Public Document Pack



Cabinet Supplementary Agenda (2)

Date: Monday, 20th September, 2010

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Earle Street, Crewe

CW1 2BJ

11. **Local Development Framework Documents** (Pages 1 - 184)

The following appendices to the report have not been changed since they were first considered by Cabinet in July 2010.

- Appendix 2 Statement of Consultation for the SCI
- Appendix 4 Statement of Consultation for the Alsager SPD
- Appendix 6 Statement of Consultation for the Smallwood SPD
- Appendix 7 Local List
- Appendix 8 Local List SPD
- Appendix 9 Statement of Consultation for the Local List SPD



Appendix 2 : Consultation Responses to Draft Statement of Community Involvement		
Consultee / Group	Response to draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	Cheshire East Borough Council Response / Amendment to SCI
North West Development Agency (NWDA)	 Welcomed opportunity to respond and pleased to note inclusion within SCI. Regulations require adjoining Regional Development Agency's (RDAs) to be consulted and therefore East Midlands and West Midlands RDAs should be noted in the SCI Appendix. NWDA noted that it is a Statutory Consultee on certain types of planning applications. 	Comments noted, SCI to be amended to include references to East Midlands Development Agency and West Midlands Development Agency in Appendix 4.
Network Rail	Wished to update Local Development Framework (LDF) consultation database.	LDF Consultation Database has been updated.
National Grid	Wished to update LDF consultation database.	LDF Consultation Database has been updated.
Middlewich Town Council	 Welcomed opportunity to comment and willingness to feed into future LDF development. Information provided on partnership with Middlewich Vision. Reaffirmed commitment to a Middlewich Canal Corridor Area Action Plan (AAP) which the Town Council is keen to take forward as part of the LDF. The Town Council stated that background information / supporting documentation can be provided to inform the development of the Middlewich Canal Corridor AAP and associated LDF Development Plan Documents (DPDs); when required. 	Comments noted; Middlewich Canal Corridor AAP is currently included within the Cheshire East Local Development Scheme.

Consultee / Group	Response to draft Statement of Community Involvement	Cheshire East Borough Council Response / Amendment to SCI
Andrew Holland, Planning Consultant (representing seven congregations of Jehovah's witnesses residing within the area served by Cheshire East Borough Council)	 Wished to update LDF consultation database. Supported comments contained in the draft SCI relating to the Council's preferred contact method for consultations being electronic based. 	LDF Consultation Database has been updated.
Bollington Town Council	 Draft SCI should be more positive in its approach to Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). The SCI should contain a separate section to highlight the amount of local community effort put into these documents. The draft SCI should require developers to hold pre application public consultations, if that is not possible then they should be asked to hold them and required to give explanations if they fail to do so which should be published in association with the planning application documentation. 	 The section in the SCI relating to Supplementary Planning Documents has been revised. The draft Planning Policy Statement on Development Management and other government guidance advises Local Planning Authorities to encourage pre application discussions and this advice has been reflected within the SCI.
Manchester Airport (MA)	 Supportive of draft SCI and recognition of airport as a Consultee. Recognition of Airport as Consultee is important given Aerodrome Safeguarding Procedures (obligation to consult with the airport on certain planning applications set out in the Safeguarding Maps document). Response notes role of Manchester Airport and its contribution to the Regional / National economy. Suggest that the term "PLC" is removed when referencing Manchester Airport in the SCI. Manchester Airport would welcome the opportunity to discuss with Cheshire East the circumstances when non-statutory consultation with the Airport would be appropriate. Appropriate contact details to that effect were provided. 	Comments noted; SCI refers to Airport Operators within Appendix 4 for LDF consultation purposes and Appendix 5 for Development Management.

Consultee / Group	Response to draft Statement of Community Involvement	Cheshire East Borough Council Response / Amendment to SCI
National Trust (NT)	 The Trust has a number of property interests within and near to the boundary of Cheshire East. Considered that the draft SCI is fit for purpose. The intentions regarding "invited representations" (page 9) in the draft SCI are noted and welcomed. The SCI should make clear that members of the LDF consultation database will be consulted on the preferences that they have identified. National Trust should be considered for inclusion on this LDF consultation list. National Trust welcomes inclusion on the Development Management consultee list. 	Comments noted. The Trust will be included in the criteria of "other stakeholders" defined in Appendix 4 of the SCI. Details have also been added to the LDF Consultation Database.
How Planning	 Wished to update LDF consultation database. Support for intention stated in draft SCI to consult with a wide range of consultees. Request that landowners / developers are afforded opportunity to comment on all stages of draft LDF documents. Prior to the adoption of SCI, HOW Planning request that a list of possible consultation methods is prepared and consulted upon. This process would ensure that the SCI permits a range of appropriate consultation methods. Specific consultation methods should not be made mandatory requirements with a flexible approach encouraged. Consultation requirements should be considered and negotiated on a site by site basis and be based on the circumstances of the application. 	 LDF Consultation Database has been updated. A number of consultation stages are set out within the SCI and Local Development Scheme where comments can be submitted to inform the LDF process. The provisions of the SCI are sufficiently flexible in that consultation requirements will be agreed with Council planning officers in advance, and a summary of both the methods used and results should accompany the submitted planning application

Consultee / Group	Response to draft Statement of Community Involvement	Cheshire East Borough Council Response / Amendment to SCI
Natural England (NE)	 Welcomed opportunity to comment and restated its statutory purpose. Approved of inclusion as Statutory Consultee in the SCI. Wished to update LDF consultation database. Natural England would like decision notices on determined applications (to which they have commented) to be forwarded to them. Support for the role of SCI and community planning initiatives. 	 Comments noted and LDF Consultation Database updated to reflect information received. Decision notices can be accessed via the Cheshire East website.
Environment Agency (EA)	No specific comment on the draft SCI but want to be kept informed on any progress with LDF.	LDF Consultation Database updated to reflect information received.
Highways Agency (HA)	 Welcomed opportunity to comment and inclusion in Appendix 1of draft SCI. HA keen to be involved in all future LDF and Development Management Documents. HA provided background to the Statutory Involvement of HA (referenced in DFT Circular 02/2007 "Planning and the Strategic Road Network", Article 10 and Article 15 of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995). 	Highways Agency is included within Appendix 4: List of Stakeholders.

