



Public report
Cabinet Member

Cabinet Member

6th August 2018

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities – Councillor E Ruane

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Deputy Chief Executive - Place

Ward(s) affected:

All

Title:

Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document

Is this a key decision?

No

This SPD provides draft technical guidance which supports the newly adopted Local Plan.

Executive Summary:

Following a period of public examination of the Coventry Local Plan and the issuing of the Inspector's report in November 2017, the Coventry Local Plan was approved at Cabinet on 28th November 2017 and adopted by Council on 5th December 2017. The Coventry Local Plan became the basis for determining planning applications from 6th December 2017.

The Coventry Local Plan includes Policy HW1, stating that “*..All major development proposals will be required to demonstrate that they would have an acceptable impact on health and wellbeing..*” and that “*..All Health Impact Assessments shall be undertaken in accordance with the Council's Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document..*”.

This SPD is intended to provide technical guidance and support to Policy HW1 of the new Local Plan and the delivery of Health Impact Assessments. This will help deliver one of the overall objectives of the Plan which is to help improve the health and wellbeing of Coventry people.

The Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document and the accompanying appendices are attached as Appendix A(i).

Recommendations:

The Cabinet Member is requested to:

1. Note the consultation statement included at appendix 3.
2. Approve a final round of consultation on the Health Impact Assessments SPD. The consultation is proposed to run for just over 6 weeks between Wednesday 8th August and Friday 21st September 2018.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix 1: Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document (HIA SPD) and Appendices to HIA SPD

Appendix 2: SPD Consultation Statement.

Background papers:

None

Other useful documents

The report for the Adoption of the new Coventry City Council Local Plan was considered at Council on 5th December 2017. All papers are available under Agenda item 13 on <http://democraticservices.coventry.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=130&MId=11416>

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title: Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 In recent years there has been a renewed understanding and focus on the impact of the built environment and health. This is shown by reference in the National Planning Practice Guidance to the need for local planning authorities to ensure that health and wellbeing, and health infrastructure, are considered in decision making.
- 1.2 This has led to the inclusion of a Health and Wellbeing chapter in the adopted Coventry Local Plan, for the first time in over 50 years. This chapter contains Policy HW1, as mentioned in the Executive Summary.

- 1.3 The Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document is aimed at individuals and organisations involved in submitting a planning application as well as those involved in the determination and enforcement of planning applications, for all relevant developments (residential, commercial and mixed developments).
- 1.4 Supplementary Planning Documents are designed to build upon and provide more detailed advice and guidance on the policies in the Local Plan. They do not introduce new policy and should be used to help applicants make successful applications and are not to be used to add unnecessarily to the financial burdens on development, as per paragraph 153 of the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 1.5 By putting the SPD out to public consultation, not only are Coventry City Council meeting the statutory duty for consultation, but also providing an opportunity for interested parties to provide feedback on the Health Impact Assessment SPD and for this to be taken into consideration in the formation of the final document.
- 1.6 By way of summary, the SPD is structured around a detailed template to support the delivery of a HIA for relevant development proposals. It takes users on a step by step process through a range of key health and wellbeing considerations relative to new developments, having regard to matters of build quality, design, relationship with the natural environment and links to transport and active travel.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 As the Coventry Local Plan has already been adopted, only two potential options have been considered.
- 2.2 The first of these options has been set out in the recommendation to this report. By going out to a final round of consultation for the Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document, Coventry City Council would meet their legal requirements and also allow modifications to the final version of the document to allow the document to meet the needs of all that would use it. This would ensure effective implementation of Policy HW1: Health Impact Assessments in the recently adopted Coventry Local Plan.

