



The countryside charity  
North Yorkshire

PO Box 189  
York  
YO7 9BL

[www.cprenorthyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.cprenorthyorkshire.co.uk)

Tel: 07983 088120  
Email: [info@cprenorthyorkshire.co.uk](mailto:info@cprenorthyorkshire.co.uk)

Branch Chair  
Jan Agar

**Authority:** Ryedale District Council

**Type of consultation:** Policy Consultation

**Full details of application/consultation:** 2Review of Statement of Community Involvement

**At land at:** N/A

**Type of response:** Comment

**Date of Submission:** 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021

All responses or queries relating to this submission should be directed to the Secretary for the Trustees at the contact details shown above on this frontispiece.

All CPRE North Yorkshire comments are prepared by the charity using professional planners whose research and recommendations form the basis of this response in line with national CPRE policies.

External planning consultant used in this response:



KVA Planning Consultancy  
Katie Atkinson, BA (Hons), Dip TP, MA  
MRTPI  
[www.kvaplaning.co.uk](http://www.kvaplaning.co.uk)

## **Comment**

CPRE North Yorkshire The Countryside Charity ('CPRENY') welcomes the opportunity to comment on this policy consultation setting out Ryedale District Council's ('RDC') intent to review the adopted (November 2006, and Addendum adopted 2008) Statement of Community involvement ('SCI').

The Council have specifically asked for comments relating to which sections of the adopted SCI need to be reviewed. CPRENY are of the opinion that the document is out of date having been adopted under a previous planning framework and prior to the publication of the first National Planning Policy Framework in 2021.

The adopted SCI was produced for a Local Development Framework. Government has since overhauled the planning system in favour of a Local Plan and as such, the Council should amend the SCI to reflect this. Furthermore, the adopted documents which would make up the RDC Local Plan would need to be amended to include the Helmsley Plan adopted 2015 and co-authored with the North York Moors National park Authority. Any Neighbourhood Plans which have been adopted or even designated within the RDC administrative area should also be included.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many planning services have been moved online including committee meetings, full and hybrid hearings and planning inquiries and Examinations in Public to enable residents and interested parties to comment on planning matters – either in development management or a policy context. The Government have recently announced through the planning white paper that they are intending to move even more functions online and it is unlikely that meetings and some services will ever go back to being purely 'in-person' once the pandemic is over. As such, the SCI should reflect this move towards the retention of online facilities and set out how they would include people within the planning process via online technologies to enable them to execute their statutory rights to participate and comment. It should set out how the Council will seek to overcome barriers to involvement in this way.

CPRENY welcomes the recognition given to them in the table entitled 'Different interests and desire to be involved' under 'additional authorities' and would hope to remain acknowledged in this way. It should be noted, however, that CPRE is no longer the Council for the Protection of Rural England, but now 'CPRENY - The Countryside Charity'. The charity recognises that it is not a statutory consultee, however, does campaign at both the national and local level in many areas of interest which are important considerations for RDC being such a rural authority including greenbelt, tranquillity, and dark skies. The district also has so many landscape and historic designations within it, including the Howardian Hills AONB and is within the immediate setting of many others (including the nationally designated NYMNPA) including those of high local value and significance alongside sites of nature importance. As such, CPRENY believe it can offer an insight and knowledge into certain aspects which may be of benefit to the Council.

The Council should also seek to involve those sectors of the population which have been traditionally hard to reach including those from BAME and LGBTQ+ communities as well as ensuring that they are undertaking their statutory obligations in respect of the Equality Act.

CPRENY look forward to commenting on the draft SCI in due course and wish to be kept on the Council's database for all consultations.