Consultee / Group	Response to draft Statement of Community Involvement	Cheshire East Borough Council Response / Amendment to SCI
Friends, Families and Traveller and Traveller Law Reform Project (FFT) (www.gypsy-traveller.org)	 FFT Experience is that Gypsy and Traveller groups are rarely effectively consulted on their needs. It is important that they are closely involved in planning processes (i.e. site requirements, where they should be and how many of them). Response directs the Council to Paragraph 29 (Circular 01/2006) "Local Planning Authorities should put in place arrangements so that communication with gypsies and travellers is direct and accessible". Local communication methods need to be developed requiring specific consultation measures (rather than paper based methods) i.e. focus groups, private workshops and one-to-one meetings arranged at convenient times and in appropriate locations. Existing groups, for example, the Traveller Education Service can be used to develop a more trusting dialogue. Concern about the lack of Race Equality Impact Assessments (REIA) in the planning process. The report 'Common Ground: Equality, Good Race Relations and Sites for Gypsies and Irish Travellers' (CRE 2006) recommended that Gypsies and Travellers are referred to in SCIs and Local Authorities should take practical steps to ensure meaningful involvement. 	 Appendix 3 has been amended to reflect the optional and standard methods which will be employed to ensure appropriate consultation methods are used to reach all areas of society. Traveller Education Service and FFT has been added to the LDF Consultation Database.

Consultee / Group	Response to draft Statement of Community Involvement	Cheshire East Borough Council Response / Amendment to SCI
East Cheshire Ramblers (ECR)	 Requested inclusion in Appendix 4 of SCI and involvement in meaningful discussions on any proposed Public Right of Way (PRoW) diversion before planning permission is granted. Page 17 (Pre-application Advice): applicants should be encouraged to undertake pre-application discussions with the PROW Unit and user-groups if a PRoW 'crosses or is adjacent to' the proposal site (not just is 'affected' by). Page 19. Press notice should be issued if a PRoW 'crosses or is adjacent to' the proposed development (not just is 'affected' by). Planning Committee should be advised of implications for the public enjoyment of any PRoW if it crosses or is adjacent to the proposed site of a planning application. Agricultural Developments are treated differently under 'Consultation on Prior Approval Applications' on page 20. Currently only the Parish Council and Ward Member are consulted. However, PRoW can be affected by such developments. Via electronic communications, the wider community, including ECR, should be consulted. To ensure consultation, the draft SCI describes in 'Methods of Consultation' meetings with relevant stakeholders (page 11). ECR request the reinstatement of the meetings of the Rights of Way Forum. Pre Government Reorganisation, these provided an opportunity to discuss specific improvements or more general issues relating to Rights of Way and were recognised as valuable by all concerned. 	 ECR are included within the "other" stakeholder groups listed in Appendix 4. The SCI sets out that preapplication discussion will be encouraged. The Council will publicise applications by formal press notice where it meets criteria as set out within the SCI. The issue of PRoW is a material consideration which will be addressed by the case officer and reported to planning committee accordingly. In respect of consultation on prior approvals applications, due to the short timescales within which decisions need to be taken the usual full public consultation is not possible, but the applications are publicised on the weekly list. Steps are being taken to reinstate the Cheshire East Rights of Way Forum on a Cheshire East wide basis via the Public Rights of Way team at Cheshire East.

Consultee / Group	Response to draft Statement of Community Involvement	Cheshire East Borough Council Response / Amendment to SCI
Sandy Lane Action Group	 Background to Sandy Lane Action Group provided. To assist interpretation of the document, the group have asked for a reduction in the number of abbreviations in the document. The group state that Council involvement with outside advisory bodies must be subject to complete transparency and open to public scrutiny. Support and encourage the comments made in the draft SCI in relation to pre application discussions. Full disclosure on the contents of these pre application discussions should take place and be reflected in SCI. Members of the group have provided contact information and stated that they would like to be considered as possible focus group/citizens panel members both as individuals with an interest in planning matters and as members of Sandy Lane Action Group. 	 Comments noted and use of abbreviations has been reduced in the SCI, the SCI states that pre-application discussions enable an transparent approach to determining planning applications. For significant or major applications the content and method of any pre-application consultation will be agreed with the Council Planning Officers in advance and a summary of methods used should accompany the submitted planning application. A code of conduct exists for Council Members in relation to planning matters
Prestbury Parish Council	 Draw attention to "Cabinet Office Code of Conduct" on public consultations. This advises Local Authorities allow 12 weeks for important public consultations. Critical of 8 week Draft SCI consultation and suggest crucial stages of LDF production should have longer consultation period than 6 weeks. Prestbury Parish Council would like the role and importance of Town and Parish Councils to be given more prominence in the SCI. 	 The consultation period referred to in the SCI is a minimum with discretion for longer consultation periods. Reference is made to Town and Parish Councils within the SCI.

Consultee / Group	Response to draft Statement of Community Involvement	Cheshire East Borough Council Response / Amendment to SCI
Prestbury Parish Council (continued)	 The Parish Council has enquired why the Local Development Scheme was not consulted upon. The Parish Council note instances where apostrophes need to be removed in abbreviations used i.e. DPDs and SPDs. 	 The Local Development Scheme is a public statement of the Council's programme for the production of documents in the Local Development Framework. Comments in relation to the use of apostrophes are noted and SCI has been amended.
Government Office for the North West (GONW)	 GONW confirmed that they would like to be consulted on all Local Development Documents (LDDs) at all stages. GONW have made the following document specific comments: The draft SCI includes useful information but could be made more user friendly, in terms of inclusion of more diagrams, less process-driven text etc Chapter 1 should make it clear why the draft SCI has been prepared and could make reference to national planning policy / legislation and influences of Planning Policy Statement 12. GONW have asked for the Introduction to state that the SCI replaces anything that the previous Councils have already produced, and should clarify the next stages of preparation/adoption. The Introduction sets the scene for the SCI and could use a more proactive tone: Paragraph 3 comes across as more negative than is probably meant, and may be better placed elsewhere in the document. Paragraph 1 typo - consider deleting "or" and insert "and" community groups in second sentence. It would be helpful if this section could note and emphasise the importance of frontloading consultation. 	 Comments noted Dependence on abbreviations in the document has been reduced as much as practical and glossary attached. The SCI has been revised to adapt to the comments provided by GONW in terms of the format and presentation of the document with an aim to improve the accessibility and usability of the document. Typographical Errors have been amended, as suggested