The second option would be to not progress the Supplementary Planning Document and to rely solely on the policies in the Local Plan and how applicants interpret those policies. This option has not been recommended as it would place greater reliance on how applicants use the new policies which could generate greater inconsistency in evidence submitted in support of applications and lead to greater resource pressure for planning officers managing day to day caseloads. As such this technical guidance is important to the correct understanding of the new Health and Wellbeing policy in the new Local Plan. This level of detail was not provided within the Local Plan itself though as it would have extended the complexity and length of the Plan substantially.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 An initial round of consultation was undertaken in relation to this SPD during 12 February and 23 March 2018.
- 3.2 A total of 7 responses were received via email and post to the consultation as well as a range of informal comments and suggestions made through email, stakeholder meetings

and consultation drop in events. A summary of the representations made, details of the respondent and the proposed action in response to the representations are set out in appendix 2. In general terms the comments were supportive of the SPD with comments focusing more on matters of principle, technical adjustment or general observations. They can be summarised as follows:

- Additional clarification is needed about how HIA's are compiled and considered through the planning application process.
- Additional links to other documents and SPD's would be helpful including green infrastructure studies and flood risk assessments.
- Importance of making sure information submitted with the HIA does not simply duplicate information provided elsewhere in the planning process.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 Subject to approval by the Cabinet Member it is proposed to consult on the SPD for a period of just over 6 weeks between the 8th August and 21st September 2018.
- 4.2 This round of consultation will seek formal representations to the SPD. Following this round of consultation, all responses will be reviewed and the SPD will be updated for the final time. The SPD will then be presented for adoption via Cabinet Member meeting and Council in late 2018.

5. Comments from the Director of Finance and Corporate Services

5.1 Financial implications

Unlike the Local Plan or an Area Action Plan, a SPD is not subject to public examination. It therefore does not incur the same level of costs as a higher level Plan. As such, any costs associated with the delivery of this SPD will be met through existing budgets attributed to the Public Health team and Planning and Housing Policy team (as appropriate).

5.2 Legal implications

Supporting the recommended proposal will ensure that the Health Impact Assessment SPD will meet the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 No. 767 Part 5 (Application and Interpretation). <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/767/part/5/made>

Supplementary Planning Documents are produced under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Supplementary Planning Documents are subject to supporting evidence and consultation but are not publicly examined or subject to Sustainability Appraisal. As such, their 'material weight' in planning terms is less than that of a Local Plan, Area Action Plan or other Development Plan Document. Notwithstanding this, SPD's must be adopted by a resolution of the Local Planning Authority and they are still important planning policy documents that provide technical guidance and supporting information to those submitting planning applications. A SPD does not introduce new policy, instead it builds and expands upon policies set out in the higher level plan (in this case the new Local Plan) to ensure they are interpreted and delivered in the most efficient and effective way.

6. Other implications

None

6.1 How will this contribute to the Council Plan (www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/)?

The Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document will deliver against the Council Plan, in particular it will contribute to:

- Supply, choice & quality of housing
- Creating the infrastructure
- Reducing the impact of poverty
- Create an attractive, cleaner & greener city
- Improving educational outcomes
- Protecting our most vulnerable people
- Make communities safer
- Improve health and wellbeing
- Reducing health inequalities
- Active communities & empowered citizens

6.2 How is risk being managed?

The recommended consultation period is associated with minimal risk. Engagement from other parties has been sought throughout the development of the Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document and the Coventry Local Plan policy that this is supporting (HW1: Health Impact Assessments) has been endorsed by the Planning Inspector.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

No direct impact

6.4 Equalities / EIA

A full Equality and Consultation Assessment (ECA) was undertaken as part of developing the Local Plan. As this SPD supports the delivery and technical interpretation of policies within the Plan no further assessment has been undertaken. As part of that analysis, the Council had due regard to its public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act (2010).

Notwithstanding, an initial examination has shown that the Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document can contribute to significant benefits to the health and wellbeing of the current and future population of Coventry, with a particular focus on reducing health inequalities and therefore benefiting some of the most vulnerable people and different population groups in Coventry.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

The Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document encourages behaviours and designs for new developments that will have positive impacts on the environment and climate change.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

No direct implications

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www.coventry.gov.uk/councilmeetings

Appendix 1: Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document (HIA SPD) and Appendices to HIA SPD

Appendix 2: SPD Consultation Statement.