermore, you approved this application with no mitigating conditions.</p>		
Kevin Cross	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Support / Observation	<p>Your planners do a good job. Your consultations work well for people who are interested in consultations.</p> <p>To engage others, it needs to be like a punchy headline; needs a summary of proposals; needs an overview of the plan in plain English.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted. The Council does make use of leafletting to promote consultations where this is appropriate. However, leafletting is resource intensive and may not be appropriate for all public consultations. The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be</p>	None.

				needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	
Natural England	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.		<p>Natural England has no comments to make at this time.</p> <p>However, we will be happy to comment on future forward planning consultations which come forward.</p>	These comments have been noted.	None.
Alison Ballantyne	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Support / Observation	<p>I would say your planning officers have a sound understanding of the area, its needs and its difficulties. People tend to produce personal responses to planning which are often very negative. Presentations which include reasoned explanations plus an</p>	These comments have been noted. The Council will make appropriate use of presenting proposals in public exhibitions so individuals can directly engage with the Council where this is appropriate.	Further references to the use of both physical and virtual exhibitions and workshops has been added throughout the Statement of Community Involvement.

			opportunity for questions which will be at some point answered and added to the site must be good.		
Hollesley Parish Council (Judi Hallett)	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Support	Planning Portal – I use the Planning Portal fully. I think the system is really good.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Kesgrave Town Council (Joanna Abbott)	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Support	Commends ESC on the extended guidance for Neighbourhood Planning and believe that this will be helpful.  There is nothing further that we would add or remove.	These comments have been noted.	None.

<p>Martlesham Parish Council (Susan Robertson)</p>	<p>7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.</p>	<p>Support / Observation</p>	<p>We would like to see the SCI benchmarked against the relevant county wide negotiations with SALC on involvement and S106 expenditure.</p> <p>Our wish is to ensure that local knowledge and expertise is considered (particularly where NPs are made or sufficiently complete to be given some weight).</p> <p>Specifically</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PCs should be advised when pre-application advice is being sought. Comments should also be sought.</li> <li>2. When the major sites and</li> </ol>	<p>These comments have been noted. Pre-application advice is confidential between the Council and the applicant, therefore it is not possible to seek outside comments on this. When a major proposal is being developed the Council will request that public engagement takes place before an application is submitted. However, the Council can not require this unless it is stated in planning policy. Input from local councils is sought when a proposal is put forward with the local councils area. This including significant strategic proposals. Any views put forward will be considered by the officers of the Council and committee that the proposal is put to when a decision on the proposal is being made. The Council will always meet the minimum requirements set out in legislation and in the Statement of Community Involvement. Where appropriate, any additional</p>	<p>The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and that these will be publicised to show how comments have been considered.</p>
--	---	------------------------------	---	--	--

			<p>infrastructure team manage a project, this should be with full consultation with PCs.</p> <p>3. When the Strategic Management Committee review projects there should be input from PCs at this stage.</p> <p>4. We welcome the acknowledgement that statutory requirements for involvement represent a minimum which needs to be supplemented. Where this contains statements that something “may” be done we would expect this good practice to be followed unless there are strong reasons to the</p>	<p>actions will be taken to ensure that consultation processes are as robust as possible. This may involve extending the duration of consultation where considered necessary. The Council produces consultation statements following most planning policy consultations, which outlines the Councils response to comments received and any resulting changes. The Council will continue to work with Neighbourhood Planning groups, even after their Neighbourhood Plans are ‘made’. The Council will assist whenever a group state they wish to develop a Neighbourhood Plan and when a review is considered necessary. The Housing Land Supply Statement will clearly outline how calculations were made and how the results were determined. All comments are considered equally by the Council regardless of the individual or organisation who submits them. However, the</p>	
--	--	--	--	--	--



