



Agenda:

Originator: Dr T Knowland

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Report of the Director of City Development

Scrutiny Board: Environment & Neighbourhoods

Date: 8th February 2010

Subject: Recycling

Electoral Wards Affected:

All



Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Background

1.1 The Environment and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board is conducting an inquiry into Recycling. As part of the terms of reference, the Board is keen to discuss the relationship between Environment and Neighbourhoods and City Development in ensuring that future recycling service proposals are reflected in planning policy and guidance. Members also wish to discuss the role of the Council in ensuring that developers are making adequate provision for recycling within their planning proposals.

2.0 Guidance to developers

2.1 In terms of written material, the main document that will be used to guide developers to ensuring that they make sufficient provision for recycling within their developments will be the (currently draft) Sustainable Design & Construction SPD which replaces the Sustainable Development Design Guide (Leeds City Council 1998). The document is still in its consultation phase and will not be adopted until 2010/11.

2.2 The structure and content of the SPD is based on the categories and environmental issues covered by the Code for Sustainable Homes and includes guidance to developers on Energy & CO2 emissions, Surface water run-off, Health & wellbeing, Water, Waste, Management, Materials, Pollution and Ecology.

2.3 In the Code for Sustainable Homes, credits are assigned to each of these nine categories with minimum standards applying in some categories. The rating a home

receives depends on how it measures up in each category. The policy in the SPD will encourage major developments to reach Code Level 3 in 2010, level 4 in 2013 and level 6 in 2016.

3.0 SPD guidance on waste

- 3.1 Provision of adequate storage for recyclable and non-recyclable waste is one of the minimum requirements within the Code. The attached extract from the draft SPD includes standards that have been agreed with colleagues in Environment & Neighbourhoods.
- 3.2 By following the guidance in the SPD, developers are encouraged to consider waste management issues at an early stage in the design of a development. The adoption of the SPD will mean that sustainable design and construction are material considerations to be given weight in considering development proposals. The measures recommended in the guidance do not guarantee compliance with the Code for Sustainable Homes (nor with BREEAM – the non residential equivalent), but are a menu of good practice options that can be considered and used to drive up the sustainability performance of new development.
- 3.3 The final version of the SPD will be consulted on both internally and externally and will be fully illustrated, incorporating local examples and case studies of good practice to inspire future developments.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 That Scrutiny Board note the content of the report and provide any comments on the waste guidance in the current draft Sustainable Design & Construction SPD.