

# **Rochdale MBC Draft Travel Planning and New Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

## **STATEMENT OF CONSULTATION**

**MARCH 2009**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1** Rochdale Council is in the process of preparing a Travel Planning and New Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This document elaborates on Policy A/12 and supports Policy A/2 of the Unitary Development Plan (UDP). It is anticipated that these policies will be carried forward in substance to the Local Development Framework (LDF). This SPD is part of a series of documents on different policy areas produced since the Borough's UDP was adopted in June 2006.

**1.2** The SPD offers practical guidance to promoters of major commercial / employment, residential and educational developments, and their agents, in preparing travel plans to mitigate the impact of their proposals on the operation of the transport network. Travel Plans, when successfully implemented, have an impact on suppressing or reducing traffic levels and therefore congestion and offer benefits to end users and occupiers of major developments through improving access to employees, clients, residents and students. They can also help to promote healthy travel on foot or by cycle and bus and rail services which offer an alternative to car travel. Car sharing can also bring networking benefits which can informally enhance business operations.

**1.3** This consultation statement sets out the whole of the SPD preparation process from pre consultation to the anticipated approval date of September 2009. It details how and when the public, interest groups, statutory organisations and stakeholders will be consulted. This is based on the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

#### **1.4 Timetable for Preparation of the Travel Planning and New Development SPD**

<b>Stage</b>	<b>Month/Year</b>
Document First drafted	November 2007 to March 2008
Front Loaded Informal Consultation on initial draft with key stakeholders and other Council services	June 2008 to December 2008
Informal consultation with Cabinet member	20 <sup>th</sup> November 2008
Draft Travel Planning and New Development SPD approved by Cabinet for formal consultation	26 <sup>th</sup> January 2009
Formal Public Consultation Period	2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2009 to 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2009
Process comments and consultation responses	May 2009 to June 2009
Amend Consultation Draft and seek Cabinet Approval of the SPD	July 2009 to August 2009
Adopt Final Travel Planning and New Development SPD	September 2009

**1.6** The Consultation Draft of the Travel Planning and New Development SPD is available for public consultation with the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal. The consultation period is 7 weeks (from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009 to Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009).

## **2. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN SO FAR**

**2.1** In advance of the publication of the Travel Planning and New Development SPD Consultation Draft some informal consultation was conducted with key stakeholders, other services of the council and the cabinet member prior to its approval at Cabinet. This was to

- establish a robust evidence/information base and consistency between proposed policies and the practicalities of delivery,
- ensuring consistency between Rochdale MBC's approach to travel plans with partners such as the Highways Agency, Department for Transport, Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive etc,
- ensuring all the key issues and best practice is included.

**2.2** These have influenced the SPD's content and provided a good basis for the wider public and stakeholder consultation process which is starting. The consultation that has taken place to date is:

- June to August 2008 - Informal consultation on an initial draft of the SPD offering the following organisations with an early opportunity to comment :
  - Development Control, and Sustainability Teams in Rochdale MBC,
  - IMPACT and Kingsway Partnerships,
  - Highways Agency and Government Office for the North West (GO North West)
  - Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive and Greater Manchester Joint Transport Unit.
- 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008 - Meeting with Cabinet Member for Environment & Sustainability;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2008 Meeting to receive comments from the Council's Sustainability Team;
- 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009 Cabinet consider document and approve public consultation process.

## **3. FUTURE CONSULTATION ON THE SPD**

**3.1** The consultation process will follow the commitments set out in Rochdale MBC's Statement of Community Involvement 2007 and will be consistent with the consultation requirements on SPD's in Planning Policy Statement 12 on Local Development Frameworks.

### **Proposed Methods**

- 1.** Hard copies of the Travel Planning and New Development Supplementary Planning Document and related documents will be available for inspection at libraries and Council Information Points.
- 2.** Website – the consultation documents will be available on the Council website [www.rochdale.gov.uk/yourviews](http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/yourviews) to view and download. Comments can be made to these documents directly via the consultation portal hosted by 'Limehouse'.
- 3.** Letters of participation will be sent to those organisations that have not registered with the LDF consultation portal, but may have an interest in commenting on this SPD.

4. Media – Public Notices will be placed in the Rochdale Observer on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009 and both the Heywood Advertiser and Middleton and North Manchester Guardian on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2009. Press releases will also be sent to those newspapers with the intention of them writing articles to promote the consultation process and workshop to their readership and informing readers how they can access and comment on the SPD.

5. Council Communication :- Letters or emails to be sent to local councillors, adjoining district and county councils, and to the Local Strategic Partnership informing them of the consultation process and how to access the document. A global email will be sent to all employees of the Council.

6. A consultation workshop has been arranged for 10-30am on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2009 in Committee Room 2 at Rochdale Town Hall. Officers will give a presentation on the background and content of the Travel Planning and New Development SPD. This will also provide an opportunity for stakeholders and interested parties to discuss issues with officers and make comments directly.

#### **4. DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

4.1 Copies of the Travel Planning and New Development SPD will be made available to statutory consultees and copies will be available for inspection at the locations highlighted in Appendix 1

4.2 The Travel Planning and New Development SPD comments form, Sustainability Appraisal, Equalities Impact Assessment and the Consultation Statement will be available to view and download from the Council website [www.rochdale.gov.uk/yourviews](http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/yourviews) from 2nd March 2009.

4.3 Additional printed copies of the Supplementary Planning Document and can be requested from the Strategic Planning Service (See address below)

4.4 Those who wish to view this in large print or in Braille should contact the office below to arrange this. Similarly, if anyone requires the translation of this document to be made in Bengali or Urdu they should also contact the office below to make the necessary arrangements.

#### **5. ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE**

For further information relating to this document please contact:

Strategic Planning Service  
Planning & Regulation  
Rochdale Council  
Floor 2, Telegraph House  
Bailie Street  
Rochdale  
Po Box 32  
OL161JH

Tel: 01706 924361

By email: [Strategic.planning@Rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:Strategic.planning@Rochdale.gov.uk)

Website: [www.rochdale.gov.uk/yourviews](http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/yourviews)

## **Appendix 1**

### **Council Information Points:**

Planning and Regulation Reception, Floor 1, Telegraph House, Baillie Street, Rochdale  
Rochdale Information Centre, Floor 2, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, 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, Harehill Park, Littleborough  
Kirkholt Information Centre, 46 The Strand, Kirkholt, Rochdale

### **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  
Smallbridge Library, Stevenson Square, Rochdale  
Spotland Library, Ings Lane, Rochdale  
Norden Library, Norden Community School, Shawfield Lane. Rochdale

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

Middleton Library, Long Street, Middleton  
Alkrington Library, Kirkway, Middleton  
Langley Library, Windermere Road, Middleton

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