

# **Salford City Council**

## **Draft Statement of Community Involvement**

### **Schedule of representations and the response of the city council**

**September 2020**

Name/Organisation	Chapter/Paragraph/Table	Comments	Council response
Canal and River Trust	General comments	Thank you for your consultation on the revised Statement of Community Involvement. Having reviewed the draft the Canal & River Trust has no comment to make.	Comments noted.
Highways England	General comments	Thank you for consulting Highways England regarding the revised draft of Salford City Council's Statement of Community Involvement. Having reviewed the document I can confirm that Highways England has no objection to the changes made.	Comments noted.
Historic England	General comments	Historic England at this stage have no comments to make on its content.	Comments noted.
Homes England	General comments	Homes England does not wish to make any representations on the revised draft Statement of Community Involvement. We will however continue to engage with you as appropriate.	Comments noted.
Manchester and Salford Ramblers	General comments	Many thanks for this revised consultation. It is, as is usual from your department, clearly set out and easy to understand. I write merely to congratulate you and your colleagues on a tedious job well done. Ramblers have no objection to the proposed changes.	Comments noted.
Mosley John	General comments	I found the draft SCI very informative and congratulate you for the effort you have taken and appreciate you sending me a copy to read.	Comments noted.
Murfin Patricia	General comments	The Plan highlights in red Covid virus information and impact yet doesn't recognise the 2020 national building initiative at Government level which is pushing for improvements in housing, infrastructure, legislation change, jobs, young people. Will this mean this can be	Comments noted. This partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures

		added later on after further consultation whist Salford and GM, hide behind political rhetoric and not actually get on with improving anything.	only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.
Murfin Patricia	General comments	<p>Comments on the Salford Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Plan politically covers every group that lives within Salford area.</li> <li>- The Plan politically covers every area in Salford.</li> <li>- The Plan politically provides opportunity to consult with detailed charts linked to this eg page 35.</li> <li>- The Plan politically links with the delayed GM Authorities Plan in section 3.</li> <li>- The Plan has an absence of dates in Section 2 as they are now flexible.</li> </ul> <p>Note: pre 2014, the development of Salford Plan was crucial to improve the quality of life for the people of Salford. The authority has consulted on many evolving plans and deferred them for a variety of reasons. Other authorities in the North of England have managed to get their plans approved at Government level and are now a number of years into development of their areas infrastructure.</p> <p>The present Plan has a number of possible extended deadlines opportunities. This seems to provide more opportunities to have deferment and Salford yet again languishing in the lack of development of all infra structures and quality living for Salford and GM.</p> <p>The Plan over the next few years will be consulted without anything happening and yet politically hiding behind rail infrastructure and Government rather than an actually</p>	Noted. These comments refer to the Local Plan and therefore fall outside the scope of this partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement which has been undertaken to address Covid-19 measures only.

		improving this area of the North West.	
Natural England	General comments	<p>We are supportive of the principle of meaningful and early engagement of the general community, community organisations and statutory bodies in local planning matters, both in terms of shaping policy and participating in the process of determining planning applications.</p> <p>We regret we are unable to comment, in detail, on individual Statements of Community Involvement but information on the planning service we offer, including advice on how to consult us, can be found at:  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals">https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals</a>.</p>	Comments noted.
Rose Judith	General comments	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I have assumed the December 2019 document was comprehensively scrutinised at the time of issue and that you did not intend this version to be commented upon. I have therefore concentrated on the amendments (in red) which seem to be reasonable within the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic. I must emphasise how vital it is for you to retain the widest possible community involvement in the review of planning documents and planning applications.</p>	Comments noted.
The Manchester Bolton and Bury Canal Society	General comments	The Manchester Bolton and Bury Canal Society are in support of what you say, just a few small points.	Comments noted.
The Manchester Bolton and Bury Canal Society	General comments	Are the cover images appropriate in the light of Covid-19?	Comments noted. This current update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures;

