

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANNING & COMMUNITY STRATEGY)
TO DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE
12 MAY 2008

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Supplementary Planning Document, Future Provision

1.0 Introduction and Report Summary

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Strategic and Local Planning Advisory Group held on 22 October 2007 Members considered the Draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) prior to its publication for consultation. At a subsequent meeting of the Strategic & Local Planning Advisory Group Members considered the comments submitted during the consultation process and agreed to amending the SPD as recommended in this report.
- 1.2 This report summarises the comments received during the consultation period and recommends changes to the Supplementary Planning Document prior to its adoption.
- 1.3 The contact officer for this report is Alison Blyth, Principle Planning Officer, telephone (01235) 547633. **Email address Alison.blyth@whitehorsedc.co.uk.**

2.0 Recommendations

- (a) *Members recommend to the Executive and to the Council to adopt the Open Space, Sport and Recreation, Future Provision Supplementary Planning Document subject to the changes set out in the appendix to this report.*
- (b) *the Council to implement the requirements of the Supplementary Planning Document via the Development Control function on planning application for one or more houses once a project officer is in place.*

3.0 Relationship with the Council's Vision, Strategies and Policies

- 3.1 This report relates to the Council's vision in that it supports the Council's aim to improve the quality of life for residents and to protect the natural environment and the Council's priority to create a cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment. This report does not conflict with any Council strategies.
- 3.2 In addition the report complies with the Council's Adopted Local Plan 2011 the Community Strategy and the Draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Strategy.
- 3.3 Summary of Risk

Failure to adopt the Open Space, Sport and Recreation, Future Provision Supplementary Planning Document will result in the Council not meeting a target set out in the Local Development Scheme and also prevent the Council from securing funds from new development to mitigate its impact on open space, sport and recreation.

4.0 Consultation

- 4.1 The draft SPD was published alongside the Draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Strategy. The strategy which was based on a wide ranging audit of the quality and quantity of provision across the District identified the key issues facing the Council in managing and developing open space, sport and recreation facilities across the District. This strategy provides the justification for the Supplementary Planning Document. The SPD seeks to ensure developers of new housing mitigate the impact of their development on open space, sport and recreation by either providing new facilities on site or contributing to off site provision.
- 4.2 The Draft SPD was placed on deposit alongside the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Strategy for a six week period from 1 November to 14 December 2007.
- 4.3 During the consultation period the Council employed a number of methods to ensure awareness of the consultation process.
- 4.4 A letter was sent in advance of the publication of the SPD to all the 800 addresses on the Local Development Framework database. The letter gave details of how and when copies of the document could be obtained.
- 4.5 Copies of the draft SPD along with the draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy were sent to over 200 individuals and organisations including Parish and Town Councils, Government Departments, sport and leisure interest groups, statutory organisations, householders and planning consultants.
- 4.6 Copies of the draft SPD and accompanying documents were also available at all the libraries in the District as well as at Didcot and Oxford.
- 4.7 A notice giving details of the consultation arrangements was published in the local newspapers.
- 4.8 The above arrangements meet the requirements of the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement.
- 4.9 Despite the extensive consultation during the consultation period only 13 comments were received on the SPD from the following organisations:-

South Oxfordshire District Council
Kemp & Kemp, Property Consultants
Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association
Home Builders Federation
South East Regional Assembly
Stanford in the Vale Parish Council
PIPS Planning and Development Ltd
Natural England
Cumnor Parish Council
Buckland Parish Council
Berks, Bucks Wildlife Trust
Oxfordshire County Council
Harwell Parish Council

4.10 Appendix 1 to this report includes a summary of the comments received along with a suggested response proposed by your Officers. In some instances a change to the draft SPD has been recommended in response to individual points. Appendix 2 contains a copy of the draft SPG, with the proposed deletions struckout and the proposed new text covered in a tone.

4.11 Implementation of SPD

Once the SPD is adopted its operation will generate additional work for Officers for example:-

- providing advice to potential developers of one house and above on what their contributions to open space, sport and recreation will be
- completion of legal agreements to ensure contributions are paid to the Council
- keeping the audit of open space, sport and recreation up to date so that it can continue to provide the underlying justification for the SPD and future requests for financial contributions
- ensure money collected is spent on projects which will often be in partnership with other organisations such as Parish Councils
- monitor the collection of contributions and expenditure on projects.

Most of the above tasks will be carried out by a new post being created in the Contracts and Procurement Division. Until that post is operational it will not be possible to fully implement the SPD.

RODGER HOOD
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANNING & COMMUNITY STRATEGY)

Background Papers:

Comments received in response to publication of draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation, Future Provision Supplementary Planning Document.