Consultee / Group	Response to draft Statement of Community Involvement	Cheshire East Borough Council Response / Amendment to SCI
Government Office for the North West (GONW) continued	 GONW have stated that it would be helpful to display prominently on the front/inside cover of the document a statement along the lines of "If you require this document in large print, audio cassette, Braille or in a language other than English, please contact" GONW have stated that chapter 2 is very technical and could be disengaging. In section 2.1, first paragraph GONW have asked for the word 'saved' to be added before 'policies contained.' in the third sentence. In section 2.1 GONW have stated that different types of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) – Sustainability Appraisal/Habitats Regulations Assessment Reports could be mentioned here. Section 3.3, Stage 3 needs amending to describe the Hearing part of the process, rather than just 'Examination', as the Examination starts on submission. Description of how the Inspector decides who will speak, what topics are covered etc. Chapter 3 Consultees should clarify the difference between Statutory Consultees and anybody else. The Section on Hard to Reach Groups should include which consultation methods the Council currently uses and any changes proposed in how to engage them. Section 4 relating to Planning Applications, GONW has stated that an additional paragraph could be added to describe what Development Management is. Section 4.3: Consultation During a Planning Application: this could be entitled something like 'Further information about Planning Applications' Listed Building Consent could also be added. Most of this section refers to the Council's website, so could expand to explain access for those that don't have a computer. 	 An Equal Opportunities and Access Statement has been added to the SCI. Comments noted, The SCI has been revised to adapt to the comments provided by GONW in terms of the format and presentation of the document with an aim to improve the accessibility and usability of the document.

Consultee / Group	Response to draft Statement of Community Involvement	Cheshire East Borough Council Response / Amendment to SCI
Government Office for the North West (GONW) continued	LDF consultee lists – it should be stated that information is for illustrative purposes only and that it will be kept up to date/explain how changes will be made to it.	 Noted and agreed, additional text has been added to reflect this requirement to keep the SCI under review.

Alsager Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document



















Statement of Consultation



Introduction

Under Regulation 17 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, it is a requirement of Local Planning Authorities to carry out consultation on all proposed Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD's), and to publish a statement setting out who has been consulted during the preparation of the draft SPD. This includes a summary of the issues raised and how these issues have been addressed (see below).

Pre-production Consultation

This took place on an informal basis and included attending meetings of both Alsager Town Council and the Alsager Partnership. It also included organising meetings and workshops that were open to relevant Council Officers, Councillors, Town Councillors and members of the Alsager Partnership, notes of these meetings where taken have been included in Appendix A. A preproduction draft of the Alsager Town Centre Strategy was made available to relevant Council Officers, the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Town Councillors and members of the Alsager Partnership, alongside a short questionnaire during August 2008. All the comments made during this period have fed into the production of the SPD.

Statutory Consultation

The period of formal public participation on the Draft Alsager Town Centre Strategy SPD was conducted between 17th August 2009 and 2nd October 2009. The document was made available at various deposit locations throughout the Borough included the Council Offices at Sandbach and the Alsager Library, along with a copy of the Sustainability Appraisal Report and the Habitats Regulations Report. Each of the aforementioned documents has also been made available on the Council website and in various formats upon request. Also during the consultation period the Council held a Public Meeting and an exhibition at Alsager Library. The exhibition took place between 21st and 26th September 2009, whilst the Public Meeting took place at the Alsager Civic Centre on 28th September 2009. A note of the Public Meeting can be found in Appendix B.

Statutory consultees (as outlined in Planning Policy Statement 12 - Local Development Frameworks, Appendix E) were consulted specifically via letter. In addition those individuals on the Council's Local Development Framework consultation database that had requested to be informed of the publication of the draft SPD were also sent a letter or email highlighting the current consultation.

Statutory Consultation Summary of Issues Raised and Responses

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Diane Clarke, Network Rail By Email 16/09/09 As the policy is designed to reinvigorate Alsager town centre, then it would logically follow that Alsager Station would be utilised to a greater degree than previously and actively encouraged for usage as it is 10 minutes from the town centre and also provides a more environmentally friendly way to travel than motor vehicles. Therefore, if there is likely to be greater footfalls at Alsager Station there may be an opportunity for S106 investment. Following on from discussion with the station surveyors they believe that heated waiting shelters & CCTV could be added to the station for the comfort and security of passengers.	It is not possible to alter the area covered by the Alsager Town Centre Strategy, to include the Train Station, as this document supplements the Local Plan and maintains the town centre as shown in the Proposals Map. However, the train station has been included as an area with potential to act as a key gateway. Further text has also been added to paragraph 10.3 to include the train station 'New and improved linkages for safe, legible and unobstructed routes into the town centre from neighbouring residential areas and the train station are essential'.
Sarah Anderson By Email 12/09/09 It mentions the benefits of pedestrian open areas, and I would like to endorse this. But I would like to go further. Enclosed pedestrian space is the most attractive - squares, piazzas, etc. It would be great if we could somehow manage to create a pedestrianised town square. One possibility might be the old town yard which is now redundant. It needs to have interesting shops and cafes around to attract people.	Further text has been added to paragraph 11.3 to encourage enclosed public space.
The plan mentions leisure, and the need for youth activities, but it is very	Further text has been added to paragraph 9.4 to

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
light on suggestions. I cannot understand why we do not have a dedicated youth club building and leader (as I had in my town down south in my youth during the 1960s). This could be a centre for various activities and events for young people - art, music, sport. My own children (now in their thirties) suggested that there should be the equivalent of a pub for children i.e. without alcohol of course, but the same social opportunities (including watching major sports events, live music, quizzes, etc).	encourage youth facilities.
The area around the civic centre and library is a prime site for a signature building and pleasant surroundings. We could think big and demolish the old buildings there and create a new multi-purpose building to better meet the needs of this growing community. We need more small meeting rooms (e.g. for U3A) as well as the large hall. The Library now does much more than lend books. This could be a fantastic community facility with some imaginative and bold thinking.	Paragraph 13.8 to 13.10 does highlight the potential of this area.
Somewhat more difficult I know, but wouldn't it be great if we could move the traffic out of the town centre, e.g. by re-routing it completely around the town. I suppose this would mean a bypass. Possibly less ambitious, the junction in the middle of town is rather awkward, particularly turning right (either way) off Crewe Road. Some remodelling of the junction would help.	This is considered to be a Highways Issue rather than planning and therefore no amendments have been made to the SPD. However, Highways have stated that the re-modelling of Bank Corner junction will only happen through redevelopment. The development of the Fairview Car Park may have an impact and as part of any planning application would be expected to provide details of any improvements such as junction designs and linked signals as a result.
I very much hope that you will publicise this plan rather more than has	As part of the consultation of the Alsager Town

