

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT CONSULTATION RESPONSES

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 states that Local Development Frameworks may include the adoption of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). These documents are largely based upon Supplementary Planning Guidance prepared under the old Local Plan system, but must be updated as Supplementary Planning Documents to comply with the new Act. The adopted Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the documents that the Council intends to adopt as part of the Local Development Framework.
- 1.2 Draft versions of eight Supplementary Planning Documents were approved for Regulation 17 Public Consultation by the Planning Policy and Transportation Committee on 12 September 2006. This consultation exercise was conducted over a five week period commencing Friday, 29 September and finishing on Friday 3 November in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 17 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations. This report sets out the results of that consultation, any recommended changes to the documents, and seeks Members' approval for the adoption of the amended documents, copies of which have been circulated to all Members under separate cover.
- 1.3 Whilst the actual nature and form of SPDs is not covered by legislation, the process to adoption is a statutory one.

2 CONSULTATION RESPONSES

- 2.1 In total there were 37 responses to the Regulation 17 Consultation. The table below sets out the number of responses relating to each of the SPDs.

		Number of Responses
	General Comments	5
SPD1	Educational Contributions	4
SPD2	Housing Design	8
SPD3	Playing Pitch Strategy	3
SPD4	Shop Fronts – Security and Design	1
SPD5	Playing Pitch Strategy	9

SPD6	Design guidelines for Conservation Areas	3
SPD7	Design Landscaping and Access Statements	2
SPD8	Rural Settlement Areas	2

- 2.2 In accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, a document has been produced setting out summaries of the issues raised in the representations, officer comments on each of the representations and a recommendation of any changes that should be made to the SPDs. A consultation summary and recommended changes are listed in appendix A.
- 2.3 An important issue raised by the Government Office related to the use of the word 'policy' to describe the guidance and standards included in the SPDs. Policies are included in the adopted Local Plan and in due course new policies will be included in the emerging development plan documents that will replace the Local Plan. Adopted policies are subject to different scrutiny from the guidance and standards in SPDs, which are intended to expand and amplify on the policy framework. Therefore, it is considered that the use of the word 'policy' to describe the guidance and standards in the draft SPDs is confusing and that term should be removed in this context and the SPDs revised accordingly. Revised versions of the draft SPDs will be circulated to all Members

3 RISK IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Operational Risk

It is expected that the adoption of the SPDs and the production of any associated documents required under regulations 18 and 19 can be met in house using existing resources.

3.2 Regulatory Risk

The timetable for the preparation, consultation on, and adoption of the SPDs is contained within the adopted LDS. Adoption of SPDs 1-5 is scheduled for November. For SPDs 6-8, adoption is scheduled for January 2007. Failure to meet these deadlines may lead to action being taken against the Council by GO-East. The performance of the SPDs against the LDS may affect awards made through the Planning Delivery Grant scheme.

4 RECOMMENDATION

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

- (1) That Supplementary Planning Documents 1 – 8 be adopted by the Council, subject to the recommended changes set out in appendix A, in line with the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004.
- (2) That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Transportation, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to carry out minor amendments to the SPDs to ensure consistency and correctness. Any such amendments, if required, will be reported to the Planning Policy & Transportation Committee.

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Head of Planning and Transportation

Background Papers:-

None.

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