



London Borough of Hackney Equality Impact Assessment Form

Title and Purpose of Policy:

Title of Policy: Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Document– for Public Participation.

Purpose: The principal purpose of the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD is to provide detailed guidance to developers, home owners and council officers to ensure that works or new developments are completed in line with national and regional sustainability policies. It elaborates and provides more detail on the Core Strategy and the Development Management Local Plan in respect of particular development pressures and typologies in Hackney. The draft policies are in line with the spatial vision and objectives set out in the Core Strategy, the spatial expression of the Council’s Sustainable Community Strategy, while taking into account policies set out in the GLA’s Draft Sustainable Design and Construction SPD

Following endorsement by Cabinet, the SPD and Technical Appendices underwent Public Participation in accordance with Regulation 12 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (2012 (‘Regulations’) over a period of 12 weeks in order to inform residents, businesses and stakeholders of the preparation of the SPD and to invite representations (feedback and ideas) on the content of the SPD.

Officer Responsible:

Name: Olly Hombersley	Ext: 8089
Directorate: Legal, HR and Regulatory Services	Department/Division: Spatial Planning

NB: This assessment must be reviewed and agreed by the relevant Assistant Director, who is responsible for ensuring it is made publicly available and is in line with guidance (staffroom.hackney.gov.uk/equality-impact-assessments.htm).

Assistant Director: Cathy Gallagher

Date:

Comment:

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- 1. Please summarise the service, function, policy, initiative or saving.**

The SPD will support the delivery of the Core Strategy and the Development Management Local Plan, the Borough wide spatial planning documents and promote the sustainable growth, development and regeneration of the Borough. In particular, it supports the ‘Growth Area’ strategy of sustainable development for the growth areas of Dalston, Hackney Central, Hackney Wick, Shoreditch and the City Fringe, the ‘Kingsland Corridor’, Manor House, rail corridors and the areas of the Council’s housing estate regeneration programme.

The SPD seeks to provide technical guidance and information to developers, home owners and development management officers in order to inform them on the specific aspects of sustainable development that are prioritised by the Council to provide the most sustainable and adaptable buildings possible, in line with current legislation.

2. Who are the main people that will be affected?

The SPD is a Borough-wide document and as such is likely to affect the following external groups:

- Residents, businesses, community/third sector groups and people that visit the Borough;
- Developers, landowners and investors in the Borough; and
- Other public sector bodies and Infrastructure providers.

Internally, the SPD will be used to help guide decision making on development proposals and in the consideration of planning applications. It will be of particular relevance to Council Officers in Development Management, Spatial Planning, Regeneration and Delivery, Housing, Policy and Strategy, Transportation and Conservation and Urban Design and Pollution.

3. What research or consultation(s) have been carried out?

To date, both pre-consultation on the SPD has been undertaken internally within the Council and had been peer reviewed by sustainability experts, and also externally through a 12 week public consultation to ensure that the document provides sound and coherent advice

The content of the SPD has been informed by The London Plan, the GLA's Draft Sustainable Design and Construction SPG, Hackney's Core Strategy, the draft Development Management Local Plan, Planning Policy Statements and Guidance notes.

Following endorsement by Cabinet, the SPD has undergone a public consultation that ran for a period of 12 weeks from the 13th August 2015 (exceeding the requirements of the 'Regulations' and Council's Statement of Community Involvement') to inform residents, businesses and stakeholders of the preparation of the guidance and to invite representations / comments / feedback on the content of the SPD.

The consultation received a total of 8 submissions from Statutory Consultees and local stakeholders, raising a total of 42 points for amendment. These covered general issues from updating reference materials and improving definitions to minor amendments.

The thorough consultation programme as set out, involved publication of information on Hackney's website, taking out adverts in the Hackney Today to inform resident's community and faith groups, business groups, and other key stakeholders. The facility to provide non English language copies of the SPD was made available as required. Comments and feedback were also be sought from stakeholders including; the Environment Agency, English Heritage, CIBSE, Hackney Homes, Sustainable Hackney and Industry bodies. The Council also held two drop in sessions at the Hackney Service Centre on the 16th and 30th September to allow members of the public to come and discuss the document with a Council Officer.

4. Equality Impacts

As detailed above, this EQIA focuses on the consultation process for the SPD, however the overarching spatial policy framework of the Core Strategy and the DMLP was identified in its final EqIA as having a positive impact on the built environment and different groups in the Borough. As the SPD will help to deliver the Core Strategy and the DMLP, the following spatial themes have been included to help demonstrate the positive effect the SPD can have:

- Delivering sustainable growth – supporting potential population growth, and economic growth, by emphasising the appropriate type and location of development;
- Supporting neighbourhoods and communities – providing supporting social and environmental infrastructure over the next 15 years;

- Dynamic and creative economy – promoting and supporting the vitality and viability of Hackney’s shopping centres and delivering and protecting high quality commercial and employment space;
- Providing better homes – supporting the delivery of new energy efficient residential development including affordable housing;
- A safer, cleaner and greener place – helping to protect the natural environment, enhancing the quality of the Borough’s open space and supporting positive strategies to seek quality environmental design; and
- Climate change and environmental sustainability – tackling climate change including flooding, water consumption, soil, renewable energy, waste production and sustainable transport.

The following tables outline the main issues in planned consultation that may impact on each equalities strand.

4(a) What positive impact could there be overall, on different equality groups, and on cohesion and good relations?

Positive Impact:	
Overall	
Residents within the borough and other key stakeholders had an equal opportunity to have their say throughout the whole of the consultation process. The SPD is expected to help drive sustainable development within the Borough and aid in the delivery of high quality, climate adaptable housing within the borough that will benefit all residents groups equally.	
a) Age None Identified at present	b) Disability The SPD will actively ensure that all developments are built in accordance with the Lifetime Homes criteria
c) Gender The SPD will not discriminate against gender	d) Race The SPD will not discriminate against race
e) Religion/Belief The SPD will not discriminate against religious belief	f) Sexual Orientation The SPD will not discriminate against sexual orientation
g) Other groups None identified	

4(b) What negative impact could there be overall, on different equality groups, and on cohesion and good relations?

Negative Impact:	
Overall	
a) Age None identified at present.	b) Disability None identified at present.
c) Gender None identified at present.	d) Race None identified at present.
e) Religion/Belief None identified at present.	f) Sexual Orientation None identified at present.
g) Other groups None identified at present.	