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
been done to date. I picked it up from a reference in the free press, but it was a very small article. This is an important document for Alsager residents to consider and should be much more widely publicised, for example, with a specific public meeting.	Alsager, an exhibition was held in the Alsager

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Samantha Turner, 4NW	
By email 10/09/09	
The following Guidance and Strategies, produced by 4NW (and its predecessor, the North West Regional Assembly), may also be useful.	
North West Best Practice Design Guide (May 2006)	
This best practice guide provides an introduction to the many aspects of design that need to be considered in the planning process, and is illustrated by case studies.	
http://www.nwra.gov.uk/documents/?page_id=4&category_id=105	
North West Green Infrastructure Guide (2008)	The Council has considered these documents during the drafting of the Alsager Town Centre
This guide has been prepared to support the RSS Green Infrastructure Policy EM3, by providing more detailed information on the concept of GI and initial guidance on producing a Green Infrastructure Plan.	Strategy SPD and has now included an additional reference to these documents.
http://www.greeninfrastructurenw.co.uk/resources/Glguide.pdf-	
Northwest Integrated Appraisal Toolkit	
The broad aim of the Integrated Appraisal Toolkit is to highlight the economic, social and environmental impacts of policies, projects and development proposals and to provide useful decision support information that will help to enhance the delivery of public benefits whilst in accordance with the principles of sustainable development.	
RSS climate change Policy DP9 promotes its use as a basis for assessing and strengthening the climate change mitigation and adaptation elements	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
of plans and strategies.	
http://www.sdtoolkit-northwest.org.uk/toolkit/index.php	
In writing any guidance or SPDs, it is important that the RSS should be considered as a whole. However there may be certain policies that will be particularly relevant to specific subject or geographical areas – the following paragraphs provide some pointers. It is also important to note that RSS includes a range of subregional area based policies, alongside the more generic policies.	
<u>Design / Sustainable Design and Construction / Landscape / Historic Environment</u>	
Spatial Principles Policy DP7 promotes environmental quality at the strategic level with a wide range of measures. Within this context, EM1 promotes integrated enhancement and protection of the region's environmental assets, including landscape, nature, historic environment, trees, woodlands and forests. A series of policies then give a steer on environmental design and construction including EM5 Integrated Water Management, EM16 Energy Conservation and Efficiency and EM18 Decentralised Energy Supply. Policy L4 on Housing Provision encourages the use of Code for Sustainable Homes standards.	The Council has considered a number relevant policies from the RSS during the drafting of the Alsager Town Centre Strates SPD.
Renewable Energy / Climate Change	
Policy DP9 sets out a regional approach to reducing emissions and adapting to climate change. It sets out a range of reduction and adaption measures that local authorities and others will need to taken on board as an urgent regional priority. It also indicates that policy makers should use the North West Integrated Appraisal Toolkit as a basis for assessing and	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
strengthening the climate change elements of their plans and strategies.	
EM18 deals with decentralised energy supply, requiring authorities to set out targets in their Development Plan Documents for decentralised and renewable of low carbon energy sources to be used in new developments. A target is also set within EM18, to be used in advance of targets being set in DPDs.	
Open Space / Green Space / Nature Conservation / Trees	
EM1 is a key policy here, promoting integrated enhancement and protection of the region's environmental assets, including landscape, nature and biodiversity, the historic environment, trees, woodlands and forests.	
Policy EM3 Green Infrastructure should also underpin any consideration of open space and green space provision. Plans and proposals should aim to deliver wider spatial outcomes that incorporate environmental and socio economic benefits. EM3 also details a wide range of actions Local Authorities and their partners should take in relation to conserving, managing and creating green infrastructure.	
Sustainable Transport / Parking Standards / Travel Planning	
Spatial principle policy DP5 deals with managing travel demand, reducing the need to travel, and increasing accessibility. RT2 supports this by providing more detail on managing travel demand. RT3 and RT9 are also relevant, dealing with public transport, walking and cycling. Consideration should also be given to the current RSS Partial Review which includes a revision of regional parking standards.	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Planning Obligations / Developer Contributions	
RSS has no specific policy on this but many may have some relevance, for example Policy DP4 – Making the Best Use of Existing Resources and Infrastructure, L1 Health, Sport, Recreation, Cultural and Education Services Provision, L5 Affordable Housing and EM1 Integrated Enhancement and Protection of the Region's Environmental Assets.	
Masterplans and Area Briefs	
For SPDs and other guidance covering a specific area, e.g. masterplans, a wide range of RSS policy may be relevant. Thematic policies on the economy, housing, transport and the environment should be considered. Also Policies RDF 1-4 set out the spatial priorities for development across the North West, including priorities for development, rural areas, coast and Green Belt. Chapters 10 to 13 of the RSS set out broad strategies for each sub region in the North West, and provide more detailed policies for the different parts of each sub region.	
A further consideration for area briefs and masterplans will be the sequential approach as expressed generally in Policy DP4, and also in Policies W3, in relation to office development and W5, in relation to retail development.	
It is important that masterplans and area briefs promote good quality, sustainable design and construction (see policies listed above).	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Kelvin Jordan	
By email 05/09/09	
I am fully supportive of the strategy for Alsager centre, and the strengths and weaknesses of the town centre have been nicely summarised.	Unfortunately, this is not an issue that can
Two observations I have about how Alsager is seen by people living outside the town:	addressed by the Alsager Town Centre Strategy SPD. It is an issue that would need to be raised with Royal Mail who currently determine nost
1) many seem to think it is in Stoke-on-Trent. Regardless of the connotations this may have, it is incorrect and people get confused when they see the Cheshire signs in the town. Can something be done about this? Is it possible to change the address to Alsager, Cheshire rather than Alsager, Stoke-on-Trent even if the postcode can't be changed?	with Royal Mail who currently determine pos addresses and postcodes.
see is "takeaway alley", a row of Chinese, Indian, kebab and fish and chip	Current Local Plan policies look to try and prevent a concentration of non-A1 uses (shops) within the Primary Shopping areas.
economically given the competition, it does not create a good impression. Another high quality restaurant would help the town.	The policies contained in para.8.8 and 8.10 look to create a greater mix of uses, now including restaurants, without creating any detrimental impacts on the town centre.

