

<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>GOOD DESIGN GUIDE FOR NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE</b>	
<b>Presented by</b>	Chris Elston Head of Planning and Infrastructure	
<b>Background Papers</b>	<a href="#"><u>Current Good Design Guide for North West Leicestershire 2017</u></a>	<b>Public Report:</b> Yes
<b>Financial Implications</b>	The cost of preparing the Good Design Guide is being met from the Planning Skills Delivery Fund received in October 2024.	
	<b>Signed off by the Acting Section 151 Officer:</b> Yes	
<b>Legal Implications</b>	The preparation of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) will need to comply with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.	
	<b>Signed off by the Monitoring Officer:</b> Yes	
<b>Staffing and Corporate Implications</b>	Development Management staff have had training on the content of the SPD and how to apply it when determining planning applications.	
	<b>Signed off by the Head of Paid Service:</b> Yes	
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To seek formal adoption of the Good Design Guide for North West Leicestershire as a Supplementary Planning Document	
<b>Recommendations</b>	<p><b>THAT LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. ADOPTS THE GOOD DESIGN GUIDE FOR NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT, WHICH CAN BE FOUND ON THE LINK TO APPENDIX 2 BELOW; AND</b></li> <li><b>2. DELEGATES AUTHORITY TO THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF PLACE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR PLANNING, TO AGREE ANY MODIFICATIONS AS A RESULT OF ANY CHANGES IN THE GOVERNMENT’S NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY.</b></li> </ol>	

## 1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 At its meeting on 24 March 2026, Cabinet was presented with a revised Good Design Guide for North West Leicestershire for consideration, with a recommendation that the Local Plan Committee adopts the SPD at a future meeting. Cabinet resolved that the Local Plan Committee be requested to adopt the Good Design Guide for North West Leicestershire SPD. The Cabinet report, which is included at [Appendix 1](#), and the final SPD at [Appendix 2](#), provides the relevant background for Local Plan Committee to consider.
- 1.3 Since publication of the Cabinet report, some very minor changes have been requested by the Council's Waste Services Team relating to the size of bins and the colour of bin lids. Cabinet was made aware of these changes which have now been incorporated into the final SPD.

<b>Policies and other considerations, as appropriate</b>	
Council Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Planning and regeneration</li> <li>- Communities and housing</li> <li>- Clean, green and Zero Carbon</li> </ul>
Policy Considerations:	Paragraph 133 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that to provide maximum clarity about design expectations at an early stage, all local planning authorities should prepare design guides or codes consistent with the principles set out in the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code. The Good Design Guide will align with national planning policy and the design policy in the new Local Plan.
Safeguarding:	None identified.
Equalities/Diversity:	An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed.
Customer Impact:	The new Good Design Guide will provide clear clarity for customers on the Councils expectations for the design of new development.
Economic and Social Impact:	New development offers the opportunity to use good design to create healthy, social and economically vibrant places that work well for everyone. The aim of the document is that it will promote good and well-designed buildings and spaces and create meaningful places - places that people can be proud of, will last for generations

	and help to make people's lives happier and more fulfilling.
Environment, Climate Change and zero carbon:	The new Good Design Guide contains guidance on how to deal with green infrastructure, sustainable drainage, biodiversity, energy consumption and sustainable construction including water management.
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Consultation of the draft document took place between 23 July and 17 September 2025.
Risks:	If applications are refused as contrary to the Good Design Guide, there is a risk that appeal inspectors may allow a poor-quality development and result in developers submitting schemes of a much lower standard of design on the basis that a precedent has been set. This risk should be mitigated by aligning the Good Design document with national policy contained in the NPPF, the National Model Design Code, design policy in the Council's Local Plan and by consultation with key stakeholders including major house builders.
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