

## Statement of Community Involvement

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| Reference   | BHNW189_SCI                           |
| Revision    | -                                     |
| Date        | December 2025                         |
| Prepared By | Bellway Homes Limited (North West)    |
| Issued To   | Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council |

### Introduction

This Statement of Community Involvement [SCI] has been prepared by Bellway Homes Limited (North West) [Bellway]. It relates our proposed residential development at land north of Cronton Road, Cronton. We are seeking outline planning permission for a development comprising up to 120 dwellings.

This SCI includes a description of both the pre-application engagement and public consultation we have taken in relation to our proposals. It should be read in conjunction with the other reports and documentation that accompany the application submission.

### Policy Context

The National Planning Policy Framework [the Framework] includes a section on pre-application engagement and frontloading [§40-47]. Whilst not mandatory, engagement with both Local Planning Authorities [LPAs] and the community is encouraged at the pre-application stage.

The Framework recognises the importance of early engagement to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application system for all parties. Indeed, paragraph 40 states: *Early engagement has significant potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application system for all parties. Good quality pre-application discussion enables better coordination between public and private resources and improved outcomes for the community.*

As set out in paragraph 41, LPAs have a key role in encouraging applicants to take up any pre-application services which are offered and where beneficial, encourage engagement with the local community before applications are submitted.

At the local level Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council [the Council] adopted their Statement of Community Involvement Document in June 2023. The SCI sets out how the Council will engage with local communities and stakeholders in the development of planning policy documents and in the determination of planning applications.

## Pre-Application Engagement

A pre-application request was submitted to the Council on 14th April 2025 via our Planning Consultant (Lichfields). A pre-application meeting was held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025, with attendance from the LPA, Local Highway Authority [LHA] and Lead Local Flood Authority [LLFA]. A written response was subsequently issued in October 2025.

## Public Consultation

We have carried out a public consultation exercise in November 2025. Letters were sent to the Local Ward Members, and a leaflet detailing our proposals was sent to residents living in close proximity to the site. The resident leaflet provided mailbox details, where comments could be sent for us to consider. We received 5 responses objecting to the proposals. The only specific reason for objection raised was that the site is located in the Green Belt. We did not receive a response from any of the Local Ward Members.

## Conclusion

This document demonstrates that we have sought to engage with both the LPA, elected members and the public in relation to our proposals for a residential development at land to the north of Cronton Road, Cronton.