Co	mments / Issues Raised	Response
Lin	da Maddock	
Ву	email 04/09/09	
tow Ne cha	re in Rode Heath, which is a long walk but an easy drive from Alsager on centre, and I visit the town at least once a week (I work in wcastle). As it is my local shopping town, I will be affected by any anges that are made. I have therefore read through the Strategy cument and would like to submit my responses to the questions therein:	
1)	Yes	Acknowledged. No changes required.
2)	No	Acknowledged. No changes required.
3)	Yes	Acknowledged. No changes required.
4)	Yes	Acknowledged. No changes required.
5)	Yes	Acknowledged. No changes required.
6)	Not more frequently, but indoors would be a useful alternative in bad weather.	Acknowledged. No change required. Current policy looks to retain market and promotes opportunity for indoor market if appropriate.
7)	I read somewhere in the report that there is only one food shop in Alsager. There are currently three – the Co-op, Sainsbury's and the shop that took over Kwik save's premises (Nissa?), so we don't have quite such a dearth of food purchasing opportunities as the report suggests. The problem lies more with other household products, which can only be purchased at Bands SJB.	The appendix has now been amended to include reference to both the Sainsbury Local and to Nisa.

Comments / Issues Raised

- 8) Yes
- I don't agree with Fairview Car Park being used for events which are intended to bring in people from a wider area, because the very fact that the event is on the car park means that visitors have nowhere to park! I also don't want "street art", fancy lighting columns, trees, etc installing on the car park because all these do is take up vital parking spaces, create difficulties in parking vehicles and produce "outfall" by way of bird dirt and all the other detritus that drops from trees onto cars. At present, the car park is a lovely open, clear area where you can park easily and without added unnecessary problems.
- 10) Yes
- 11) Yes
- 12) For similar reasons to my above comments, we don't want another food store putting on the car park, even if it has its own car park. This would still result in a loss of a great many parking spaces.

Response

Acknowledged. No changes required.

The policies contained within the Alsager Town Centre SPD aim to ensure that the needs of both the pedestrian and car users are balanced. It is intended that an appropriate layout will be provided that ensures drivers have an easy to navigate car park, whilst pedestrians feel safe. Any public art, lighting and/or trees would also need to be well considered, as stated in the SPD, to ensure that they provide a suitable environment for all car park users.

Acknowledged. No changes required.

Acknowledged. No changes required.

The policy contained within the SPD does seek to ensure that any retail development, on the town centre park area, 'retains an appropriate level of car parking for the town centre and the development itself'. Any proposal for the site will be considered by a Development Management Officer and a Highways Officer who will review the number of parking spaces proposed to ensure they are appropriate.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Carrie Pletscher	
By email 26/08/09	
Please find below my response to the consultation questions on Alsager Town Centre SPD.	
1) Yes	Acknowledged. No changes required.
2) Pride: train station; good transport links. (we moved to Alsager primarily to provide our teenage children with better independent travel opportunities)	Further text has been added to para. 4.8 to include reference to the Train station and the good transport links.
3) Yes	Acknowledged. No changes required.
4) Yes	Acknowledged. No changes required.
5) Yes. Would also like to see policy on 'Landscaping'; Victorian style annual bedding displays are popular with some sections of the public and are in keeping with some of the existing architecture. However, they are high maintenance and environmentally less sustainable than other attractive, contemporary styles of planting. i) European Perennial Planting (as seen at Trentham Gardens) is much less labour intensive (stems and seedheads cut down annually in Spring), more environmentally sustainable (no annual glass house growing, use of compost, plastic pots, transport) and wildlife friendly. ii) Wildflower areas increase wildlife habitat and reduce maintenance whilst being beautiful and sustainable (see the innovative example by Newcastle Borough Council on open space at junction of A34 and A5011 at Talke).	It is not appropriate for a planning document to provide landscaping policy to the suggested level of detail. However, the Streetscape Team have stated that the new trend for 'pictorial meadows' (such as those found at the junction of the A34 and A5011 at Talke) is not the most appropriate in terms of resources or sustainability, as although they look great while in flower they have to be left to seed and this can leave the area looking untidy. These areas also need to be cut, collected and disposed of creating additional resource and sustainability

issues. Whilst over time these beds can become

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
	slowly filled with weeds and will need to be redone adding further resource implications.
6) Yes, if this would encourage higher quality stalls.	The Council cannot guarantee the quality of the market stalls.
7) Yes	Acknowledged. No changes required.
8) Re 9.2: The loss of buildings used for community uses/purposes will not be considered acceptable unless it can be shown that it no longer makes a positive contribution to the social or cultural life of the community (and that all options to increase this contribution have been explored and found to be unviable), or that suitable alternative provision will be made in line with Policy RC12.	Further text has been added to create a new paragraph 9.3.
9) Yes	Acknowledged. No changes required.
10)Yes. Would like to see it specified that paving should also be ethically sourced and permeable or designed to route surface water drainage. Would like to see great emphasis on encouraging interaction between different groups in the community and also between the community and	Further text has been added to Appendix G to promote the use of more sustainable paving materials.
the landscape (water features that encourage children to interact; areas that encourage public to congregate; regularly changing show features such as display gardens or art by local schools, community groups, artists, businesses)	It is hoped that a Public Art Strategy will be created that encourages community involvement with all displays. This is highlighted in paragraph 7.11.
11)Yes	Acknowledged. No changes required.
12)Yes, but would like to see greater emphasis placed on the development	Further text has been added to paragraph 13.10

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
of the public space in the Civic Quarter which is currently a well-kept but barren and uninspiring site considering it's prominent position and potential for creating a vibrant and welcoming landmark open space.	to address this issue.
Susan Plowright	
By email 21/09/09	The first paragraph of the SPD states that
It would have been better if the spatial planners had known where Alsager is. Five miles west of Crewe! I don't think so. Please amend Alsager Town Centre SPD if you want to be taken seriously as planners.	Alsager is 5 miles to the east of Crewe, this is correct.
Alan Hubbard, National Trust	
By email 20/08/09	
Having briefly reviewed the consultation document I can advise you that on this occasion it does not raise any particular matters that the National Trust would wish to comment upon.	Acknowledged. No changes required.
Edward Gibbins	
By Email 24/09/09	
I notice one or two references in the Alsager SPD to surveys by Erinaceous Planning. Were these surveys carried out on behalf of the local authority?	
The SPD for Alsager, shows (Appendix C) that the proposals maps for the retail developments may be found on www.congleton.gov.uk	Appendix C, the Proposal Map for the Local Plan can be found at
I could not find the item on this site, and switched to Cheshire East site	http://www.cartoplus.co.uk/congleton/congleton

