

Meeting of the Cabinet – 20th March, 2013

Report of the Director of the Urban Environment

Draft “Planning for Health Supplementary Planning Document” – Approval to Consult

Purpose of Report

1. To seek Cabinet approval to undertake a period of 8 weeks statutory consultation on the draft Planning for Health Supplementary Planning Document commencing 25th March 2013.

Background

2. The Council’s ‘Planning for Health’ Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) will form part of the Local Plan and it will be taken into account in making planning decisions for the Borough. The SPD sets out how health and health inequalities can be impacted by planning, and gives detailed guidance on ensuring that the health implications of any new development are considered. It is intended to inform the planning process and to provide a guide for developers, applicants and land owners. The document will also be strategically linked to Dudley’s Obesity Strategy, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
3. The SPD sets out the areas where planning influences health outcomes in the form of themes and presents a list of recommendations for each theme. This SPD sets the basis for discussions at a pre-application stage to ensure that health is an early consideration in the planning process.
4. The purpose of this SPD is;
 - a) To offer guidance for addressing the affect of the built and natural environment on health as part of a strategic approach to tackling the Borough’s health inequalities and promoting healthy lifestyle options.
 - b) To demonstrate how social, environmental and economic conditions influence health and health inequalities.
 - c) To clarify the importance of accessibility, its role in creating healthy, sustainable communities and how it helps impart better quality of life.

- d) To be an important material consideration in the determination of planning applications by providing checklists against which to assess development proposals.
 - e) To impose distance restrictions on the creation of new takeaways in proximity to schools and youth amenities and to reduce the clustering and over proliferation of hot food takeaways across the Borough.
5. This draft SPD is the second stage in the preparation of the document and it has been informed by the comments and views which were given at the Frontloading Consultation Stage (20th October – 17th November 2011) alongside expertise from key Council Officers, Public Health Professionals and the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board at their meeting on 21st January 2013.
 6. Cabinet Approval is sought to undertake a period of statutory consultation in line with guidance in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012. This consultation will take place between 25th March – 17th May 2013. Other Council Directorates, the Health and Wellbeing Board and stakeholders and those with an interest in the SPD will be given the opportunity to make representations on the document and these comments will be used to inform the final draft. It is expected that the SPD will be brought back to Cabinet for approval to be adopted in October 2013.
 7. A copy of the new SPD is available in the Member's Room or can be viewed electronically on the Council's 'Committee Management Information System' pages. The SPD is accompanied by a Consultation Statement explaining who the Council have consulted and the representations made during the consultation which will also be available in the Members Room and on the 'Committee Management Information System'.

Finance

8. All costs associated with the review and adoption of the Planning for Health SPD will be funded from within existing budgets.

Law

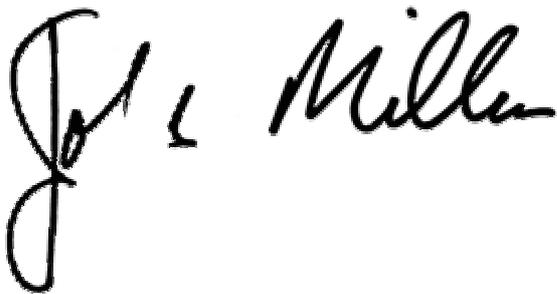
9. The SPD has been prepared under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (amended 2008).

Equality Impact

10. The SPD has been prepared in accordance with the Council's policy on Equality and Diversity, ensuring that it provides benefits for adults, children and young people alike, promoting equal opportunities for all.
11. The SPD seeks to promote healthy sustainable development and ensure that the future residential and commercial growth is delivered through the appropriate mechanisms taking consideration of the health impact of development.

Recommendation

12. It is recommended that the draft Planning for Health Supplementary Planning Document be approved for consultation.



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List of Background Papers

Draft Planning for Health Supplementary Planning Document