

ACK 8.11.05



Midlands, South West & Wales Regions

Borough of Oadby & Wigston
Council Offices
Station Road
Wigston
Leicestershire
LE18 2DR

07 November 2005

Dear Sir

Draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

I write on behalf of the Home Builders Federation and to make comment on the draft SCI. The Federation is pleased to be included within the list of Consultees for the SCI and subsequent LDF and would ask that it continue to be advised, in writing either by letter or e-mail of any changes to the Council's policy documents. It is not possible for a national organisation to monitor a large number of websites on a daily basis.

Although the advantages of pre-application consultation with the local community is recognised in some instances, it must also be recognised that in some situations it will be inappropriate. For example where developers legal obligations and confidentiality preclude this. Such consultation is optional and the lack of pre-application community involvement should not be seen as a determining factor in a planning application. In addition, applicants must be allowed to decide the most appropriate means of community involvement and not be required to follow a prescribed method.

We are grateful for the opportunity to comment on the draft SCI and look forward to receiving notification of the progress of the LDF.

Yours faithfully

Jan M Molyneux
Consultant to Regional Policy Manager
South West and Midlands