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
which does not appear to have the item either. Kindly point me in the right direction.	<u>.htm></u> or paper copies are available for inspection at the Council offices at Sandbach.
APMarshall By email 24/09/09 The aims are admirable. How they are to be achieved is less clear. Some of the questions I ask are the following: 1) Who is going to pay for the proposals? Are any developers interested? If so, which ones, and what are their records of past achievement? Citizens have a right to know. 2) What is the time-scale?	The document is a supplementary planning document and as such it will be a material consideration in the determination of any planning applications within the town centre. It is through this approach that many of the policies and proposals will be implemented. The Council has been in discussion with developers in relation to a number of sites within Alsager however, pre-planning application discussions are commercially confidential.
	There is no timescale defined as this document is intended to guide development as it occurs rather than providing details of forthcoming development.
3) At what stage are the former supermarket proposals? Is there a retailer so keen to come to Alsager that they will pay for a new library and Civic Centre? What is wrong with the existing buildings?	The Council has been in discussion with developers in relation to a number of sites within Alsager however, pre-planning application discussions are commercially confidential. As highlighted within the SPD the library and the
4) Is the new bar, The Bank Corner, included in proposals to demolish the	Civic Centre are both dated and could be improved if there was opportunity. The Bank Corner Public House is included

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corner of Sandbach Road South and Crewe Road, and if so, why?	within the Policy for No. 2-12 Lawton Road and 43-45 Sandbach Road South, however, the policy does not propose demolition. Instead the policy considers this site as an opportunity for redevelopment, this may indeed be a similar redevelopment to that that has already occurred at the Bank Corner Pub. It would be for any landowner or developer to determine the most suitable or feasible development.
5) Will we be assured that there will not be less green grass area in the village centre?	The playspace next to Fair View Car Park, Milton Park and the access to the Mere from Crewe Road are all identified as areas of Protected Open Space in the Local Plan and therefore any development would need to comply with Policy RC2 of the Local Plan.
	The area of open space in front of the Civic Centre and Library is not identified as Protected Open Space however, para. 13.10 of the SPD looks to ensure this public space is replaced if this area is included within any development proposals.
5) At what stage is the application for the playground behind the Co-op to become a village green?	An application to identify the open space behind the Co-op as a village green was submitted by Alsager Town Council, however, the Town Council have requested that at present the

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	application is held in abeyance.
6) If the Town Yard is to be redeveloped, where else will the contents be housed?	The Council Yard off Brookhouse Road is one of a number of Council Depots which is currently being considered as part of a review of the provision of Council services. The site will only be redeveloped if it is considered surplus to current requirements.
7) May the criteria for deciding which architectural proposals are 'suitable' be made public?	The suitability of any development that requires planning permission will be considered by a Development Management Officer. This officer will base their recommendation to Council (or for a delegated decision) on policies contained within the Development Plan and any other material consideration, including this SPD, other SPD and SPG and national policy and guidance.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Dr Jill Collens, Archaeology Planning Advisory Service	
By email 28/09/09	
Thank you for your letter about the Alsager Town Centre draft SPD. The document provides useful guidance to influence new development within the town, however the lack of adequate reference to the historic environment means that the objective to create a distinctive character could ignore the vital role that the historic environment plays in place-shaping and local distinctiveness. The draft PPS15: 'Planning for the Historic Environment' emphasises this point. The assessment of Alsager carried out by Cheshire Historic Towns Survey	Reference has been made to this document to allow people with an interest in the history of Alsager to study this area further.
(http://www.cheshire.gov.uk/Planning/Regenerationresources/Historic/NHE_HE_DL_Alsager_Arch_Assess.htm)	
provides useful background, mapping the development of settlement on the town and providing a context for the current image and character of the town centre.	
Barbara Hurst	
By email 28/09/09	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
1) Page 13. Yes basically - most of the inhabitants are proud of the town.	
2) All the Churches add to the areas of pride, all architecturally different but all play a part in providing a place of worship and form a very bit part of the history of the town and we trust also the future.	Further text has been added in relation to the churches as an area of pride.
3) I agree in the main but am still concerned that Alsager is split into two	Acknowledge. No amendments required, as this

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
halves.	is already raised within the vision. It is hoped that this document will help to bring together the two halves of Alsager Town Centre.
4) Why not develop the area opposite St. Mary's Church with small cafes and bars in a semi circle with garden frontage.	Milton Park, including the area opposite St Mary's Church is identified as Protected Open Space and therefore it is not considered appropriate to develop this area with small cafes and bars.
5) I agree it is vital we keep the frontage in line with a semi rural locality but at the same time we must make them look inviting to people to encourage people to stop and look.	Acknowledged. No amendments required. It is the intention of the proposals within this section to maintain the character of the area whilst providing attraction to the visitors to the town centre.
6) I think once a week is adequate for an outside market considering other towns are close by which have a weekly market. In view of our climate during the winter indoor facilities would be good.	Acknowledged. No amendment required. Current proposals are in line with this comment.
7) I agree we need shopping facilities that provide competition at the moment I drive to Kidgsgrove to Tesco and Aldi which gives me more choice but without a car this would not be possible as shopping bags are heavy to carry on buses.	
8) We do need to keep up to date with leisure facilities as these attract our young people as much as the elderly. It is of prime importance to maintain community facilities within the town centre. The Alsager U3A	encourage facilities for young people and for the