			however it also continues to address forms of public engagement at other times. It is therefore not considered appropriate to change the cover images in response to this point.
The Manchester Bolton and Bury Canal Society	General comments	We think it might be a good idea if the Council could produce an annual summary of 'Consultation Issues' which would set out, for example, how many respondents they have to each plan, whether there are themes emerging in the feedback and whether these would require any immediate or forthcoming revision of the consultation process.	Comments noted. Whilst a summary as suggested is not formally produced experiences from previous consultations are taken into consideration when finalising proposed consultation methods for draft documents. In addition, comments received to each particular consultation and the council's response to those comments, are set out within a Consultation Statement.
The Manchester Bolton and Bury Canal Society	General comments	We also think that it might be a good idea to state the principles which guide your consultation process, e.g. 'Salford Council has a commitment to the effective participation of all residents in the planning process'. Many people respond to plans via their elected councillors and/or MPs. Although there is no mention of the MPs, at least councillors' role is mentioned several times but it would seem helpful to have a responsibility to report (anonymously) on the feedback they get in respect of any planning application.	Comments noted. This current update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.
The Manchester	General comments	One small pedantic point- the canal and consequently our	Comments noted.

Bolton and Bury Canal Society		Society has no comma in it. We are The Manchester Bolton & Bury Canal Society. This stems from the original Act constituting the formation of the Canal Company.	
Graham Marie	Chapter 2 Community Involvement in Salford	Please update all the community statistics the latest ones stated are 2006!	This update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.
Mosley John	Chapter 2 Community involvement in Salford	The only specific points I wish to make is to question the section “ Characteristics of the population of the city”, specifically the date that the information was valid if it goes back to 2008 it could be seriously misleading as it would be 12 years out of date now.	Comments noted. This current update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.
Halpern M	Paragraph 2.1	5 <sup>th</sup> bullet point Could you please let me know the proportion of Salford’s children that are Jewish?	Noted. These comments fall outside the scope of this partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement which has been undertaken to address Covid-19 measures only at this time.

			A separate response will however be sent in respect of this point specifically.
Halpern M	Paragraph 2.2	You rightly point out that when preparing the consultation, you need to be mindful of <i>“Saturdays, in order to ensure participation of the Jewish Community”</i> . May I respectfully point out that this also applies to Friday afternoons and the Jewish Holidays, including the previous day of each holiday.	Comments noted. This partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.
Halpern M	Paragraph 2.3	3 <sup>rd</sup> bullet point What is the percentage of Jewish children in Kersal?  In overall terms, what funding does Salford City provide to assist various ethnic minorities? What funding do they provide (or should they provide) by comparison for the Orthodox Jewish population of Kersal and who is that money paid to?	Comments noted. These comments fall outside the scope of this partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement which has been undertaken to address Covid-19 measures only at this time.  A separate response will however be sent in respect of this point specifically.
Mosley John	Paragraph 2.12	Under section 2.12 I think the top priority should be “A city that is good to live in”; takes pride of place and the other features fall into place beneath it.	Comments noted. This update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that

			time.
Halpern M	Paragraph 2.24	<p>URC <i>“took a calculated gamble that paid off”</i>. Whilst it is interesting to read what happened way back in 2005, I would be obliged to know what information you can offer which is more up to date. What has been happening during the last 15 years?</p> <p>At the end of that piece, there is mention of the Orthodox Jewish Community</p> <p>a) I would like to know what the City of Salford are doing to ensure there are enough houses for the Orthodox Jewish Community, whose families are much larger by average when compared to the rest of the citizens of Salford. Obviously, one must bear in mind that the Orthodox Jewish Community have to live in close proximity to each other because of the need to be close to Synagogues, (we may not travel on the Sabbath), close to the Kosher shops and close to the schools etc. Which policy document re. planning deals with this issue?</p> <p>b) I would also like to know what strategic forward planning have the City of Salford done to ensure that there are sufficient school places for the Orthodox Jewish Community, whether these be government funded or privately funded schools? What forecasts do you have and over how many years? On the same theme, what is the City’s policy with regards to ensuring that there is sufficient land/buildings that can accommodate schools (and Synagogues) needed for future growth?</p>	<p>Comments noted. These comments fall outside the scope of this partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement which has been undertaken to address Covid-19 measures only at this time.</p> <p>A separate response will however be sent in respect of this point specifically.</p>
The Manchester	Chapter 3 Consultation on	We would like to see plenty of time (6-8 weeks?) for local	Comments noted. This current



