

DECISION TAKER: CLLR THOMPSON – LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (IN THE ABSENCE OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND WELLBEING)

REPORT TITLE: ST GILES HILL NEIGHBOURHOOD DESIGN STATEMENT – AUTHORISATION TO CONSULTATION PROCESS

23 MARCH 2020

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WARD(S): ST MICHAEL

DECISION:

1. That the public consultation process for the St Giles Hill Neighbourhood Design Statement be approved.
2. That the Strategic Planning Manager is granted delegated authority to make minor factual corrections and editing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Built Environment and Wellbeing, to finalise the Design Guidelines/Policies in the St Giles Village Design Statement, prior to consultation.
3. That the Strategic Planning Manager is granted delegated authority to undertake the consultation process on the St Giles Village Design Statement and report back to Cabinet.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To receive authorisation to undertake public consultation with a view to adopting the St Giles Hill Neighbourhood Design Statement as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

Neighbourhood Design Statements are produced by local communities and provide guidance for the design of new developments within the local area. In order for these documents to carry weight in the planning decision-making process they need to be adopted by the City Council as SPD's.

Across the Winchester district there are over 25 parishes/communities with adopted village/neighbourhood or local design statements, many of which were adopted sometime ago. A handful of communities have undertaken an update of their design statements and this is to be welcomed, as this will provide more up to date guidance when determining planning applications.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

The City Council encourages the production of Village Design Statements by local communities, so as to improve the quality of development in local area and public involvement in the planning process. In order to carry weight in determining planning applications, such Statements need to be adopted by the City Council as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs).

An alternative to formal adoption as SPD would be for the Council to informally adopt or endorse the VDS. However, an informally adopted document would carry less weight in determining planning applications, as the formal adoption processes – including the public consultation - required of SPD would not have been followed and this approach is therefore not considered appropriate for Village Design Statements.

#### DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

#### DISPENSATION GRANTED BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE:

n/a

APPROVED BY:

DATE:

**Cllr Lucille Thompson**

**23 March 2020**

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