

Councillor RB Hamilton
Cabinet Member for Environment, Housing and Planning
Councillor A Seldon
Chairman, General Overview and Scrutiny Committee

To All Parish Clerks

Your Ref :

Our Ref :

Please ask for : Councillor Russell B Hamilton

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11th April 2013

Dear Parish Clerk,

Community Infrastructure Levy Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule Consultation:

Public Consultation - 4th March to 22nd April 2013

We are writing to remove any misunderstanding or ambiguity which may have arisen from Cllr Harvey's email regarding Community Infrastructure Levy dated 4th April 2013 following concerns that this may be creating some uncertainty about an established process. As a result of this and any confusion her email may have caused Councillor Harvey has agreed to withdraw her email.

The consultation on the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) preliminary draft charging schedule commenced on 4th March 2013 along with that for the draft Core Strategy as outlined in a letter sent to all Parish Councils and Ward Councillors during week commencing 1st March 2013 (copy attached).

As part of this process the CIL consultation document and questionnaire were included with that letter along with documentation relating to the draft Core Strategy, and for the avoidance of any doubt the **consultation on both will close on 22nd April 2013** in accordance with the original timetable agreed by the Council's Cabinet. Details of the consultation and associated timetable were reported to the the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11th February 2013.

It is important to stress that the CIL consultation relates to a "Preliminary Draft Schedule" and will therefore be subject to further public consultation in the Autumn unlike the draft Core Strategy that is subject to its final consultation. The CIL proposals are therefore designed to engage early and gather initial feedback and will inform the next stage of the process.

You will be aware from previous communications that two parish council consultation "drop in" sessions were held on 6th and 20th March, both of which were well attended. A further session is scheduled for Monday 15th April 2013 in the Assembly Room, Hereford Town Hall, between 4.00pm and 8.00pm. We would strongly encourage anyone who has not yet been to one of the sessions to come along where you will be able to ask any questions about either of the ongoing consultations.

In addition to this public engagement events have been held in Hereford, Bromyard, Kington, Ledbury, Leominster, Peterchurch, Ross-on-Wye and Wigmore where the CIL documentation has been on display (along with that for the draft Core Strategy). Numerous Parish Councillors have attended these sessions.

You will also have received a PowerPoint presentation regarding both the draft Core Strategy and CIL consultations. These were sent to you by Anthony Bush on 8th and again 11th March (compressed file). It was sent twice to aid those with issues arising from speed of Broadband.

It is important as you will know to recognise that there is a direct relationship between CIL and Neighbourhood Planning, and that where a parish has an adopted Neighbourhood Plan they will retain 25% of the CIL monies raised from development for expenditure on infrastructure in the area or if not 15%. The remaining monies will be used to fund strategic infrastructure required for the economic development of the County in accordance with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

We would like you to know that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group chaired by Councillor Harvey and her group is performing a valuable role as part of the democratic process and that all of the recommendations contained in its interim report in December 2012 were accepted by the Cabinet Member (Cllr Russell B. Hamilton). This included a further piece of work that is now in the final stages of being completed by the Task and Finish Group. The outcome of which will be considered by the main Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet Member in May along with feedback from the consultation.

We hope that this clarifies the situation and in closing we reiterate the importance of following the process already established and communicated at the beginning of March for the consultation which means that any comments must be submitted by 22nd April.

There are three ways that you can do this:

1. The preferred method is to comment online – it is more environmentally friendly and allows us to analyse responses faster.
2. You can make comments in hard copy. Questionnaire can be printed from the website and then completed by hand and returned (no stamp required) to Local Development Framework, License Number RRJX-TLSH-SCYH, FREEPOST, Forward Planning, Herefordshire Council, PO Box 4, Plough Lane, Hereford, HR4 0XH. Alternatively, if you'd like a copy of the questionnaire please call us on 01432 383 357.
3. If you do not wish to complete a questionnaire and wish to write a letter, please always make sure you state which specific part of the CIL you're representation relates too and what changes you would like to see. This will assist us in analysing your comments.

We are enclosing a series of Frequently Asked Questions to aid you in future and would be grateful if you could share the content of this letter with all Parish Councillors as soon as possible.

You can find all of the supporting documents on the Councils Website at www.herefordshire.gov.uk/ldf and http://consult.herefordshire.gov.uk/consult.ti/The_CIL/consultationHomeor at any info centre, library or community library in the county.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Russell B Hamilton

***Cabinet Member for Environment,
Housing and Planning***

Enclosures;

*Letter to Parish Councils – 1st March 2013
Frequently Asked Questions*



Councillor A Seldon

***Chairman, General Overview and
Scrutiny Committee***