

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE – WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2023



Title of Report	AIR QUALITY SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT	
Presented by	Joanne Althorpe Principal Planning Policy Officer	
Background Papers	National Planning Policy Framework (2023) Planning Practice Guidance Chief Planning Letter (DLHUC, 3 March 2023) The Air Quality Strategy for England (Defra, April 2023)	Public Report: Yes
Financial Implications	The cost of preparing the SPD is being met by existing budgets which are reviewed as part of the annual budget setting process.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	The preparation of the SPD must comply with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The report to Cabinet (22 August 2023) highlighted and addressed potential issues.	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	Development Management and Environmental Protection staff have had training on the content of the SPD and how to apply it when determining planning applications.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To adopt the Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).	
Recommendations	THAT LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE ADOPT THE AIR QUALITY SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT ATTACHED AT APPENDIX B.	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been prepared in accordance with the Council's Air Quality Delivery Plan (approved at Cabinet on 8 December 2020).
- 1.2 A Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is a document which provides further information about a policy or policies in a development plan. An SPD can be a helpful way to provide guidance on how a policy should be interpreted in development management decisions, what information applications should supply in order to satisfy a policy, and procedural arrangements.
- 1.3 At its meeting on 22 August 2023, Cabinet resolved that the Local Plan Committee be requested to adopt the Air Quality SPD. The Cabinet report, which is included at **Appendix A** and the Air Quality SPD at **Appendix B** provides the relevant background for Local Plan Committee to consider.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing a clean and green district - Our communities are safe, healthy and connected
Policy Considerations:	North West Leicestershire Local Plan National Planning Policy Framework Planning Practice Guidance
Safeguarding:	None
Equalities/Diversity:	None
Customer Impact:	None
Economic and Social Impact:	The SPD, if approved, will help to ensure that air quality issues are addressed which will have social benefits for our communities. A clean environment will also help to attract business and support economic growth.
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon:	The SPD requires the applicants of development proposals in potential areas of poor air quality / development proposals which could potentially result in a deterioration in the existing air quality to undertake an air quality assessment and identify appropriate mitigation measures.
Consultation/Community/Engagement:	The consultation arrangements which have been followed have been governed by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and in turn by the Council's own Statement of Community Involvement (as amended).
Risks:	The Cabinet report of 22 August 2023 highlighted

	the potential for a legal challenge in the event that the SPD goes above and beyond existing policy requirements. The Cabinet report confirms how the SPD has been amended to address this issue.
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