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
have done an awful lot to encourage people to mix and learn more with well over 1,000 members and this is still growing. Due to the ages members need to be centrally located.	
9) It is important to consider pedestrians as most people live a distance from the town centre	Acknowledged. No amendment required.
10)Yes I agree it is in the hands of the Planning Dept to see this is carried out and not to let their visions be swayed	Acknowledged. No amendment required.
11)If all the partnerships work together there should be no reason why the vision for the regeneration of Alsager Town Centre cannot come to fruition. But don't let it get too top heavy with management but allow the residents of Alsager to maintain an interest and they will respond by staying in Alsager for work, rest and play.	Acknowledged. No amendment required. It is hoped that this will be encouraged through a variety of partnership working, as promoted within this section of the SPD.
12)Yes I agree to all the proposals but care must be made with 13.12 (e)	Acknowledged. No amendment required.
being most important so that we don't generate a ghost town with good facilities but with valued customers having nowhere to park at a reasonable rate.	Cheshire East Council has made the decision to introduce car parking charges in order to ensure a uniform approach to car park management throughout the Borough; to benefit the town centre by removing long stay parking within the central locations freeing up spaces for shorter stay customers and visitors, to discourage non-essential car use; and encourage the use of more sustainable and healthy forms of travel.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Derek Brown	
By email 29/09/09	
The consultative document rightly states that the MERE is a cause of local pride and is of considerable environmental benefit.	
Questions: 1/ Who owns the Mere? 2/ If it is in the public domain, why is it effectively closed to the public? 3/ How could this extremely valuable and attractive asset be better used for the benefit of Alsager residents/taxpayers and to attract visitors to the town.	The Council do not own the Mere, the only section of land owned by the Council is the area off Crewe Road, known as Northolme Gardens.
The Mere should be a focal feature of Alsager not a hidden backwater.	
Jane Holtom, Delissimo	
By email 7/10/09	
First of all, thank you to all of you who have taken the time and effort to put together the Alsager Town Centre Strategy. It is clear that a great deal of time and effort has been spent on the vision to develop and regenerate Alsager town.	Acknowledged, thank you. No changes required.
As you know from the points I raised at the meeting in the civic centre, my husband and I run Delissimo, an independent food and homeware shop. The following points are raised from our perspective and anecdotal comments from our customers.	The SPD is unable to amend the Principal Shopping Areas are identified in the Local Plan, however, it can make recommendations which will be considered during the process of creating the LDF. Therefore further text has been added

Comments / Issues Raised

My first point concerns the areas identified as principal shopping areas. The area highlighted around the library stops abruptly at the bank corner traffic lights. There has been development along the Crewe road (where our shop is) and I recommend that this area is extended to include shops along to Sainsbury's Local, adjacent to St Mary's church.

However, I feel that the town is still split in two and we have customers who will not make the walk along to the other marked principal shopping area as it is too far, even though there are shops and food outlets dotted pretty much along the whole way. I think this is partly because there is a bit of a gap partly due to the grassed area in front of Milton Park and the distance is perhaps more perceived than actual.

It would be great to see Milton Park promoted and utilised as a channel and focal point from one end of town to the other, with entrances clearly signed – the cut through by the skateboard area, the gate opposite our shop and the main drive (or maybe make a new entrance at the back of the grassed area). It might be possible to include the square that was suggested in the meeting here.

I don't know how much work has been done on the movement of pedestrians through the town and how that can be influenced by the suggested developments, but just to give you a little insight into what has happened since the play area in Milton Park has been developed (a great asset to the town) – we often get families who park on the FREE car park, walk through to the library, round the corner to Delissimo to pick up take away coffee, ice creams and other park essentials, then through the single gate opposite our shop into the park. A family Saturday morning filled!

Response

to para. 8.6 to recommend the extension of the Principal Shopping Area.

This need to draw the town centre together in to one cohesive whole is highlighted within the vision of the SPD.

It is hoped that by looking again at the area defined as the Principal Shopping Areas this will help to draw the two areas together more than has previously occurred.

Further text has been added to paragraph 10.4 to highlight the need to improve access to and through Milton Park.

Comments / Issues Raised

My second point follows on from the first and is covered to some degree in the planning document. I think that the mish mash of tarmac, bollards, even some of the planting tubs clutter up the pavements and surrounding areas. Could this be replaced with new surfaces, co-ordinating and identifying main areas of the town?

I do have a concern about the traffic management through the town centre, specifically at bank corner traffic lights. I don't know what the collision incidents are there but I have seen so many near misses with drivers continuing to drive through lights when they have changed to amber and red. With the new development of the supermarket, and hopefully increased footfall into the town, and not just through it, I hope that some provision can be given to filter lanes or re-routing of traffic to help avoid accidents, and hopefully reduce the risk taking that some drivers take. The same drivers do not seem to have a problem obeying the lights at Lawton traffic lights just along the road so I think it must be to do with the filtering system.

Finally, and if nothing else is done, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE can we have improved, clear, simple signage, maps etc for the car parking, park, library, BUT MAINLY THE CAR PARKS, as I believe that many potential visitors just drive straight through Alsager as they are unaware of where they can park.

Response

The SPD highlights a number of policies within the Accessibility and Public Spaces sections which should improve the quality of the public spaces and footpaths.

This is considered to be a Highways Issue rather than planning and therefore no amendments have been made to the SPD. However, Highways have stated that the re-modelling of Bank Corner junction will only happen through redevelopment. The development of the Fairview Car Park may have an impact and as part of any planning application would be expected to provide details of any improvements such as junction designs and linked signals as a result.

Reduction in signing proliferation is a Government initiative and the SPD highlights signage within a number of policies, such as paragraph 10.7, and in Appendix G.

Comments / Issues Raised

Response

John Poulson, Secretary – Alsager Chamber of Trade

By email 05/10/09

I have seen the exhibition in the Library and attended the public meeting and agree with all the comments that people made at the meeting.

I fully support anything that enhances the future of Alsager, but I do feel as other people have said that the chances of this document being a success are negated by the introduction of car park charges.

Since the meeting two more businesses have stopped trading in Alsager (Bargain Booze and Living) and no matter what the document says, car park charges will deter residents and visitors from coming to Alsager.

If Spatial Planning want to see positive results from all the good work they have put into this document they should also oppose the introduction of car park charges.

Acknowledged. No changes required.

Cheshire East Council has made the decision to introduce car parking charges in order to ensure a uniform approach to car park management throughout the Borough; to benefit the town centre by removing long stay parking within the central locations freeing up spaces for shorter stay customers and visitors, to discourage non-essential car use; and encourage the use of more sustainable and healthy forms of travel.

It is not possible for the SPD to amend the decision previously taken by the Council in relation to car park charges.

Ann Hurlstone

By email 04/10/09

3.14 states that the SPD is intended to contribute to the implementation of the Cheshire East Interim Sustainable Community Strategy and says that the strategy co-ordinates the resources of the local public, private and voluntary organisations towards common purposes.