			<p>contrary. This should be extended to engagement outside statutory time limits where appropriate.</p> <p>5. We welcome the range of means of involvement. For large projects we agree that engagement through workshops and the “BIMBY” process is appropriate. The effect of engagement should be transparently documented.</p> <p>6. Local development scheme – needs of PCs with NPs requires involvement, which entails involvement in evidence gathering and housing supply calculations, at an</p>	<p>Council can only consider matters that are listed as ‘Material Considerations’ which are determined at the national level. The Council can not make decisions on planning matters by referencing matters not considered to be ‘Material Considerations’ and must consider the planning balance when determining proposals. Some of the comments raised go beyond the scope of the Statement of Community Involvement.</p>	
--	--	--	--	--	--

			<p>early stage to accommodate the consequences of new LPs for the NPs.</p> <p>7. LPs shouldn't misuse the ability to designate matters as strategic to remove them from the ambit of NPs and effectively minimising community involvement.</p> <p>8. SPDs, CIL schedules and housing land supply targets – made considering local circumstances and consequences. Criteria and logic to justify decisions should be transparent.</p> <p>9. NPS - We welcome the promise to assist with development of NPs. Financial and</p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--

			<p>technical support should be given to accommodate newly made LPs in revised NPs.</p> <p>10. Planning applications – need early and meaningful engagement by developers with the local community and PCs.</p> <p>11. Delegated planning process – more feedback on why PC comments are ignored. PCs should be routinely consulted on changes to conditions after permission has been given and certification that conditions have been met on larger projects.</p>		
--	--	--	---	--	--

J Elliot	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Objection / Observation	Not keen on interactive documents and maps as the current system works	These comments have been noted. Interactive documents are just one of the methods the Council will use during consultations. The Statement of Community Involvement states that other methods will be used to ensure members of the public who do not wish to use interactive documents are still able to participate in consultations.	None.
Stephen Mayhew	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Will the statement of community involvement reflect the impact of the National Planning White Paper or will it need to be subsequently updated?	The proposals in the recent government White Paper 'Planning for the Future' have only recently been consulted on and so any potential changes to the planning system are likely to be some time away. Also, it is not yet known what changes may be the result of the White Paper. Therefore, there is still a need for the Statement of Community Involvement to be developed.	None.

Westerfield Parish Council (Peter Miller)	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Support	<p>Consultations have been well notified over the last three years.</p> <p>Current channels for access to proposed documents have been effective, therefore should continue.</p> <p>Westerfield Parish Council support the draft SCI</p>	These comments have been noted.	None.
Margaret Hallet	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	<p>Little notice is taken of the opinions of local residents.</p> <p>We are informed that things are 'not planning problems' and that we have to think about the 'bigger picture'.</p>	All comments submitted during public consultations are considered by the Council. However, the Council can only consider matters that are listed as 'Material Considerations' which are determined at the national level. The Council can not make decisions on planning matters by referencing matters not considered to be 'Material Considerations' and must consider the planning balance when determining proposals. The Council produces	The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and that these will be promoted to show how comments have been considered.

				consultation statements following most planning policy consultations, which outline the responses received during the consultation and any resulting changes to the relevant document.	
Lindsay Frost	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Support	I think that a good job is being done, just needs some small refinements.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Andrew White	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	None.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Kristen Heckterman	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Local residents are unaware of huge local changes happening in the area and we are deeply concerned that they don't voice opinions. Door to	The Council will follow the requirements outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement for the relevant processes/documents. Sizewell C is a nationally Significant Infrastructure Project which is subject to its own consultation	None.

			door questionnaires might be needed specifically on the impact of Sizewell C will have on this area.	requirements which are beyond the scope of the Statement of Community Involvement.	
Michael Roseveare	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Time is the issue and timely communication that brings pieces of new information that I make to be moved to respond to.	The Statement of Community Involvement states that the Council will engage with the public at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure a robust and transparent process. The dates when comments will be accepted will also be made clear.	None.
Lorna Goodwin	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Events are held at inconvenient times for those that work. Should be more in the evening / weekend. Preferably online / virtual events.	The Council will always organise public exhibitions so as many people as possible would be able to attend. However, the durations of public events have to be based on officer availability and venue availability. Virtual exhibitions can be very useful for reaching a large audience who may not be able to attend an event in person, however using both virtual and physical exhibitions would be the best practice to	Further references to the use of both physical and virtual exhibitions and workshops has been added throughout the Statement of Community Involvement.

