



July 2019

1. About the Project, service change or policy development

Responsible officer	Andrew Horner
Name and description of project, service or policy	
<p>1. Neighbourhood planning was introduced through the Localism Act 2011. It is one of the five measures of decentralisation, and gives local communities more control over housing and planning decisions through the right to prepare neighbourhood plans and neighbourhood development orders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood plans can establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood, for example identifying where new homes and offices should be built and what they should look like. Neighbourhood plan can seek to set a vision for the future and can be detailed or general depending on what local people want. • With a neighbourhood development order the community can grant planning permission for new buildings they want to see go ahead. Neighbourhood development orders will allow new homes and offices to be built without the developer having to apply for separate planning permission. <p>2. The Act sets out the process by which the neighbourhood plan must be prepared. Neighbourhood planning will be taken forward by either town and parish councils or 'neighbourhood forums'. Neighbourhood forums will be community groups that are designated to take forward neighbourhood planning in areas without parishes.</p> <p>3. The local authority is responsible for the following steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirming the designation of the proposed neighbourhood plan • Confirming the status of a proposed neighbourhood forum • Providing expertise and advice to neighbourhood forums and parish councils • Checking legal compliance • Appointing and organising the examination • Holding a referendum on the neighbourhood plan • Adopting ('making') the neighbourhood plan where all the requirements are met <p>The referendum ensures that the community agrees with the plan's proposals and whether it should be implemented. If more than 50% of the people voting in the referendum support the neighbourhood plan or the neighbourhood development order, then the local planning authority must bring it into force.</p> <p>4. When the Neighbourhood Plan has been consulted upon, examined and 'made', the neighbourhood plans must be used to determine planning applications in a neighbourhood area.</p>	

2. Identifying the community impact

What impacts will this change have on the community?			
Information which might be useful in thinking about this includes our equality profiles , available for a number of demographic groups in Dacorum, and Spotlight on Dacorum , which provides information about the Borough as a whole and signposts users to detailed statistics at ward / postcode level through neighbourhood statistics.			
	Positive	Negative	What are the positive and negative impacts? How will the positive impacts be enhanced? How will the negative impacts minimised/eliminated?
The community in general e.g. social or economic benefits or negative impacts	✓		<p><u>Positive aspects enhanced:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbourhood Plans can assist in delivering a range of new development that will have a positive benefit on all members of the community through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of new homes, including affordable homes to meet housing need Delivery and protection of a diverse range of job and employment opportunities for all members of the community. The revised Statement of Community Involvement (currently under consideration for adoption by the Council) specifically mentions Neighbourhood Plans and that the Council will proactively engage with communities who wish to prepare a neighbourhood plan. Neighbourhood Plans lets communities set out their vision for their local areas and general planning policies to guide development in the neighbourhood. A Neighbourhood Plan is one way in which local communities may influence the planning of the area in which they live and work. Neighbourhood Plans when agreed by the community in a referendum become part of the development plan for the area to be used in the determination of planning applications <p><u>Neutral impacts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not everybody wishes to get involved in planning (however much the Council and local communities may seek to engage with them).

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	Positive	Negative	What are the positive and negative impacts? How will the positive impacts be enhanced? How will the negative impacts minimised/eliminated?
On DBC as an organisation e.g. on staff or operations			The Council has a duty to support Neighbourhood Plans whilst this has implications for staff resources it also has benefits for potential increased officer understanding of the community.
The specific demographic considerations or characteristics e.g. age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation - specify where impacts are different for different considerations	✓		<u>Positive aspects enhanced</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where local communities so desire Neighbourhood Plans can provide opportunities for some individuals with protected characteristics¹ become more involved in planning matters.
The environment e.g. effects on the climate, trees, amenity space, biodiversity, water, energy, waste, material use, air quality	✓		<u>Positive aspects enhanced:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Neighbourhood Plan can be subject to ongoing Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment which helps the Council to understand, and address, the impacts of policies and potential developments on environmental interests. Assessment of proposals under the Habitats Regulations will also take place where necessary.
Any community issues identified for this location , if the project is based in a specific area – state if this is not applicable e.g. if there are no specific issues for this location or if the project is district-wide	✓		The designation of the Neighbourhood Area (if made) would apply to the whole of the Parish of Kings Langley and policies made under the Neighbourhood Plan (if approved by referendum) would apply to the whole Parish. <u>Positive aspects enhanced</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Known needs and issues would help to inform the proposals and policies contained within the Neighbourhood plan and also the emerging Local Plan. All stakeholders would be invited to make comments on the Neighbourhood Plan during future rounds of consultation.

¹ E.G. age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation

What evidence have you used to assess the impact on the community?
 What baselines have been established and what data will be used to monitor the impact?

This Community Impact Assessment has not identified any potential for discrimination or negative impact and all opportunities to advance equality have been taken. This is an update/replacement of existing planning policy documents and the fundamental principles which we have historically applied to planning policy formulation have not changed.

What steps have you taken or plan to take to consult the whole community or specific groups affected by the service or policy development?

E.g. on-line consultation, focus groups, consultation with representative groups?

It is proposed to carry out public consultation on the proposed designation of the whole of the area of Kings Langley Parish Council as a Neighbourhood Area.

3. Review –

How will you review the impact, positive or negative once the service or policy has been implemented?

<i>Action</i>	<i>By when</i>	<i>By who</i>
Following public consultation on the designation of the area of Kings Langley Parish Council as a Neighbourhood Area, the Council will consider whether or not designation of the area is appropriate. This impact assessment will be reviewed and updated where necessary post consultation.	Autumn 2019	Strategic Policy team

Name of responsible officer: Andrew Horner

Reviewed and signed off by: James Doe

Role: Strategic Planning and Regeneration Team Leader

Role: Assistant Director (Planning, Development and Regeneration)

Date: 10/7/19

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