

Sustainability Appraisal Statement

Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Design Guide to Residential Development

Background

This Design Guide to Residential Development supports and supplements the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) which was subjected to a sustainability appraisal in January 2003.

The background to sustainability appraisal and the methodology and outcomes of the sustainability appraisal of the UDP are described in Chapter 5 and Appendix 7 of the Revised Deposit Draft Replacement UDP (February 2004). These two UDP extracts form the basis for the sustainability appraisal of the Guide and should be read in conjunction with it. (They can be found on the Council's website at www.wigan.gov.uk.)

The aim of conducting a sustainability appraisal of the Guide was to discover how, if at all, the introduction of the Guide might influence the sustainability assessments made in 2003 of the relevant UDP policies and proposals.

Process

The sustainability appraisal of the Guide took place on Monday 27 June 2005. It was conducted by three officers from the Planning and Regeneration Department : Nick Taylor (Deputy Director), Ann Stewart (Planning Officer and author of the Guide) and Janet Withington (Sustainability Co-ordinator).

In order to ensure compatibility with the original (2003) UDP sustainability appraisal, a consistent methodology was used to assess the sustainability impact of the Guide. First, the UDP policies which are relevant to the Guide were listed. Then the original (2003) assessment of each of these policies against 19 sustainability criteria was revisited with the content of the Guide in mind.

A judgement was then made about whether the introduction of the Guide influenced these original assessments and, if so, in which direction (positively or negatively). Wherever it was considered that the Guide *would* have an impact on the original assessment, the reasons why were recorded alongside the new "score".

The scoring method used was the same as that used for the sustainability appraisal of the UDP in 2003, namely:

- + Significant positive impact
- O Neutral or no impact
- ? Lack of knowledge makes judgement difficult (or, it will depend on how the policy is translated into action)
- Significant negative impact

Conclusions

The Design Guide to Residential Development was found to make the sustainability impact of the relevant UDP policies significantly more positive, with 68 changes of score in a positive direction in the following areas:

- sustainable regeneration and development;
- environmental and social responsibility;
- biodiversity;
- pollution;
- climate change;
- natural resources;
- mineral use;
- waste management;
- built environment and conservation areas;
- housing;
- crime and disorder;
- social inclusion;
- community involvement;
- health improvement.

No negative sustainability impacts were found.

A full breakdown of these conclusions (showing the UDP policies in question, the 19 sustainability criteria used to assess the policies, the original 2003 appraisal “scores”, the 2005 appraisal “scores” and the reasons for any changes made to the scores) is available on the Council’s website at <http://www.wigan.gov.uk>.

A paper version of relevant website documents may be requested from the Environmental Services Department.

Sustainability Appraisal of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
Design Guide to Residential Development

(Shaded boxes show where a change has been made)

UDP POLICIES →	R1D Design of New Residential Development and House Extensions		EV3 Design		EV3A Design of new Development		EV4 Conservation		EV4A Development and Design in Conservation Areas		EV4B Listed Buildings		A1C Access for All	
SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA ↓														
Criterion 19 – Economic Prosperity	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
Criterion 18 – Health	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+
	Part 3.2.4 (2) : Sustainable Housing and Design Objectives ; Safety and Security.													
Criterion 17 – Poverty	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+
Criterion 16 – Community Involvement	?	+	?	+	?	+	?	+	?	+	?	+	?	+
	Appendix A, Part 4 (A4) : Community Involvement.													
Criterion 15 – Skills and Knowledge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criterion 14 – Social Inclusion	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+
	Reason for changes : Part 2.3 : Achieving High Standards of Design. Part 3.3.4 (1) : Sustainable Housing Design Objectives ; Diversity. Appendix A, Part 4 (A4) : Community Involvement.													
Criterion 13 – Crime and Disorder	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+
	Reason for changes : Part 3.1.1 (2) : House Level; Internal Layout ; Safety and Security. Part 3.2.3 (2) : Landscaping, private gardens and public open spaces. Part 3.3.2 (2) : Neighbourhood Level ; Layout ; Safety and Security. Part 3.2.4 (2) : Sustainable Housing and Design Objectives ; Safety and Security.													
Criterion 12 – Housing	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+
	Part 1.4 : Achieving sustainable housing development. Part 2.1 : Valuing high quality housing development. Part 2.3 : Achieving High Standards of Design. Part 3.1.3 (1) : Sustainable Housing Design Objectives ; Adaptable Design. Part 3.2.4 (1) : Sustainable Housing Design Objectives ; Diversity. Part 3.3.4 (1) : Sustainable Housing Design Objectives ; Diversity.													