				ensure as many members of the public can attend as possible.	
Helga Ballam	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Public opinions make no difference because decisions are made in line with the Council's ideas. Too little consideration is given to local comments by those who are most affected.	All comments submitted during public consultations are considered by the Council. However, the Council can only consider matters that are listed as 'Material Considerations' which are determined at the national level. The Council can not make decisions on planning matters by referencing matters not considered to be 'Material Considerations' and must consider the planning balance when determining proposals.	None.
Christopher Burslem	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	As a member of Kelsale cum Carlton Parish Council I get information from the Parish clerk or via our District Councillor.	These comments have been noted.	None.



Henning Sieverts	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Objection	I am displeased by the recent changes in planning law and regulations and have expressed misgivings publicly.	These comments have been noted.	None.
Steve Wynn	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Objection / observation	Just listen to people. It's not a box ticking exercise (or is it?). Do you really care about the local community? The environment? Preserving what's left of our beautiful countryside?	All comments submitted during public consultations are considered by the Council. However, the Council can only consider matters that are listed as 'Material Considerations' which are determined at the national level. The Council can not make decisions on planning matters by referencing matters not considered to be 'Material Considerations' and must consider the planning balance when determining proposals.	None.
Suffolk Coast Acting for Resilience (Keith Martin)	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	It is luck if an organisation discovers consultations/other proposals. If we could register for voluntary communications that kept us	The Statement of Community Involvement includes a link so members of the public and organisations can sign up to the Local Plan and Related Documents Mailing List, which informs anyone who has signed up of new consultations.	None.

			informed that would be helpful.		
Stuart Bird	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Concerned at the rapid disappearance of green spaces. I am opposed to all but brown site development and the usage of existing facilities	These comments have been noted.	None.
Alison Andrews	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Objection / Observation	<p>Seems thorough.</p> <p>The Slaughden SMP one went well but a problem was getting to people who might be interested. Need to go via the local newsletters and organisations.</p> <p>We as an area are overloaded with consultation with planning inquiries. These consultations</p>	These comments have been noted. The Council agrees that press releases are extremely valuable for informing members of the community of consultations, especially those without access the to the internet. However, it should also be noted that it is not within the Councils control whether they are reported or not. However, the Council will continue to make use of them. The Council appreciates that not everyone will have access to the internet. Therefore, efforts are made to	The use of press releases has been reinforced throughout the document, including at the different stages of production of planning policy documents. It has also been stated that the reporting of press releases is not within the control of the Council, however we will continue to make use of them.

			matter but are time consuming and doing everything via the internet while saving time in some ways makes it harder for groups / organisations to respond.	ensure that any documents being consulted on are available in other formats and in public locations, such as libraries and Customer Service Centres, when this is possible.	
Jean Ellinor	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	ES should make more use of Town and Parish Councils to encourage residents to be more involved in planning issues	Local councils play a vital role in the planning service as advocates for the views of the local community, and will continue to be engaged as much as possible on planning matters.	None.
Julian Burton	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Cannot comment as do not really have any previous experience to go on. I have lived in the community years and am now retired so have more time for such matters.	These comments have been noted.	None.

Paul Garwood	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Parish Councils need to be more informed about planning consultations, so these can be passed to local residents.	Local councils play a vital role in the planning service as advocates for the views of the local community, and will continue to be engaged as much as possible on planning matters.	None.
Annabelle Bunn	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Objection / Observation	Seems arbitrary and little notice is given to local comments, inputs and objections, if the applicant is a commercial, powerful, greedy, unsustainable organisation.	All comments submitted during public consultations are considered equal by the Council. However, the Council can only consider matters that are listed as 'Material Considerations' which are determined at the national level. The Council cannot make decisions on planning matters by referencing matters not considered to be 'Material Considerations' and must consider the planning balance when determining proposals.	
Tony Ellison	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Need to use channels that members of the public are already using to discuss local matters. E.g., NextDoor app for	These comments have been noted. The Council will continue to explore new methods of engagement as these become available.	None.

