

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE CABINET MEETING OF 30TH NOVEMBER 2020

PUBLIC REPORT: Y

EXEMPT REPORT: N

Report Title	Development Management Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).
KEY DECISION	Yes
Report Author	Adrian Eastwood - Development Planning Manager
Purpose of Report	To consider and approve for public consultation the Draft <u>Development Management Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)</u> attached to this report at <u>Appendix 1.</u>
Reason for Decision	The Council has a range of 21 Supplementary Planning Guidance documents dating from 2003. As these were prepared a number of prior to the April 2019 Harborough Local Plan they are now out of date and in need of updating.
Portfolio (holder)	Councillor J Bateman (Planning)
Corporate Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An enterprising, vibrant place • A healthy, inclusive and engaged community
Financial Implications	The draft SPD has been produced within existing resources. Should document presentation and production be required at consultation stage this may require more resource.
Risk Management Implications	See section 4.0 below.
Environmental Implications	The SPD addresses planning for climate change.
Legal Implications	The SPD shall be prepared in accordance with legislation.
Equality Implications	No overall adverse effects have been identified.
Data Protection Implications	None.
Consultation	A minimum six-week period of consultation is expected starting in December 2020 or January 2021 for a minimum of 8 weeks
Options	See section 7.0 below.
Background Papers	HDC Supplementary Planning Guidance – various National design guide (October 2019) online.
Recommendation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the draft Development Management Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) be approved for a minimum 8-week public consultation. 2. Consultation is to accord with Consultation Plan (Appendix 2) and shall begin as soon as practical.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council has a range of 21 Supplementary Planning Guidance documents dating from 2003. As these were prepared many years prior to the adoption in April 2019 of the new Harborough Local Plan they are out of date. In turn that greatly reduces their relevance, and help they give to customers proposals and planning decisions.
- 1.2 The suggested SPD aims to rationalise and simplify the 2003 Supplementary Planning Guidance into one document.

2. Key Facts

- 2.1 A Supplementary Planning Document cannot make new policy. It can add further detail to the policies in the Local Plan. In effect it can be guidance on particular issues to implement the Local Plan. A supplementary planning document, where relevant, shall be a material consideration in planning decisions but is not part of the development plan.

3. Summary

- 3.1 Planning decisions and proposals through Development Management, if approved and built, contribute significantly to the district. In turn this contributes to Council priorities including a safe, enterprising and vibrant place, and a healthy and prosperous future.
- 3.2 The single document SPD proposed will be a more efficient way of presenting the guidance. It will improve customer service by giving up to date information as a single document.

4. Risk Management Implications

- 4.1 A relevant supplementary planning document is a material consideration in planning decisions. It is not part of the development plan. The supplementary planning guidance from 2003 cannot be relied upon given its age and that it is not linked to the up to date Local Plan adopted in April 2019.
- 4.2 The SPD will allow the Council to provide guidance across the district. In turn this shall help meet the needs of local communities and outside organizations interested in development proposals, in line with the Council's vision and priorities.
- 4.3 A consultation plan set out at Appendix 2 is in place to guide public consultation on the SPD and this links into a communications plan which is in place to managing key messages relating to the document to assist all customers.

5. Legal Issues

- 5.1 The power to complete Supplementary Planning Documents are set out in Regulations 11 to 16 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

6. Equality Implications

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed. No adverse effects were identified.

7. Options

- 7.1 Not to complete a new Development Management SPD. This will leave a gap in guidance and risk uninformed and poorer quality planning applications.
- 7.2 Complete separate re-drafts for the various Supplementary Planning Guidance. This will be a time consuming and potentially inefficient process given there are currently 21 existing Supplementary Planning Guidance documents.
- 7.3 Prepare bespoke guidance on priority topics rather than one whole SPD. This could still take place depending on how the Government give effect to proposals in the recent Planning White Paper: Planning for the Future. A specific design guide may be necessary as Government's [National Design Guide](#) (October 2019) anticipates a National Model Design Code will be published. This expected Code shall set out detailed standards for key elements of successful design. Local planning authorities will be expected to take this into account when developing local design codes and guides, and when determining planning applications.