



**South
Cambridgeshire
District Council**

Dear Councillor,

**Invitation to launch of Village Design Statements project
Tuesday 26th June, 6-8pm, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Council Chamber**

South Cambridgeshire District Council has won funding from central government, to **help 6-8 of our villages prepare community-led Village Design Statements**. We will use this funding to:

- Run workshops with village community representatives, led by expert facilitators and design consultants.
- Capture community design priorities in a well-written, visually led document with maps and graphics.
- Work with village representatives to review and finalise this document.
- Adopt the Village Design Statements as Supplementary Planning Documents.

The aim is to help village communities capture what is distinctive about their physical environment, and how they would like the design of new developments to respond to local character.

Village design statements can:

- Give the village community the words and drawings to describe what is distinctive about their area in design terms.
- Ensure that SCDC's planners understand community design priorities correctly.
- Help parishes respond more confidently to new development proposals, and to assess if they fit local priorities.
- Involve all parts of the village community in exploring how they would like their village to look in the future.
- Become adopted policy as part of SCDC's new Local Plan, ensuring that they have legal weight.

Village Design Statements and Neighbourhood Plans

Village Design Statements can form part of a Neighbourhood Plan, if that is something that your community is already developing. They can help a Neighbourhood Plan team map and analyse both the existing character of a village, and what future development might look like.

Find out more

We want to tell you more about this project, how to participate, and the benefits it can bring to villages in your area. Come to our launch event to:

- Hear from other villages who have developed Village Design Statements, and learn from their experiences
- Find out how a village can participate in this project
- Learn what is involved in developing a Village Design Statement
- Meet the team who are running the project and ask any questions you may have

We hope you can come to the launch event on:

Tuesday 26th June, 6-8pm, South Cambridgeshire District Council

If you would like to find out more about the project in the mean time, please contact:
Hana Loftus, Special Projects Officer, hana.loftus@scambs.gov.uk or 07811 385893.