			Facebook local groups.		
David Greenacre	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	East Suffolk is still evolving and discovering the benefits of the enlarged group	These comments have been noted.	None.
Trimley St Martin Parish Council, Caroline Ley (Caroline Ley)	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Consultation portal needs to accept formatting – numbered paragraphs, indents, etc.	These comments have been noted. The consultation software currently used is developed by a third party. The Council cannot change some of the features of these systems themselves.	None.
Judie Shore	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Happy to receive emails/links to things that require attention.  Needs to be simpler routes in finding documents – logins and multi-tiered steps are	The Council's website is currently being reviewed to make it easier to navigate. Due to the number of service areas that the Council covers, the planning service only has influence over its relevant sections of the website. Therefore it is currently not possible to simplify the rest of	None.

			discouraging.  Executive summaries should be available although we know the devil is in the detail.	the website. The Council will always endeavour to use plain English and to keep documents as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, technical language and certain aspects or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them.	
Trevor Barrell	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	Council should represent the needs/views of the public without involving politics	These comments have been noted. The Council, according to its constitution, must be impartial when determining planning matters and consider all proposals on their own merit. The views expressed by members of the public are considered equal to any other submitted, however all decisions must be based on the planning balance and only material issues can be considered.	None.

Nik Bestow	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	<p>Never see the results or change in policy following a consultation.</p> <p>Would be interesting to distinguish between residents, business and outside agents in the analysis</p>	<p>The Council agrees that feedback from consultations is valuable in showing how the public have influenced the development of a document. The Council produces a Consultation Statement following most consultations to show this and will endeavour to publicise these further to encourage greater participation in the future. All comments received during a consultation are considered equally regardless of the individual or organisation that has made them.</p>	<p>The Statement of Community Involvement has been changed to highlight the importance of consultation statements and that these will be publicised to show how comments have been considered.</p>
Karrie Langdon	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	<p>Difficult to understand planning policies as there are a high number of documents, but no guidance on how documents interrelate. A diagram illustrating on how the documents interrelate would be helpful.</p>	<p>The Council will always endeavour to keep documents and the number of documents themselves as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out requirements of certain documents that are needed and that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, certain documents or parts of documents may be needed in</p>	<p>None.</p>

				order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them. The Statement of Community Involvement does include a diagram which outlines the main documents that form the development plan for East Suffolk.	
Louise Chadwick	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	<p>Approach to involve everyone in all aspects of planning is excellent.</p> <p>Many people believe their views won't be considered.</p> <p>People should be encouraged to provide their views on planning proposals and applications.</p> <p>Difficult to find relevant policies to refer to when commenting on an application.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted. All comments submitted during public consultations are considered by the Council. However, the Council can only consider matters that are listed as 'Material Considerations' which are determined at the national level. The Council can not make decisions on planning matters by referencing matters not considered to be 'Material Considerations' and must consider the planning balance when determining proposals. The Council will always endeavour to keep documents and the number of documents themselves as concise as possible. However national Regulations set out</p>	None.



			<p>People should be made aware of material and non-material considerations.</p>	<p>requirements of certain documents that are needed and that documents must meet in order to be adoptable. This does mean that, in some cases, certain documents or parts of documents may be needed in order for the Council to be able to legally adopt them. The Statement of Community Involvement outlines what are considered to be Material and Non-Material Considerations in Appendix 2.</p>	
David Robertson	<p>7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.</p>	<p>Objection / Observation</p>	<p>Extend the consultation period – one month is too short.</p> <p>Needs to be better communication of the existence of a consultation and there needs to be consideration to older people who do not / will not use the internet.</p>	<p>The Statement of Community Involvement states that the Council will go beyond the statutory consultation periods outlined in legislation wherever this is appropriate and will accommodate extraneous events such as public holidays. The Council will use a variety of methods to publicise the existence of a consultation in order to reach as much of the public as possible. The Council appreciates that not everyone will have access to the internet. Therefore, efforts are made to</p>	<p>None.</p>

