



Development and Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document

Consultation Statement

January 2021

Introduction

This is the Consultation Statement for the Development and Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This has been prepared in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Consultation Statement sets out how the public and other stakeholders will be consulted upon the SPD. Following the consultation period, this statement will be expanded to summarise the comments received during the consultation period, including details of how the issues raised have been dealt with in working towards a final SPD for adoption.

In undertaking public consultation, the Council must act in accordance with the general data protection regulations (GDPR). The Council's commitments are set out in the Council's [data primary privacy note](#) and its [Planning Policy Privacy Notice](#).

Town and Country Planning Regulations

The SPD is produced in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The relevant regulations relating to the consultation process are set out below.

- Regulation 12(a) requires the Council to produce a consultation statement before adoption of the SPD, which must set out who was consulted, a summary of the issues raised, and how these issues were incorporated into the SPD.
- Regulation 12(b) requires the Council to publish the documents (including a 'consultation statement') for a minimum 4 week consultation, specify the date when responses should be received, and identify the address to which responses should be sent.
- Regulation 13 stipulates that any person may make representations about the SPD and that the representations must be made by the end of the consultation date referred to in Regulation 12. This consultation statement sets out this requirement.
- Regulation 35 requires the Council to make consultation documents available during the consultation period on the Council's website and at the principal office and other places within the area that the Council considers appropriate. However, in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020, paper copies will not be available during this consultation due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

The council's SCI was updated in October 2020 and reflects the current challenges arising from the Covid-19 global pandemic. It outlines how the council will consult and involve people in the preparation of local plans, including Supplementary Planning Documents. Consultation on the draft SPD is being carried out in line with the principles of the adopted SCI.

Early Consultation

As part of a collaborative approach, the Council consulted on the Development and Air Quality SPD at the pre-draft stage with key stakeholders and partners to seek views on its proposed scope in order to influence its content and approach. These key stakeholders include:

- Wigan Council's Environmental Protection, Development Management, and Highways and Infrastructure Teams.
- Several housing developers, including Registered Providers, active in the borough.
- Several commercial developers active in the borough
- Transport consultees including Highways England and Transport for Greater Manchester
- Several consultancies specialising in planning, transport and/or air quality.
- Health organisations, including Public Health England
- Environmental consultees including United Utilities, the Environment Agency, Natural England and Lancashire Wildlife Trust.
- Neighbouring local authorities, including the Greater Manchester Combined Authority

The council received responses from Public Health England, Salford City Council and an air quality consultant. All supported the proposed scope of the SPD in principle and provided some guidance and links to good practice to inform the document.

Public Health England suggested the inclusion of a public health and air quality section emphasising the links between poor air quality and respiratory and cardiovascular disease, and between improving air quality and improving health and wellbeing. This has been incorporated into the SPD. They also support approaches which minimise or mitigate public exposure to non-threshold air pollutants, address inequalities, and maximise co-benefits (such as physical activity) and encourage their consideration during the design, implementation and post-implementation stages. They also provided a number of useful links to good practice, relating to sustainability principles and suitable mitigation measures, which have been considered to inform the Draft SPD.

Consultation Information

- Consultation on the SPD is being carried out in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The SPD and Draft Consultation Statement have been made available for inspection by the public for a 6-week period between Tuesday 26 January 2021 and Tuesday 9 March 2021.

- In line with our updated SCI and current Covid-19 restrictions this document will not be made available in physical format in any council offices.
- Further information is available by contacting the Planning Policy team by email at planningpolicy@wigan.gov.uk
- Any person can make representations on the draft SPD before 23:59pm on Tuesday 9 March 2021.
- The Council will send a copy of the adoption statement to the author of any representation which specifically asks for notification of the adoption of the document.
- Representations on the draft SPD can be made via <https://wigan-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/aqspd/aqspd>