

To: City Executive Board

Date: 19 November 2014

Report of: Scrutiny Committee

Title of Report: Statement of Community Involvement 2014 Review

Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To present comments from the Scrutiny Committee on the Statement of Community Involvement 2014 Review.

Key decision? Yes

Scrutiny Lead Member: Councillor Hayes

Executive lead member: Councillor Price

Policy Framework: None

Recommendation

That the Statement of Community engagement clearly sets out how members of the public can access paper versions of planning documents

Introduction

1. The Scrutiny Committee considered the Statement of Community Involvement 2014 Review at its public meeting in November. The Committee would like to thank Michael Crofton-Briggs and Lyndsey Beveridge for attending the meeting and supporting this discussion.

Summary of discussion

2. The Committee asked whether site notices were more effective than notification letters, which the City Council no longer sends out. Members heard that letters received an average response rate of 2%. However, the level of public engagement is now rising due to site notices and better online accessibility.
3. The Committee asked whether members of the public are able to view paper copies of planning applications. Members heard that planning applications are not routinely printed and placed in public areas, however, paper copies are made available upon request. Members

asked that this be explicitly stated in the Statement of Community Involvement.

4. The Scrutiny Committee approved the Statement of Community Engagement subject to the following recommendation

Recommendation

That the Statement of Community engagement clearly sets out how members of the public can access paper versions of planning documents

Board Member Comment

Very happy to accept that change to the report.

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List of background papers: None

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