

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council Local Development Framework Statement of Community Involvement

Pre-Submission Public Participation Draft Regulation 26 of the Town and Country
Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004

SUMMARY LEAFLET

Consultation Period 28 April 2006 – 9 June 2006

The Government has reformed the system of development planning in England. Development Plans are used to control and guide the development and use of land. As part of the reformed system, Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council must prepare a “Local Development Framework”, which will eventually replace the Oldham Unitary Development Plan.

The Local Development Framework will be a folder of different documents, one of which will be a “Statement of Community Involvement”. The Statement of Community Involvement will set out how the Council will involve the community in the preparation and revision of the Local Development Framework and the consideration of planning applications.

The Statement of Community Involvement covers the whole Borough except that part which falls within the Peak District National Park.

A draft Statement of Community Involvement has been prepared. Comments on the draft Statement of Community Involvement are now invited during the six-week public participation period. The Council will consider all comments received and may amend the draft Statement of Community Involvement as appropriate. The amended Statement of Community Involvement will be submitted to the Secretary of State and will be subject to a further consultation and then an Independent Examination before a Planning Inspector who will produce a report that is binding upon the Council. This will then be adopted by the Council as the final Statement of Community Involvement.

The draft Statement of Community Involvement is available to view on the Council’s website at www.oldham.gov.uk, as well as at the Civic Centre and public libraries during usual opening hours.

The Council’s Vision for the Statement of Community Involvement is to “enable, empower and encourage all Oldhamers to actively participate in the planning of their Borough”.

The draft Statement of Community Involvement will be available for public comment from **28 April 2006 up to 9 June 2006**. Please let us have your views on whether the draft Statement of Community Involvement reflects that Vision and how it could be improved.

Comments on the draft Statement of Community Involvement must be sent by 5.00pm on Friday 9 June 2006 to: Len Harris, Strategic Planning and Information, Regeneration Department, Oldham MBC, Civic Centre Level 14, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1XL.

The draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) consists of a series of different sections. This leaflet provides a summary of the content of each section.

Sections 1 and 2

provide an outline of the reformed planning system and the different documents that will make up the Local Development Framework, including the Statement of Community Involvement.

Section 3

explains the Council's approach to Community Involvement and its Vision for this draft Statement of Community Involvement. It also outlines the relationship between the Local Development Framework and other community involvement initiatives, including the Oldham Community Strategy and the Community Engagement Framework, as well as the roles of the Oldham Partnership and the Area Committees.

Section 4

outlines the plan-making process, including the various documents that will be prepared for the Local Development Framework, as well as the sustainability appraisal and strategic environmental assessment requirements. The Section provides details of the 'what', 'who', 'how' and 'when' to consult. It also identifies "hard to reach groups" that have traditionally not participated in the planning process. This Section identifies the consultation methods and techniques that may be used and, in general terms, which local community groups and other bodies will be consulted in preparing the Local Development Framework.

Section 5

explains how comments received during the public participation stages will be dealt with, including the reporting back stages to Councillors and participants

Section 6

details the Council's policy for consultation on planning applications.

Section 7

outlines the Council's approach to dealing with minerals and waste management matters.

Section 8

outlines how the Council will manage and resource the community involvement processes during the preparation of the Local Development Framework.

Section 9

identifies the Council's mechanisms for reviewing the Statement of Community Involvement, including in terms of resources used, response rates and expected outcomes and that the Council will keep under review the success and effectiveness of the various consultation methods used.

Please note that this summary leaflet is only a summary of the content of the draft Statement of Community Involvement. It does not form part of the draft Statement of Community Involvement itself. You should read the full draft Statement of Community Involvement before submitting any comments.

If you require further information on the draft Statement of Community Involvement, please contact the Strategic Planning and Information team on telephone numbers 0161 911 4151/ 4139/4163 or on email at spi@oldham.gov.uk.