

# ENERGY AND NEW DEVELOPMENT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

## STATEMENT OF CONSULTATION

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Energy and New Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been prepared to expand upon and clarify existing Unitary Development Plan (UDP) policies in respect of the matters of energy efficiency and sustainable energy sources appertaining to new developments. It will outline energy efficiency measures expected of all new developments to complement the stricter Building Regulations requirements, and it will outline the Council's requirements in respect of how new buildings will reduce their predicted carbon dioxide emissions through the use of on-site renewable technologies. It will also give guidance to developers, planners and other stakeholders in respect of the technologies available and guidance to Development Control planners in respect of procedures for interpreting data provided by applicants and for ensuring that required measurements are implemented. It will provide a body of policy and practical guidance and good practice for the areas of energy efficiency and renewable technologies in new developments.
- 1.2 In order to ensure that appropriate public consultation takes place, SPDs are required to be accompanied by a statement setting out how the Local Planning Authority will comply with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). This document details the public consultation that will take place to meet these requirements.
- 1.3 The new planning system introduced during 2004 includes new requirements (e.g. community involvement and the need to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal) governing the preparation of SPDs which replace the old style Supplementary Planning Guidance documents (SPG). Whilst not having 'development plan' status, SPDs will be afforded greater weight in the development control process than SPGs.
- 1.4 This document sets out the public participation procedures to be undertaken by the Council for the Energy and New Development SPD. It accords with regulation 17 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England regulations 2004).
- 1.5 Using the guidelines of the new government regulations and PPS 12, the public consultation draft SPD has been prepared through a process of consultation.

### 2. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT TO DATE

#### 2.1 Early consultation

Early consultation was carried out to engage with relevant stakeholders about the scope, purpose and content of the document. This included:

- A large number of stakeholders, including all Council Members, many Council Officers, national and local housebuilders, and interest and community groups, as well as other Local Authorities, were sent background papers outlining the main issues and asking a series of questions in respect of the scope and content of the proposed document. Along with this document was an invitation to attend a consultation event in the Town Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2007.
- The consultation event was held, and was attended by 27 stakeholders, including six Members of the Council, community groups, Rochdale Boroughwide Housing, Rochdale Development Agency, other authorities and developers. A further 23 stakeholders registered that they were unable to attend but would like to be kept informed of the progress of the document.
- The event consisted of an introduction and planning background, a presentation on the scope of the proposed document with the national context, and a speaker from Oldham MBC outlining that Authority's experience of implementing a similar document to the one proposed, followed by workshop sessions where a number of questions pertaining to the scope and content of the proposed document were discussed in detail. In particular, policy options for energy efficiency and conservation and policy options for on-site renewable technologies in new developments were

discussed. These discussions were useful, there was consensus on a number of issues and more heated debate on others.

These activities helped to shape the content and scope of the draft SPD.

## **2.2 The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) process**

The first part of the SA process involved collecting background information for inclusion in the Scoping Report which enabled the scope of the SA to be determined. It was also a consultation document which allowed organisations and individuals to comment on the proposed scope of the SA. Consultation responses received helped to ensure that the draft SA was comprehensive and robust enough to support the SPD during later stages of full public consultation and examination.

Paper copies of the draft Scoping Report were sent out on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2007 and recipients given a period of five weeks, until 14<sup>th</sup> September, to make comments. Government requires that three specific bodies (as required by the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive) were consulted at this stage – Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency. Although not statutorily required, the following bodies were also consulted:

- Government Office for the North West
- The North West Regional Assembly
- Greater Manchester Ecology Unit
- Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
- Rochdale Civic Society
- Rochdale Local Strategic Partnership
- Home Builders Federation

Consultation responses have been received, recorded and incorporated into the Scoping Report as required. A draft SA has been completed for this SPD and is subject to public consultation as part of the SPD consultation exercise between 19<sup>th</sup> March and 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2008.

## **2.3 PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

In accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement, public consultation will include direct notification to consultees, key local stakeholders and other interested parties. Publicity will also be provided through the local press.

On publication of the draft SPD a public consultation exercise will be undertaken to raise awareness and interest. In accordance with Regulation 17, a public notice will be published in a local newspaper which clearly states the duration of the public consultation period and the places and times at which the SPD can be inspected.

Public consultation is scheduled to commence on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March and end on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April by which date all comments must be received. The following consultation methods will be used:

- The draft SPD will be available on the Council's website [Rochdale.gov.uk/council and democracy/consultations.aspx](http://Rochdale.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/consultations.aspx) . Comments may be made online;
- Hard copies of documents will be available for inspection at Council offices, libraries and community centres as detailed in Appendix 1;
- Letters will be sent to all parties Rochdale Council considers to have an interest in the SPD including statutory consultees, general consultees, developers, interest groups and community interests. The letter will include details of the role of the SPD and how and where to view the draft SPD and associated documents including the draft SA and make comment;

- A public notice will be placed in the Rochdale Observer, Heywood Advertiser and Middleton Guardian newspapers. A press release will also be issued prior to commencement of public consultation.
- Paper or electronic copies of the SPD or associated documents are available on request (see contact details below).
- Those who wish to view this in large print or in Braille or for translation into Bengali or Urdu should contact the office below to arrange this.

On completion of the consultation exercise, the SPD will be revised as required to reflect responses. It will be submitted to Cabinet in May 2008 for adoption.

### **3. ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE**

For further advice or information relating to this document please contact:

Strategic Planning Team  
Planning and Regulation Service  
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council  
PO Box 32  
Telegraph House  
Baillie Street  
Rochdale  
OL16 1JH

Telephone: 01706 924371

Email: [strategic.planning@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:strategic.planning@rochdale.gov.uk)

Website: [www.rochdale.gov.uk/council\\_and\\_democracy/consultations.aspx](http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/consultations.aspx)

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Venues for public inspection of Energy and New Development SPD (subject to normal opening hours)**

#### **Council Information Points:**

Planning and Regulation Reception, Floor 1, Telegraph House, Rochdale  
Rochdale Information Centre, Floor 2, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, Rochdale  
Kirkholt Information Centre, 46 The Strand, Kirkholt, Rochdale  
Heywood Information Centre, 44-46 Market Street, Heywood  
Middleton Information Centre, Sadler Street, Middleton  
Milnrow Information centre, 82 Dale Street, Milnrow  
Littleborough Information Centre, Council Offices, Hare Hill Park, Littleborough

#### **Libraries**

Wheatsheaf Library, Baillie Street, Rochdale  
Balderstone Library, Balderstone Park, Rochdale  
Belfield Library, Belfield Community School, Samson Street, Rochdale  
Castleton Library, 881 Manchester Road, Rochdale  
Norden Library, Norden Community School, Shawfield Lane, Rochdale  
Smallbridge Library, Stevenson Square, Rochdale  
Spotland Library, Ings Lane, Rochdale

Heywood Library, Church Street, Heywood  
Darnhill Library, Argyle Parade, Heywood

Middleton Library, Long Street, Middleton  
Alkrington Library, Kirkway  
Langley Library, Windermere Road, Middleton  
Middleton Junction Library, Jumbo Social Centre, Grimshaw Lane, Middleton

Littleborough Library, Hare Hill Park, Littleborough  
Milnrow Library, Newhey Road, Milnrow  
Smithybridge Library, 121/3 Smithybridge Road, Littleborough  
Wardle Library, 448 Bh Road, Wardle, Rochdale