Bolton and Bury Canal Society	Local Development Documents	Community and Volunteer Groups to gather responses from their Members/ Committees to the proposals or consultation document	update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.
Halpern M	Paragraph 3.37	May I suggest that one of the methods of communication to the Orthodox Jewish Community be done by way of the Manchester Jewish Advertiser (Tel: 0161 795 0099) and the North Manchester Circular (Tel: 0161 708 0808). One must bear in mind that a substantial number of the Orthodox Jewish Community will not hear the radio or read the local newspapers. Communicating via these periodicals is extremely important and extremely cheap, as the circulation covers 90% if not more of the Orthodox Jewish Community.	Comments noted. This partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.
Halpern M	Table 3.1 Broad consultee groups	Community Committees I would be obliged to receive a full list. Consultation Database Once again, I would be obliged to receive a full list.	Noted. These comments fall outside the scope of this partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement which has been undertaken to address Covid-19 measures only at this time.  A separate response will however be sent in respect of this point specifically.
Graham Marie	Table 3.2 Proposed methods of community engagement	Whilst I understand the need to stop some methods of community consultation during covid, it should be made clear that leaflets and flyers can only be stopped if at that	Comments noted. With regards to leaflets and flyers the wording has been

		time there is a requirement for only essential travel.	amended to provide additional clarification and now reads:  “During the covid-19 pandemic leaflets and flyers may not be able to be used as they may be inconsistent with covid-19 government guidance at the time restricting non-essential travel.”
Graham Marie	Table 3.2 Proposed methods of community engagement	It should be made clear that if there is no possibility of one to one conversations or face to face community consultation taking place, virtual alternatives <b>have</b> to take place. Currently it says <b>may</b> take place. It would be useful to mention that local resident associations may be able to help organise these virtual consultations.	Comments noted. The One-to-One Discussion section does not say that such discussions will take place but rather that these one-to-one discussions may have to be held online or over the telephone as an alternative. Notwithstanding this, the wording has been amended to ensure full clarity to read:  “During the covid-19 pandemic, one-to-one discussions may not be able to held face-to-face if inconsistent with covid-19 government guidance at the time regarding social distancing and may therefore have to be held instead online via a virtual meeting or over the telephone.”

Halpern M	Table 3.2 Proposed Methods of Community Engagement	Page 33 Steering Group and Community Forum Do you have the Orthodox Jewish Forum as one of those referred to?	Comments noted. This partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.
Hopkins Dr Stephen	Table 3.2 Proposed methods of community engagement	The section on Stakeholder Meetings suggests they may not be able to be held due to covid-19 guidance. However, it would be possible to hold them virtually (i.e. online). Indeed, this method is suggested in the 'Planning for Real Exercises' and 'Consultation Games' sections lower down and is being used increasingly in similar circumstances.	Agreed. The section on Public/stakeholder meetings has now been amended to clarify that it may be possible to hold these meetings on line. The wording now reads:  "During the covid-19 pandemic public/stakeholder meetings may not be able to be held due to covid-19 guidance at the time restricting the gathering of groups of people, non-essential travel etc. In these circumstances the possibility of holding these meetings virtually (ie online) will be considered."
Hopkins Dr Stephen	Table 3.2 Proposed methods of community engagement	In the Posters in Public Places section, it is entirely unclear why this is inappropriate during the covid pandemic. Do you envisage large groups gathering to inspect such	Comments noted. The SCI has been amended to provide clarity and now reads as

