

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Planning Portfolio Holder and New Communities Portfolio Holder 26 January 2009
AUTHOR/S: Executive Director / Corporate Manager (Planning and Sustainable Communities)

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - CONSULTATION ON SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to seek agreement for a number of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) to be published for consultation. The SPDs to be consulted on are as follows:
 - Biodiversity
 - Listed Buildings: works to or affecting the setting of

Background

2. The purpose of Supplementary Planning Documents is to expand on policies set out in Development Plan Documents and to provide additional detail. The Council has adopted a number of Development Plan Documents (DPD) that form part of the Local Development Framework. The two SPDs that have been currently prepared relate to policies contained within the adopted Development Control Policies DPD, and in the adopted Area Action Plans for Northstowe; Cambridge East; and Cambridge Southern Fringe.

Process for preparing the Supplementary Planning Documents

3. The draft SPDs have been prepared in consultation with the relevant specialist officers within the Council. Similar to the DPDs, Sustainability Appraisals have to be carried out on the SPDs to appraise the social, environmental and economic effects of the proposals contained within each SPD. These will be consulted on alongside the draft SPDs. Consultation has been carried out with the three statutory bodies on the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Addendum for the Listed Buildings SPD (this was a joint addendum with the Conservation Areas SPD).
4. As part of the process of preparing an SPD there must be an opportunity for representations to be made on their content. If agreed by the Portfolio Holder, the two SPDs and their accompanying documents will be subject to six weeks of public consultation, which is anticipated to start in February.
5. The Council will consider the representations on the draft SPDs and make any relevant changes to the SPDs as a result of comments received. A report will then be made to Cabinet on the representations submitted, and Cabinet will make the decision whether to adopt the documents.

The two SPDs being considered

- **Biodiversity SPD**

6. The SPD expands on district-wide policies in the Development Control Policies Development Plan Document (DPD), adopted in July 2007, and policies in individual Area Action Plans for major developments that may vary from the district-wide policies. Policies seek to ensure that biodiversity is adequately protected and enhanced throughout the development process, and this SPD provides additional details on how these policies will be implemented.

- **Listed Buildings: works to or affecting the setting of SPD**

7. Within South Cambridgeshire there are approximately 3,000 Listed Buildings and structures. The aim of this Supplementary Planning Document is to provide additional advice and guidance on developments affecting these Listed Buildings and to expand on the broad policy set out in the Development Control Policies DPD Policies CH/3 and CH/4 and PPG15.

Implications

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| 8. Financial | Within existing budgets |
| Legal | None |
| Staffing | Staffing will be required to manage the consultation process, although this can be accommodated within existing resources. |
| Risk Management | No significant risks. The Consultation responses will highlight any issues for further consideration by the Council. |
| Equal Opportunities | Not affected |

Consultations

9. The Council’s Legal team, Appeals, Major Development Team and Development Control officers have been consulted during the preparation of the Supplementary Planning Document.

Effect on Corporate Objectives and Service Priorities

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| 10. | Work in partnership to manage growth to benefit everyone in South Cambridgeshire now and in the future The SPDs will provide a framework for planning within South Cambridgeshire and will assist in improving the environment of the district. |
| | Deliver high quality services that represent best value and are accessible to all our community The SPDs will contribute to providing good design and a quality environment for our community to live in within South Cambridgeshire. |
| | Enhance quality of life and build a sustainable South Cambridgeshire where everyone is proud to live and work The SPDs will provide a framework of planning policies to enhance the built and natural environment in South Cambridgeshire. |

Recommendations

11. It is recommended

- (a) that the Planning Portfolio Holder and New Communities Portfolio Holder agree, as affects their individual portfolios, the following documents for consultation:
- Draft Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document
 - Draft Listed Buildings Supplementary Planning Document
 - Draft Final Sustainability Reports for both SPDs (on the website)
 - Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Addendum for the Listed Buildings SPD
- (b) that authority be given to the Corporate Manager (Planning and Sustainable Communities) to make minor amendments to the above documents.

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Development Control Policies DPD
- Northstowe Area Action Plan
- Cambridge East Area Action Plan
- Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan
- South Cambridgeshire Biodiversity Strategy (September 2006)
- South Cambridgeshire Design Guide
- PPS9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation
- PPG15 Planning and the Historic Environment
- PPG16 Archaeology and Planning

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