

**Bracknell Forest Council  
Record of Decision**

<b>Work Programme Reference</b>	<b>I093641</b>
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1. **TITLE:** Temporary changes to the Statement of Community Involvement

2. **SERVICE AREA:** Place, Planning & Regeneration

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

Temporary changes in respect of publicity for planning policy documents and planning applications during the COVID-19 crisis.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

That the Temporary Changes Addendum be approved and published alongside the Bracknell Forest Statement of Community Involvement (2014).

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

National Planning Practice Guidance<sup>1</sup> requires local planning authorities to assess their SCIs to identify whether elements are inconsistent with public health guidelines and restrictions in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Any temporary amendments that are necessary should then be made. The Bracknell Forest SCI has been reviewed and areas have been identified where it is considered necessary to make temporary amendments to enable plan making and other activities to continue.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The main alternative is not to publish the "Addendum" to the SCI but to rely on the adopted SCI. However as set out in paragraph 3.1 above, the Council is unable to meet its full consultation and engagement commitments during the COVID-19 pandemic. This could potentially result in failure of the Central and Eastern Berkshire Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan and the Bracknell Forest Local Plan to meet the legal compliance test on Examination and expose the Council to the risk of legal challenges. It is considered that approval and publication of the "Addendum" is the most appropriate option.

9. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Director: Place, Planning & Regeneration

10. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None

<b>Date Decision Made</b>	<b>Final Day of Call-in Period</b>
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25 August 2020	2 September 2020
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