		posters?	follows:  “During the covid-19 pandemic the placement of posters in public places may not be appropriate if considered inconsistent with covid-19 government guidance at the time restricting non-essential travel.”
Goodman Esther	Paragraph 4.21	<p>Paragraph 4.21, which is in the section entitled 'Determining Applications' reads, "The vast majority of decisions on planning applications (88.8% during the financial year 2006/2007) are made by council officers under powers delegated by the Planning and Transportation Regulatory Panel. However, very significant applications or applications that are considered controversial are determined by the Planning and Transportation Regulatory Panel".</p> <p>I understand that more recently the percentage of decisions delegated to council officers has in actual fact risen substantially from the 2006/2007 figure (and additionally the percentage is appreciably higher than the percentage in England as a whole).</p> <p>It is surprising that the rate of delegation to council officers is so high, i.e. in 2006/2007 only 11% of applications were determined by the Panel, and this has further decreased to only 2% (?) in the more recent past. Effectively this means that only a very small number of applications are treated as been very significant or sufficiently controversial to be determined by the Planning and Transportation Regulatory Panel.</p>	<p>Comments noted. This partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be taken into consideration at that time.</p>

		<p>In reality, of late a substantial number of applications has been for very significant or controversial extensions. Facts on the ground attest to this; very large extensions have been allowed to be built in at least one particular area of Salford.</p> <p>The Council have a duty to protect the amenity of Salford's residents - and this includes the amenity of <i>neighbours</i> of those people who want to extend their property.</p> <p>I understand that of late some 95% of applications in Salford are being approved. This, along with the fact that almost all applications are decided by council officers, rather than the Planning and Transportation Regulatory Panel - notwithstanding the sometimes relatively major impact on the amenity of (and legitimate objections by) users of neighbouring properties - raises questions as to the level of scrutiny of some very significant or controversial applications.</p> <p>It is important to ensure the integrity of the planning decision process. The level of scrutiny of planning applications needs to be seen to be adequate. A far greater percentage of cases should be determined by the full Planning and Transportation Regulatory Panel, and in situations where that is not possible there should be greater oversight of the work and conduct of case officers.</p>	
Halpern M	Appendix B List of Consultees	<p>Page 57  General Consultation Bodies  May I ask that the Orthodox Jewish Forum is added to the list of <i>"bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the authority's area"</i> and will also cover <i>"bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying</i></p>	<p>Comments noted. This partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale</p>

		<p><i>on business in the authority's area".</i></p> <p>With regards to consultation, specified in PPS12, I suggest that the Orthodox Jewish Forum is added to the list.</p>	<p>update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be taken into consideration at that time.</p>
Highways England	Appendix B List of Consultees	<p>There are a couple of points which will need updating regarding the status of Highways England within the draft document.</p> <p>Firstly, Highways England is not listed under the list of Specific Consultation Bodies within Appendix B on page 56. It does however list the Secretary of State for Transport as highway authority by virtue of the Highways Act 1980. Since the Infrastructure Act 2015, the highway authority for the Strategic Road Network is Highways England, under licence from the Department for Transport. This change should be reflected in the list.</p>	<p>Comments noted. This current update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.</p>
The Manchester Bolton and Bury Canal Society	Appendix B List of consultees	<p>British Waterways is mentioned in the general consultation bodies; can this be amended to the new body that has taken over from them- the Canal and River Trust?</p> <p>Also Manchester Ship Canal Company doesn't exist any longer; it was taken over by Peel Holdings and the Ship Canal is now part of Peel Ports</p>	<p>Comments noted. This update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.</p>
Halpern M	Appendix C List of Consultees for Planning Applications	<p>Page 63 Development within sites of historic interest and antiquity. I would be obliged to receive a list of such sites within the City of Salford.</p>	<p>Comments noted. These comments fall outside the scope of this partial update of the Statement of Community Involvement which has been undertaken to address Covid-</p>

			<p>19 measures only at this time.</p> <p>A separate response will be sent to address this point specifically.</p>
Highways England	Appendix C List of consultees for planning applications	There are two references to Highways Agency on pages 62 and 64. Similar to the above point, Highways Agency became Highways England following the Infrastructure Act 2015. These references should now refer to Highways England.	Comments noted. This current update of the Statement of Community Involvement has been undertaken to address Covid-19 pandemic measures only. A further wholesale update of the document shall be undertaken in due course and these comments will be considered further at that time.