
Development Control Committee – 7th April 2015

Report of the Acting Strategic Director of the Environment, Economy and Housing

Public consultation on the Renewable Energy Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

Purpose of Report

1. To inform Development Control Committee of Cabinet's approval for the Renewable Energy Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to be used as a basis for public consultation commencing on 13th March 2015 for a period of six weeks.

Background

2. The Renewable Energy SPD sets out the guidance on the requirements to comply with Policy ENV7 (Renewable Energy) which is set out in the Black Country Core Strategy (2011). Policy ENV7 requires that, where achievable, all new residential developments of 10 dwellings or over or any non-residential developments of 1000m² or over will need to provide at least 10% of their energy requirements from renewable sources.
3. The purpose of this SPD is:
 - To offer guidance to planning applicants and potential developers on how to calculate the 10% energy requirement of the building;
 - To provide guidance on different types of renewable sources that would be acceptable to meet the 10% renewable energy requirement.
4. Once adopted this SPD will be taken into account in making planning decisions for the applications that fall within the criteria set out in Policy ENV7.
5. This SPD has been drafted with the assistance and expertise of stakeholders and key Council Officers throughout its preparation as well as taking on board best practice from other local authorities around the Country.
6. The draft document is currently subject to a period of consultation which is running from Friday 13th March to Friday 24th April 2015. During that time the document is available to view at the reception area at 4 Ednam Road, Dudley Council Plus, as well as the main libraries and on the Council's website. This document is also available on the Committee Management Information System and a paper copy is in the Members Room. A drop in session for Members was held on 19th March.
7. Any representations received during the consultation period will be considered and, where appropriate, will be incorporated into the final SPD which will be presented to Cabinet in the summer of 2015 for adoption.

Finance

8. The preparation of the document will be funded from existing budgets and resource dedicated to the production of Development Plan Documents and other statutory planning documents.

Law

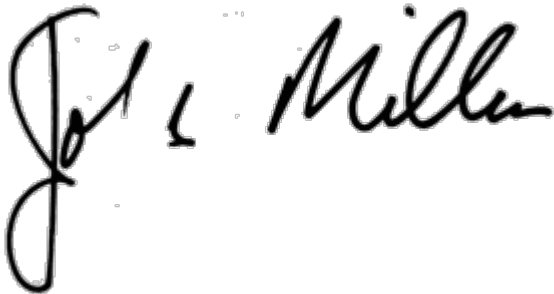
9. Following consultation and adoption the Renewable Energy SPD will become a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. The SPD is being prepared under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

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 like, promoting equal opportunities for all.

Recommendation

11. That Development Control notes Cabinet's decision to approve the Renewable Energy SPD for consultation commencing on Friday 11th July 2014 for a period of six weeks.



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List of Background Papers

Renewable Energy SPD- Consultation Document