				ensure that any documents being consulted on are available in other formats and in public locations, such as libraries and Customer Service Centres, when this is possible. When this is not possible the Council will endeavour to take mitigation measures.	
Warwick Faville	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Objection / Observation	Will you listen.  Melton Hill offices consultation – it started well and then you lost the plot.	These comments have been noted. All comments submitted during public consultations are considered by the Council. However, the Council can only consider matters that are listed as 'Material Considerations' which are determined at the national level. The Council can not make decisions on planning matters by referencing matters not considered to be 'Material Considerations' and must consider the planning balance when determining proposals.	None.
Middleton cum Fordley Parish Council (Nigel Smith)	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to	Observation	The authority should involve parish councils more often in any consultations.  Parish Councils	Local councils play a vital role in the planning service as advocates for the views of the local community, and will continue to be engaged as much as possible on planning matters.	None.

	planning policy consultations.		<p>should have a similar forum to the authority's developers' forum. We believe face-to-face discussion is more useful/effective than written submission.</p> <p>Referral Panel is unfair – the panel is not open to the public; there is no record of discussion; it is not accountable or transparent. Where a Parish Council or Ward member makes considered representations, the application should go straight to committee.</p> <p>Welcome use of IT throughout process, but on-line plans should have a scale</p>	<p>Informing the relevant Town and Parish Councils is standard practice when publicising a planning policy document or a planning proposal. The Council does hold a Town and Parish Forum as outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement. The comment referring to the referral panel is outside the scope and remit of the Statement of Community Involvement. The consultation software currently used is developed by a third party. Therefore the Council can not change some of the features of these systems themselves. The Council has a Local Validation List which sets out what documents are requiring to enable an application to be submitted.</p>	
--	--------------------------------	--	--	---	--

			<p>bar.</p> <p>Direct on-line representations have no formatting.</p> <p>Development Management – need to ensure that plans are checked before accepted for determination. Had instances where plans have been deliberately drawn to mislead. This is fraud – not just some minor mistake. You need to take it seriously and report offenders to their professional bodies. Planners should pick up errors not Parish Councillors and neighbours.</p>		
--	--	--	---	--	--

John Fothergill	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	It is essential that consultation is online, time extended and backed by good paper communications during reduced contact times.	The COVID-19 crisis has meant that some of the methods often used by the Council to consult (such as the provision of physical copies of documents in libraries) has not been possible due to social distancing restrictions. In the short term, to mitigate the impact of the restrictions, the Council has introduced a number of alternative measures to ensure continued involvement in consultations. These measures are temporary, and the normal methods outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement will be reinstated once it is safe to do so.	None.
David Thomas	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Support	Questionnaire is encouraging, I await a consultation.	These comments have been noted.	None.

Ms Cresswell	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	<p>Ensure that there is no more development on green field sites. We have lost so much natural and farmland.</p> <p>The Council needs to listen to the public.</p>	<p>These comments have been noted. All comments submitted during public consultations are considered by the Council. However, the Council can only consider matters that are listed as 'Material Considerations' which are determined at the national level. The Council can not make decisions on planning matters by referencing matters not considered to be 'Material Considerations' and must consider the planning balance when determining proposals.</p>	None.
Yvonne Smart	7) General comments about East Suffolk' approach to planning policy consultations.	Observation	<p>1. Communities feel as though they are not being heard.</p> <p>2. Concern that the draft statement might not sit with Governments white paper 'planning for the future'.</p>	<p>All comments submitted during public consultations are considered by the Council. However, the Council can only consider matters that are listed as 'Material Considerations' which are determined at the national level. The Council can not make decisions on planning matters by referencing matters not considered to be 'Material Considerations' and must consider the planning balance when determining proposals. The proposals in the recent</p>	None.

				<p>government White Paper 'Planning for the Future' have only recently been consulted on and so any potential changes to the planning system are likely to be some time away. Also, it is not yet known what changes may be the result of the White Paper. Therefore there is still a need for the Statement of Community Involvement to be developed.</p>	
--	--	--	--	--	--





