

Report of: Planning Services Business Manager

To: Executive Board – 29th January 2007
Council – 12th February 2007

Item No:

Title of Report : Supplementary Planning Document (SPD):
Parking Standards, Transport Assessments and Travel
Plans.



Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To adopt the Supplementary Planning Document on
Parking Standards, TAs and TPs.



Key decision: No

Portfolio Holder: Cllr John Goddard

Scrutiny Responsibility: Environment



Area(s) affected: All

Report Approved by



Portfolio Holder: Councillor John Goddard

Legal: Legal and Democratic Services (Jeremy Thomas)



Finance: Financial Management (Emma Burson)

Strategic Director: Sharon Cosgrove



Policy Framework: The production of this documents fulfils a commitment of
the Local Development Scheme. It will also support the City Council's vision
of improving the environment where we live and work.



Recommendation(s):

That Executive Board recommend to Council that they:



1. adopt the Supplementary Planning Document on Parking Standards,
Transport Assessments and Travel Plans;
2. authorise the Planning Policy Manager to make any necessary editorial
corrections in the light of further legal advice.



That Council:



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corrections in the light of further legal advice.

Summary

1. In September 2006 Executive Board considered the draft Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) on Parking Standards, Transport Assessments (TAs) and Travel Plans (TPs), and Planning Obligations. They were then subject to a six-week period of public consultation in October 2006.
2. The purpose of this report is to consider responses made to the draft SPD on Parking Standards, TAs and TPs and for Council to adopt the SPD. This will then form part of the Local Development Framework and support policies of the adopted Oxford Local Plan 2001 – 2016.
3. Executive Board are asked to recommend that Council adopt the Supplementary Planning Document. Council is asked to adopt the Document and authorise the Planning Policy Manager to make any editorial corrections.
4. Note that the Planning Obligations SPD will be submitted for adoption at a later date, pending further changes necessary.

Background and context

3. The City Council have committed to the production of this document in the Local Development Scheme (LDS) as approved by Council and by the Secretary of State. They will support and supplement policies of the adopted Oxford Local Plan 2001 – 2016.
4. Once adopted this SPD will form part of the Local Development Framework. This status will allow it to be used in the determination of planning applications as material considerations under Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
5. The document has been produced in line with the procedure and programme set out in the LDS. This process has involved early community involvement (as set out below) and Sustainability Appraisals (SAs) assessing the social, economic and environmental impacts of the documents. The proposed changes suggested in response to the consultation have also been assessed as part of the SA process. The South East England Regional Assembly has confirmed that the document is in general conformity with the adopted Regional Spatial Strategy and the draft South East Plan.

Parking Standards, TAs and TPs SPD

10. The Oxford Local Plan 2001-2016 (OLP) sets out in Section 3.0 the City Council's policies on provision of parking for cars, cycles and powered two-wheelers for new development (Policies TR.3, TR.4, TR.6, TR.11, TR.12, TR.13). These policies are supplemented by parking standards relating to a range of uses, in Appendices 3 and 4. The OLP also sets out the City Council's policies on submission of Transport Assessments (TAs), which should demonstrate the acceptability of a development in accessibility terms; and Travel Plans (TPs), which may be required to ensure the ongoing and future sustainability of travel to a site or sites.

11. The SPD aims to clarify on detailed matters relating to implementation of these policies. In drafting the document, regard was had to relevant national, regional and County-level policies, and relevant research and best practice evidence, some of which have been published since the adoption of the OLP in November 2005. A further key strand of evidence base was informal consultation and feedback from a working group of stakeholders, including development control officers from the City Council, and representatives of the Local Highway Authority (LHA). As such, the document has the full support of the LHA and wider County Council (other than a minor wording change).
12. The document is attached at Appendix A, please note that this version highlights changes in order that proposed amendments can be easily viewed. Note also that
13. During the consultation period, 21 organisations and individuals responded during the consultation period, with a total of 112 comments made; their comments and the officer responses are attached at Appendix B. Those commenting were reasonably balanced between developers' agents on the one hand, and local groups or individuals on the other. Responses were also received from regional and national government agencies. The following general areas were commented upon:
 - application of parking standards to take account of future users' realistic needs, and economic attractiveness of City centres;
 - knock-on effects on highways – both strategic routes and local roads;
 - concern over any limiting of residential parking below standard;
 - concern over inadequate cycle parking standards, and comments on good design;
 - both support for, and concern over, the express requirement to look at cumulative impacts as part of the TA
 - support for, and concerns over, car-free residential development;
 - comments on Home Zone and other street design principles;
 - comments on details of Travel Plans section.
14. A number of changes were made in response to comments received (also listed in Appendix B). These were all made to clarify the text of the SPD, or were additional considerations for developers, e.g. relating to design. No changes have been made to the fundamental approaches set out in the draft SPD.
15. A few factual updates or editorial changes have also been made, including some minor wording changes have been made on the recommendation of the Plain Language Commission, however these are not highlighted.

Recommendations

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Appendices

- A Parking Standards, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans Supplementary Planning Document, tracked change version.
- B Summary of comments made during consultation, officer responses and proposed amendments.

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Background papers: None for this covering report but the policy documents themselves have background papers and other sources of information referenced.