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## **REPORT OF THE PLANNING POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE**

### **1 SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS**

1.1 This item of business was referred by the Planning Policy Sub-Committee on 10 August 2006 to the Planning Policy and Transportation Committee with a series of suggested amendments to the supplementary planning documents 1 - 8. A copy of the officer's report is attached at Appendix 1, together with revised copies of the supplementary planning documents, incorporating the Sub-Committee's amendments.

1.2 The Sub-Committee made a series of amendments to draft supplementary planning documents 1 to 8 aimed at clarifying items that were unclear and at simplifying the language contained within the documents. Members also requested that some of the photographs contained within the documents be replaced with better quality ones. It was further noted that:-

- The figures provided in Appendix B to Supplementary Planning Document 1, relating to the costs of providing additional school places, had been provided by the County Council. The County Council would be asked to provide an annual update to District Members on the receipt of educational contributions made by developers within the District and County-wide and on expenditure of such contributions.
- Any concerns about the sub-standard provision of playing pitches could be considered through the Allocations Development Plan Document.
- Policy PP7 provided that any planning application for new playing pitch facilities should demonstrate an adequate level of accessibility to the site by sustainable forms of transport.
- The Grant Search software could be utilised to identify whether any monies were available for the financing of pitch provision. The County Council, in addition, had a Community Fund.
- While mindful of the legal requirement that any units of measurement included in such planning policy documents should be metric, Members nevertheless concurred that each supplementary planning document should include at the beginning a glossary of jargon commonly used, together with imperial equivalents of all metric units of measurement contained within the document.
- National policy currently indicated that there should be maximum car parking standards. The Council's Local Plan thus included policy TP8 on vehicle parking standards, which was aligned with national policy. Supplementary planning document 5 should also tie in with national and

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Local Plan policies. There would, however, be an opportunity next year to re-examine the vehicle standards supplementary planning document.

- Serviceteam would be included as consultees on planning applications in the context of refuse and recycling vehicles having appropriate access for all new developments within the District.
- The South Essex Transport Forum would be meeting soon and had indicated that it wished to drive around Rochford District with a view to examining highway and transport issues.
- Developers should be encouraged to define a maximum class of vehicle that could be parked in garages proposed to be built as part of any new development.

1.3 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That Supplementary Planning Documents 1 – 8, as appended to this report, be progressed to public consultation as required by Regulation 17 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 and the results of this reported back to this Committee.

Sarah Fowler

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**Background Papers:-**

None

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