

Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 8th October 2019
Title of report: Highway Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

Purpose of report:

The publication of a Highway Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document is identified in the Local Development Scheme of the Local Development Framework which came into operation in December 2017.

The Highway Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document has been the subject of public consultation and it has now reached the stage where approval is being sought for adoption.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes: all wards are affected
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u> ?	Key Decision - Yes Private Report/Private Appendix - No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Karl Battersby - 25.09.2019
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?	Eamonn Croston - 25.09.2019
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	Julie Muscroft - 26.09.2019
Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u>	Cllr McBride - Regeneration

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted:

- Huddersfield Planning Committee members (20th September 2018).
- Strategic Planning Committee members (27th September 2018).
- Heavy Woollen Planning Committee members (4th October 2018).
- Cllr McBride Regeneration Portfolio Holder briefing (16th September 2019).

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? The report does not contain any personal data

1. Summary

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are produced to add clarity in relation to the application of planning policies set out in the Local Plan. The Kirklees Highway Design Guide SPD provides such clarity and aims to promote high standards of highway design that reflect nationally recognised best-practice, and facilitate the delivery of high quality residential, employment and mixed-use developments in Kirklees. This SPD is relevant to all aspects of the built environment.

2. Information required to take a decision

The publication of a Highway Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document is identified in the Local Development Scheme of the Local Development Framework which came into operation in December 2017. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are produced to add clarity in relation to the application of planning policies set out in the Local Plan. The Highway Design Guide SPD is attached to this report.

The Highway Design Guide SPD will help to encourage good design in terms of how developments, routes and spaces relate to one another to create streets and public spaces that are safe, accessible, and pleasant to use. The SPD will be used by the council as a material consideration when determining whether to approve or refuse planning applications.

The approach includes setting Highway Design Principles including:

- **Priority:** Putting pedestrians and cyclists first by designing vehicular routes that minimise barriers to their movement and ensure their safety.
- **Inclusivity:** Catering for people of all ages and abilities so that the public realm can be navigated and negotiated by everyone.
- **Legibility:** Ensuring that routes are recognisable, easy to understand, and able to be navigated by wayfinding, landmarks, gateways, nodes, and focal points.
- **Connectivity:** Integrating development physically and visually with its surroundings.
- **Permeability:** Providing a variety of pleasant, direct and convenient routes that connect to existing networks and local amenities.
- **Functionality:** Using scale, texture and colour to reflect and reinforce an areas function and character.
- **Safety:** Incentivising walking and cycling by creating a welcoming, secure and pleasant environment that incorporates natural surveillance, lighting, high-quality landscaping (greener streets) and protection from motor vehicles.
- **Durability:** Utilising robust practical materials that will stand the test of time and which are easy to maintain and replace.

- **Adaptability:** Incorporating high quality materials with the capacity to withstand and recover from environmental changes and events.
- **Sustainability:** Delivering design that reduces car travel, fuel consumption and the use of materials with high embodied carbon; thereby meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to achieve their own needs and aspirations

More detail relating to these principles is set out in chapters covering issues such as prioritising pedestrians, cycling infrastructure, street design, landscaping and water management, parking and servicing.

3. Implications for the Council

The main implication for the Council in agreeing to adoption of the Highway Design Guide SPD is that it provides greater clarity for internal consultees on planning applications and facilitates the determination of planning applications. It also provides clear guidance for developers submitting planning applications to increase awareness of the council's expectations in relation to the highway design.

4. Consultees and their opinions

The SPD has been prepared in accordance with the legal regulations and has been subject to 6 weeks of public consultation which took place from 1st November 2018 – 13th December 2018. This consultation process has resulted in some changes to the document, particularly relating to how the document is read and understood as guidance and not a set of prescriptive standards to be met absolutely, with development proposals being collaborative in their approach, design, and delivery. The consultation report for the SPD is attached to this Cabinet report.

5. Next steps and timelines

If Cabinet is minded to approve the Highway Design Guide SPD for adoption, it will be necessary to advertise this and publish the relevant documents. Whilst the provisions of the SPD become operative from the time of the resolution of Cabinet any person aggrieved by the SPD has a period of 3 months from the date of adoption to appeal to the High Court.

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

The officer recommendation is that the attached Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is approved for adoption as a basis for securing high quality highway design within development proposals and that the necessary formal procedures for adoption of the document are undertaken.

7. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

The document was discussed with Cllr McBride at the Regeneration Portfolio Holder briefing (16th September 2019). The recommendation was to continue to proceed through adoption process.

8. Contact officer

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9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

- Highway Design Guide SPD (attached)
- Highway Design SPD Consultation Statement (attached)
- Strategic Environmental Assessment Determination Statement for the Highway Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
(<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/pdf/SEA-Determination-Statement.pdf>)
- Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Statement for the Highway Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
(<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/pdf/SEA-Screening-Statement-Highway-Design-Guide-SPD.pdf>)
- Kirklees Local Development Scheme (December 2017) listing planning policy documents to be produced including the Highway Design Guide SPD
(<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/pdf/local-development-scheme.pdf>)

10. Service Director responsible

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