

## Appendix C – SCI Comments and Officer Recommendations

Consultee	Comments	Officer Recommendations
Highways Agency	No comments made regarding the document	Comments noted.
Broads Authority	No comments made regarding the document	Comments noted.
Norfolk County Council	No comments made regarding the document	Comments noted.
English Heritage	No comments made regarding the document	Comments noted.
Natural England	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.	Comments noted.
Anglian Water	Anglian Water welcomes consultation on LDF documents and planning applications and is keen to work with and support Breckland Council in their Growth aspirations. We are keen to respond to all LDF document consultations and all major (10+) planning applications and other applications where there may be concerns or issues relating to drainage.	Comments noted.
UK Power Networks	Replace 'EDF Energy' with 'UK Power Networks'. This is the name of the electricity distribution network operator for Breckland.	Agreed. Change made.
Mr John Gallen (paragraph 3.18 & 3.19)	This engagement should be more proactive and local residents within a defined area (not just neighbours) should be advised in writing of and consultation/planning. Local Parish Councils should also accept more responsibility in consulting these people and reporting on their concerns.	The Council undertakes a wide range of consultation methods over and above its statutory duties. It is advised that local residents who wished to be informed of all documents that the Council is producing then they should contact the Council and request to be added to the consultation database where they will be informed of all planning

		policy documents that the Council is producing.
Ken Hawkins - Assistant to Area Footpath Co-ordinator	The Ramblers (Norfolk) should be added to the list of consultees for any planning application that is near to or could impact on any public right of way (including any in course of being newly claimed)	Agreed, the Ramblers can be added to the Local consultee list.
Attleborough Community Team, Attleborough Town Council	Comment in respect to consulting young people. In Section 3 (Table 3.2). The document states the need to consult young people and outlines some of the ways that could be done. It mentions that schools will be a General Consultee but they are listed as Local Consultees in Table A.3. Furthermore, we would like to see young people mentioned specifically Table A.3. Although the Table lists schools, in some cases the document to be consulted on may not get out of the school office. The wording in the Table could be changed to 'Schools, including students'.	Error noted, amend General Consultee in table 3.2 to say Local Consultee.  It is considered that young people are suitably catered for within the summary of how Breckland will consult with 'hard to engage' groups within Table.3.2. The overriding terminology of schools as a local consultee is considered appropriate.
Paula Brewster	Concerned that the SCI has a lack of guidance as to how much weight is attributed to views received by the community on planning applications. Furthermore, concerned that all people need to be consulted on everything.	The weight attached to any comments will be application specific in terms of a planning application. Paragraph 4.15 confirms the individual weight attached to planning applications and table 4.1 confirms how and when members of the public are consulted on planning applications.
Paula Brewster	Concerned with the use of facebook and twitter as a means of communication as it may trivialise the planning process. Concerned that this is not a good use of Planning Officer's time.	The use of Facebook and twitter is a contemporary social media which in an appropriate situation. This is additional to the statutory consultation methods of the Local Authority as identified within section 4 of the SCI and is a mechanism employed and monitored by the communications team only at the Local Authority and not by

		Planning Officers.
Paula Brewster	Consider that there is a duty on applicant to notify persons affected by an application and the Local Authority should ensure that this has been undertaken.	There is no legal obligation for applicants to consult with neighbouring properties, although the Local Authority do encourage this.
Paula Brewster	Concerned that tax payers money is spent on translating documents in to other languages.	Under the Freedom of Information Act, Local Authorities have a duty to give preference to an applicant's preferred format for receiving information, as far as reasonably practicable and may include summarising the information; providing the applicant with a copy; allowing the applicant reasonable opportunity to inspect a record containing the information; producing material in the applicant's preferred format or translating information into a different language. However, under the Act a public authority is not obliged to translate documents if this would not be reasonably practicable. The SCI reflects the Freedom of Information Act within Table 3.2.