

# Sefton Council



## Involving the Community in your Application: A Guide for Developers



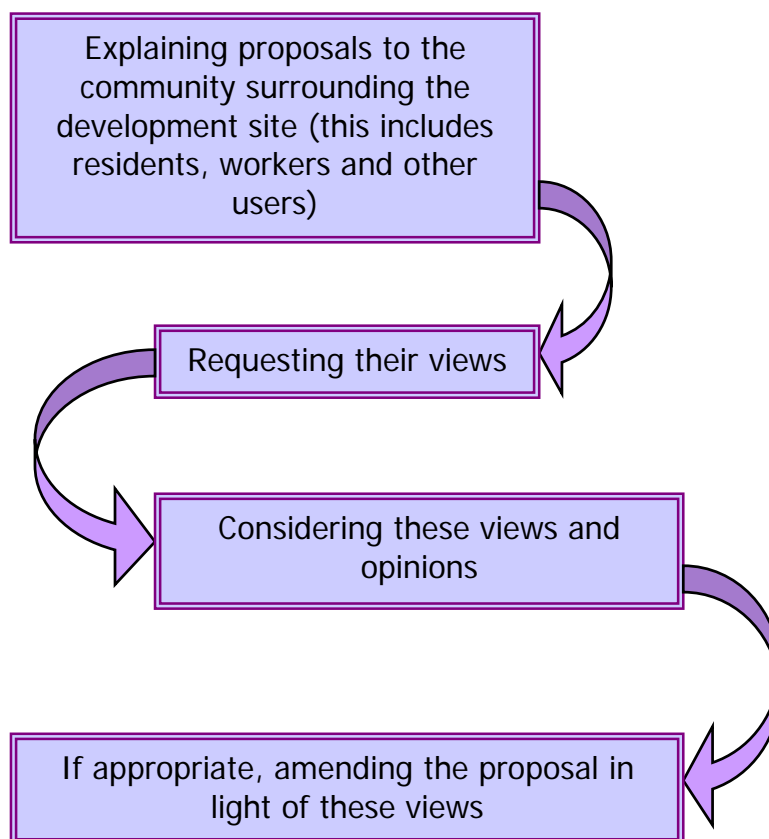
**In Sefton we are committed to involving the community when considering planning applications. The following pages explain how applicants or agents can play their part in fulfilling this commitment as they prepare proposals.**

**This pack outlines what we expect from developers making applications for major or contentious development in Sefton. It aims to be a step-by-step guide for a developer, or their agent, to follow and should be submitted as part of any future planning application.**

## **What sort of development does this apply to?**

- ❖ Building houses
  - of ten or more
  - on a site of 0.5 hectares or more, and the number of dwellings is not known
- ❖ A building or buildings where the floor space to be created by the development is 1000 square metres or more
- ❖ A development carried out on a site of 1 hectare or more
- ❖ Waste development
- ❖ Mining and working of minerals

## What does involving the community mean?



## Why involve the community?

Many proposals for major development in the Borough have recently led to petitions being presented to Planning Committee by local people. Sometimes this is because the community has not fully understood the proposals and how they fit into the wider plans for the area. This has caused a lot of needless anxiety and frustration, requiring further consultation and delay in approving schemes.

We believe consulting local people before making your application will have a number of benefits, not only for the community, but also for you the developer. These include:

- ❖ Identifying any significant concerns the community may have so they can be dealt with early on
- ❖ Providing you with the opportunity to explain your proposals clearly, avoiding a situation where opinions are based on inaccurate information

- ❖ Saving you time in obtaining a decision on your application
- ❖ Reducing opposition to your application, so making it more likely that your application will be approved
- ❖ A more sustainable and acceptable development
- ❖ Reducing the likelihood of your application being 'called-in'

## How should a community consultation exercise be planned and carried out?

