

Supplementary Planning Document – Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Environment, Item 7

Committee:	Environment Committee	Agenda Item
Date:	30 October 2007	7
Title:	Supplementary Planning Document – Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy	
Author:	Melanie Jones, Principal Planning Officer, Planning and Housing Strategy	Item for decision

Summary

1. This report presents the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for adoption, following consultation.

Recommendations

2. Members adopt the SPD to form part of the Uttlesford Local Development Framework, as a supplement to the Uttlesford Local Plan adopted in January 2005.

Background Papers

3. Supplementary Planning Document – Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Draft for Consultation, August 2007

Supplementary Planning Document – Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Sustainability Appraisal, July 2007

Supplementary Planning Document – Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Summary of Consultation Responses, October 2007

Impact

Communication/Consultation	When the SPD is adopted it will be made generally available to town and parish council's, agents and members of the public via the website and on request.
Community Safety	N/A
Equalities	N/A
Finance	N/A
Human Rights	N/A
Legal implications	N/A
Sustainability	The adoption of the SPD will contribute to the delivery of sustainable development within the District and support the Council's

Supplementary Planning Document – Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Environment, Item 7

	strategy for climate change.
Ward-specific impacts	All
Workforce/Workplace	N/A

Situation

4. The Local Development Scheme included five SPDs that the Council would prepare as part of the new Local Development Framework to supplement policies in the Uttlesford Local Plan, adopted in 2005. The Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy SPD is the last of these. The SPD will provide developers and applicants with additional advice and information about the implementation of Policies GEN2 and ENV15 in the Local Plan.
5. The draft SPD was prepared after consultation about the issues and options with local groups and organisations, town and parish councils and agents.
6. Formal consultation on the draft SPD and the Sustainability Appraisal took place between 17 August and 28 September 2007. In accordance with the Statement of Community Involvement the SPD was advertised in the local press and copies were sent to town and parish councils, members of the agents panel, Friends of the Earth, LA21 and other relevant groups and organisations. All the comments received together with an officer response are set out in the summary of consultation responses which is available on the website.
7. Generally objections to the SPD centre on possible duplication with other advice like the Code for Sustainable Homes and the Urban Place Supplement which the Council adopted as SPD earlier this year. Since this was adopted the Council's Scrutiny Committee has completed its Climate Change Investigation and the recommendations from this are reflected in the SPD. Other objections are concerned that the Council is seeking to introduce requirements in the SPD which have no basis in policy. The SPD, however seeks to "encourage" not "require" and this is considered to be a sound approach. A number of changes are being proposed to the draft in response to the representations received. The document that officers are now recommending should be adopted is attached to this report as Appendix **.
8. Following adoption the SPD will be published on the website and it will be available at the Council Offices and libraries. If anyone is unhappy with the decision to adopt the SPD they can apply to the High Court for permission to apply for a judicial review within 3 months of the adoption date.

Risk Analysis

Supplementary Planning Document – Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Environment, Item 7

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
If the SPD is not adopted the programme set out in the Local Development Scheme will not be met	Low	Programme slippage may have implications for Planning Delivery Grant	All steps have been taken to ensure that there are no outstanding issues which would require members to defer a decision to adopt the SPD