

Consultation on Transport Supplementary Planning Document

Date: 1st March 2022

Report of: Chief Planning Officer

Report to: Development Plans Panel

What is this report about?

Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- This report seeks Members views on the Adoption Draft Transport Supplementary Planning Document (SPD); prior to the Chief Planning Officer carrying out a period of consultation on it. The Transport SPD replaces four existing transport related SPD's (the Street Design Guide, Travel Plans, Parking and Public Transport and Developer Contributions). These will be revoked once the Transport SPD is adopted. In consolidating these existing documents the Transport SPD provides a more efficient document and also updates to take account of local and national policy changes, as well as clarity on the impacts of development.
- The Transport SPD helps to implement the Council's Best Council Plan objectives by promoting sustainable travel, healthy streets and low carbon infrastructure as well as more guidance on the implementation of the Council's statutory Development Plan (current policies in the saved Unitary Development Plan, Core Strategy and Site Allocations Plans) and the Connecting Leeds Strategy. In doing this the document helps applicants make successful planning applications and supports infrastructure delivery.
- Consultation was carried out in 2020 on an Initial Draft SPD and this report and the Statement of Consultation are focussed on comments received at that stage, rather than re-visiting the entire document itself. Members of DPP were reminded of the contents of the Initial Draft SPD at a workshop in December 2021.

Recommendations

Members of Development Plan Panel are requested to:

- a) Note the contents of the report and provide comments on the changes to the Adoption Draft Transport SPD as set out in **Appendix 1** and the resulting amended SPD document at **Appendix 2**
- b) Recommend that the Chief Planning Officer commences consultation on the Adoption Draft Transport SPD (namely **Appendices 1 & 2**) for a period of 4 weeks between 3rd March and 31st March
- c) Recommend to the Chief Planning Officer that, in consultation with the Executive Member, and subject to the outcome of the consultation he adopts the SPD under his delegated powers

- d) Note that upon Adoption of the Transport SPD the Public Transport Developer Contributions SPD 2006, Street Design Guide SPD 2009, Travel Plans SPD 2015, and Parking SPD 2016 will be formally revoked.

Wards affected: ALL

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 The adoption of a Transport SPD will be important to update, clarify and consolidate detailed technical guidance.

What impact will this proposal have?

- 2 The SPD will assist those wishing to submit planning applications for development and provide clarity to investors in the City by explaining in more detail how the Council's policies on . It will also help make improvements to the highway network to address the effects of cumulative traffic impact from development on the highway network by clarifying the cumulative impact contributions and mechanism for collecting contributions from development.
- 3 The SPD provides technical guidance on:
 - a) Street Design
 - b) Parking
 - c) Travel Plans
 - d) Highways Cumulative Impact

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 4 The Transport SPD was subject to initial consultation in January 2020 after an initial discussion of the document by Development Plan Panel in November 2019. Since then the Council has considered the representations made in detail and amended the document. The length of time between initial and final consultation is because of resource pressures and reviewed priorities brought about by the pandemic. The SPD is now ready for further consultation to seek final views of the public and relevant stakeholders.
- 5 A summary of the main issues raised during the initial consultation and how they have been addressed is included at **Appendix 1**.
- 6 In short, the main themes of the consultation response were as follows:
 - a) Part 5 Highways Cumulative Impact. Following consideration of the matters raised in the responses the SPD has been amended in line with the Consultation Statement. Contributions will be used to offset growth in vehicle trips by improving infrastructure for public transport, walking and cycling.
 - b) Technical Matters (Street Types, Junctions & Visibility, Parking Ratios). Following consideration of the matters raised in the responses the SPD has been amended in line with the Consultation Statement.
 - c) Transport SPD and the Climate Emergency. Following consideration of the matters raised in the responses the SPD has been amended in line with the Consultation Statement.
- 7 It is noted that Members raised the Climate Emergency as a key theme in its consideration of the SPD in 2019. Whilst every effort has been made to update the guidance to reflect the Council's declared Climate Emergency (including by reference to the Connecting Leeds

Transport Strategy and Action Plan) it is not yet possible to pre-empt the policies on low-carbon, sustainable infrastructure and detail on 20-minute neighbourhoods which are currently being developed as part of the Local Plan Update. The SPD will be updated as necessary to respond to the Adopted Local Plan in due course.

What are the resource implications?

- 8 The preparation of the Transport SPD has been met from existing budgets and will lead to a more efficient approach to providing detailed technical guidance to developers.

What are the legal implications?

- 9 The preparation of an SPD is governed by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 which requires the local planning authority to consult when preparing an SPD, provide a summary of the main issues raised and set out how those issues have been addressed.
- 10 In due course, once the SPD is adopted (pending any consultation responses received on its Adoption Draft version) it will be necessary to revoke the documents it replaces as follows; the Public Transport Developer Contributions SPD 2006, Street Design Guide SPD 2009, Travel Plans SPD 2015, and Parking SPD 2016. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 govern the revocation of SPDs.
- 11 Therefore, it is proposed that upon Adoption of the Transport SPD (subject to the outcomes of the consultation) the Chief Planning Officer will provide a statement of the revocation of the four SPDs above on the web-site and write to the Council's statutory consultees along with those who made representations on the SPDs at the time, notifying them that the supplementary planning documents have been withdrawn, and remove them from the web-site.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 12 There are risks of significant objections being presented to the Council as part of this consultation. If representations are of a significant scale they will be considered and in discussion with the Executive Member may be brought to Panel for further comment from Members prior to Adoption.

Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

- 13 The SPD supports all three of the Council's Key Pillars.

In relation to Inclusive Growth the SPD provides advice to Developers to enable the design of streets for residential and commercial development to an adoptable standard which will support the development industry. Ensuring new developments are served by alternative transport options to the private car will ensure inclusivity. The promotion of active travel modes through design and travel planning will support health and wellbeing. Reduction in reliance on internal combustion engine vehicles by promotion of electric vehicle charging and sustainable travel options will support the objectives of the climate emergency.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

- 14 The Council considered making no change to the current SPDs but this was discounted as a reasonable option because the SPDs were in need of updating and there was a lack of clarity

on the operation of cumulative contributions for impacts on the highway required by the Site Allocations Plan site requirements.

How will success be measured?

15 The SPDs will help inform development decisions taken by the Local Planning Authority and infrastructure delivery, both of which are monitored as part of the Authority Monitoring Report and Infrastructure Funding Statement.

What is the timetable for implementation?

16 Consultation will commence on 3rd March and run for 4 weeks. The Council will consider the responses received and, subject to the number and content of any consultation responses received, it is envisaged that the SPD will be adopted by the Chief Planning Officer in May 2022.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Statement of Consultation

Appendix 2: Adoption Draft Transport SPD

Background papers

17 None