

REPORT TO:	Planning Policy Committee 30 January 2024
SUBJECT:	Arun District Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Update
LEAD OFFICER:	Kevin Owen (Planning Policy & Conservation Manager)
LEAD MEMBER:	Cllr Lury (Chair of Planning Policy Committee)
WARDS:	All
CORPORATE PRIORITY / POLICY CONTEXT / CORPORATE VISION:	
The recommendations supports:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the Wellbeing of Arun; • Supporting our environment to support us. 	
DIRECTORATE POLICY CONTEXT:	
The Arun District Design Guide SPD Update will help promote wellbeing, housing and other needs while enhancing the quality of life in a sustainable manner.	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY:	
There are no direct financial implications arising from Arun District Design Guide SPD Update.	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1. On 28 November 2023, the Planning Policy Committee agreed that the Arun Design Guide Update SPD should progress to Public Participation stage (under Regulation 12b of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012). This stage commenced on 4 December 2023 until 5 pm on 12 January 2024. The contents of the update are limited to the proposed new sub chapters F.02, F.03, and F.04 only. Following the public participation period, because of reporting timescales and limited scope of changes proposed, this report recommends member agreement (i.e. adoption) of the focused changes in the SPD update, should only minor changes be received from any representations. However, not all representations have been fully reviewed at the time of writing so, in the event that any representations are received requiring significant changes to the SPD update, a briefing will be given at the meeting and the committee will be requested to approve a further 4-week (Regulation 12) consultation before a further report back in April 2024. Any amended recommendation will be made verbally at the meeting.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. Planning Policy Committee resolves to agree:

- i. That the Design Guide Update Supplementary Planning Document is agreed (adopted).

3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 3.1. The Arun District Design Guide SPD was adopted in January 2021 and since then, the Highway Code has been updated which included changes to the hierarchy of road users and several new requirements regarding cyclists. The Design Guide does not have any guidance which addresses cycle infrastructure and therefore needs to be updated to provide robust advice for designers/applicants and decision makers.
- 3.2. The new sub chapters F.02, F.03, and F.04 of the Design Guide, therefore reflects the Local Transport Note 120 (LTN 120) which is government guidance to local authorities on delivering high quality cycle infrastructure. It reflects current best practice, standards, and legal requirements. Inclusive cycling is an underlying theme throughout so that people cycling of all ages and abilities are considered. The design options include segregation from traffic, measures for cycling at junctions and roundabouts, and updated guidance on crossings, signal design and the associated traffic signs and road markings.
- 3.3. At this stage, the remainder of the Design Guide has not been reviewed so may include references that are superseded. The whole Guide will be appraised as part of the Local Plan update process.

4. DETAIL

- 4.1. SPDs are prepared by the council to support the Local Plan, inform the delivery of infrastructure and to aid applicants in preparing successful development proposals. Following public consultation and adoption by the council, SPDs become a material consideration in determining planning applications. This updated section of the SPD will also undergo public consultation on the proposed changes in Chapters F.02, F.03, and F.04.
- 4.2. The new sub chapter proposed in the update to the Design Guide SPD has been added to address the changes made to the Highway Code and LTN 1/20 to address the balance between cyclists and motorists. To achieve that, the quality of cycling infrastructure must sharply improve and hence the update of the Design Guide.
- 4.3. The aim is to ensure that we are promoting properly protected bike lanes, cycle-safe junctions, and interventions for low-traffic streets to encourage people to cycle safely.
- 4.4. This updated guidance delivers on our commitment to boost design standards and improve safety. It reflects the latest developments in cycle infrastructure design, including proven design elements pioneered by Transport for London and by the Cycle Ambition Cities and reflects the principles in the LTN 1/20.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1. It is important to update the guide to include sub chapters F.02, F.03, and F.04 to ensure that Arun can continue to secure development that is plan led and consistent with sustainable development as well as development which would improve the wellbeing of the people through improved built and natural environments.
- 5.2. The new sub chapters of the guide contain information for applicants on cycling infrastructure design and sets a quality threshold to achieve when designing cycling and walking schemes. It is important to note that the update is only the inclusion of the new sub chapters F.02, F.03, and F.04.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1. The following people/bodies were consulted:
 - The general public
 - All ADC Members
 - ADC Town and Parish Councils
 - West Sussex County Council
 - All consultees on the Planning Policy consultation database
 - Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England
 - ADC Planning Officers and other key service areas in ADC
- 6.2. The responses (Statement of Consultation) to the Design Guide Update SPD consultation held 4 December 2023 - 12 January 2024 can be viewed here: [Supplementary planning information | Arun District Council](#)

7. COMMENTS BY THE GROUP HEAD OF FINANCE/SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 7.1. There are no comments.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1. There are not likely to be any significant risks with this proposal.

9. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP HEAD OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE & MONITORING OFFICER

- 9.1. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 Regulation 8(2) provides that a supplementary planning document (SPD) must contain a reasoned justification of the policies contained in it and in Regulation 8(3) any policies contained in a supplementary planning document must not conflict with the adopted development plan. Regulation 12 then sets out how the public consultation on SPD should be carried out. There are no additional governance or legal implications at this stage not already covered in the body of the report.

10. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT

- 10.1. There are no implications arising for Human Resources.

11. HEALTH & SAFETY IMPACT

11.1. There are no direct implications for Health & Safety, however the design guide update will reflect changes in the highway code which specifically relate to cycle infrastructure and include options such as segregation from traffic, which will offer potential improved safety outcomes.

12. PROPERTY & ESTATES IMPACT

12.1. There are no direct implications for council property.

13. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) / SOCIAL VALUE

13.1. There are no direct adverse implications for Equalities/Social Value.

14. CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT/SOCIAL VALUE

14.1. There are no direct adverse implications for climate change from this report. The provision of safe and suitable cycle and walking schemes will be essential in supporting improvements to both active travel and public transport. This will also support improvements to local air quality and reduce emissions generated through petrol/diesel fueled vehicles.

15. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT

15.1. There are no direct adverse implications for Crime and Disorder.

16. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT

16.1. There are no direct adverse implications for Human Rights.

17. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION / DATA PROTECTION CONSIDERATIONS

17.1. There are no implications for FOI/Data Protection.

CONTACT OFFICER:-

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Background paper

- Design Guide SPD Update Chapter F
- Statement of Consultation
[Supplementary planning information | Arun District Council](#)