Comment: If you do not already do so, do you think it might be a good idea to include Churches on your list of consultees, as many of the priorities you list for the Sustainable Community Strategy seem to be in line with concerns of the Church community. There is a large membership within

One of the Officers responsible for the production of the Sustainable Community Strategy has been contacted and he has stated that faith groups will be involved with the future stages of production of the Sustainable Community Strategy. It should be noted that the current Interim document was prepared by drawing together the key points and issues of the previously produced documents for each of the former authorities.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
the main Churches in Alsager and would give a good cross section of viewpoints.	
4.8 gives a list of areas of local pride which includes the Victorian Heritage of the town.	
Comment: Apart from the photographs in the library, there is little visible history of Alsager on display, and I know many people who would have liked some type of museum or permanent display of Alsager's past. I believe this could enhance the town, and would be an added feature for visitors. There have been books printed, but there must be relics in existence, i.e. the Air Raid Siren which was on top of the Council Offices building; the Bell which was on the Signal Box at the station and I am sure many more if they could just be gathered together!	As a planning document this SPD can not propose the development of a museum. It does not however, prevent others from looking to propose or to develop such a project.
5.6 gives the Vision for the Town Centre.	
Comment: Bearing in mind that the strategy already notes the ageing population, I feel that a more specfic item could perhaps be included regarding the commitment to provide adequate public transport to bring people in to the town centre, and also to make provision perhaps for a weekly bus to Freeport for the elderly.	As a planning document it is not possible to propose to improve the public transport provision.
7.3 Image presented to visitors.	As a planning document it is not within the remit
Comment: Several people have commented that it would be nice to have a sign at the 4 gateways to Alsager saying something like "The People of Alsager Welcome Visitors" and I think this would perhaps be preferable to the signs currently in place.	of the document to specify the text to be included on the signage around the town centre. This may be an issue that could be discussed with the Town Council or the Alsager Partnership.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
7.11 The public art strategy Comment: This sounds an exciting prospect, and I am sure the schools and residents will benefit from an enhanced appreciation of the arts. I am sure that nothing would be displayed which would be a distraction to passing motorists, or a safety hazard. Whilst the children's art posters about speeding on some lamp posts around the town are very commendable, I have heard some drivers say that they are very distracting as they cannot be read easily.	It is hoped that as and when a Public Art Strategy is produced this will consider carefully the type of public art that is appropriate to the area in which it is to be located. Where public art is included within any planning application proposal this will be considered by the Development Management Officer.
7.34 Shop frontages Comment: Just a comment about the shop on the corner of Lawton Road/Sandbach Road South. Even though the people who run this at present are extremely pleasant and kind, it seems a pity that such a prominent part of the commercial zone is so unattractive, visually. It would be nice if something could perhaps be done to encourage a more attractive use of this sizeable plot in the future - but maybe that is something which is outside Cheshire East's control.	This area has been identified as having potential for future development. The Council can not force this to happen but can encourage any future developments to be of the highest quality.
8.7 Evening Economy Comment: It is noted that you have concerns about too many drinking establishments, and the well being and health of our young people should be of paramount importance.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
8.12 Licensed premises Comment: I have some doubts about your statement that "bringing licensed premises out onto footpaths also helps create a more relaxed feel	The text in paragraph 8.12 has now been amended.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
to the environment". The only thing it seems to do is have a smoking area on the footpaths which pedestrians have to walk through.	
8.13 Town Centre Market	
Comment: The one day Wednesday market seems to be an adequate facility which seems to be ideally situated at present, and it would be a pity if the Fairview area were redeveloped or altered. I am not sure that any proposal to relocate the market to a public building or public space would be very attractive and may be a retrograde step. However, this is something which is quite difficult to imagine without specific plans to look at.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
9. Community facilities	Unfortunately it has not been possible within this
Comment: Facilities at Churches are often used for leisure, cultural and community facilities and perhaps these should be highlighted as a major asset and strength of the Town. St. Mary's Church for instance is a wonderful venue for concerts and other Churches have very adequate halls for hire. This should not be forgotten when looking at the provision of suitable cultural facilities.	document to list all the buildings within Alsager that provide a community facility or use. However, these uses would be considered if any future redevelopment of these sites were to be considered. It should also be noted that text has been included within paragraph 9.4 to highlight the variety of facilities which have community value.
10.13 Car parking strategy	
Comment: This paragraph states that the regeneration of the town centre will generate a demand for car parking. Therefore, it is hoped that this will be taken into consideration when considering the future of the Fairview Car Park.	Acknowledged. No amendments required. This is highlighted within the policies for the Fairview Car Park area.

Yes. This was written in error and has been
amended.
Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Yes. This was written in error and has been amended.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Professor J. G. Dawber & Mrs. A. Dawber	
By email 02/10/09	
We obtained our own copies of the two relevant documents and we would like to congratulate the planning authority for such comprehensive and well produced documents. Obviously a great deal of thought and effort has gone into their preparation.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
We visited the Alsager library to view the display and one of us also attended the public discussion meeting held in the Alsager Civic Centre. After a very good power-point presentation, the meeting was thrown open to for questions and discussion. The disappointing feature of this was the amount of time people spent on raising the issue of car parking charges at the Fairview car park. The important thing was what was going to happen to our town centre facilities, not car park charges!!	
Having read the document and attended this meeting we feel fairly happy with the proposals and their aims and objectives.	
There are, however, one or two points which we would like to make. These mainly concern the redevelopment on the Library, Civic Centre and Council house. The Library and the Civic Centre are used very extensively by the people of Alsager and we are concerned that any redevelopment will not be disadvantageous. We are somewhat consoled by the statement 9.2 in the Local Development Framework document, and trust that this will be adhered to. The last thing that Alsager wants is some "flashy" replacement which does not offer facilities equal or better than the existing ones.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
We are also glad of the statement 8.10 in the same document in that nothing detrimental to the character of the area will be allowed to be developed, particularly in the provision of eating and drinking establishments.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
One final point concerns the redevelopment of Town Yard. The intentions behind the proposals are very well meant and will certainly be necessary when this site is vacated. However, our point concerns the adjacent United Reformed Church in Brookhouse Road. We have been members of this church for over 40 years. In the last few years the church has had a number of break-ins and the means of entry has been via Town Yard. The intruders have climbed over the walls and then broken windows at the back of the church to gain entry. It is something of an on-going worry for all the church members.	Further text has been added to paragraph 13.7.
In the redevopment of Town Yard we wonder if some sympathetic thought could be given to its possible impact on this lovely small church, which has been in existence for over 125 years.	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Dianne Wheatley, GONW	
By email 02/10/09	
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above-named draft document. We do have a few comments to make, which we hope that you will find helpful.	
1) Sections 4/5: in terms of the issues and vision for Alsager- I thought that the information on the issues in Appendix F was helpful in being Alsager-specific and could be incorporated more into the section in para 4.6. The vision then goes on to be quite generalised and I felt that these sections were missing a sense of the context/summary of how the SPD and actions of other partners hoped to address these issues- what actions were proposed. This could be looked at and developed.	1
2) There are references throughout the document to seeking contributions from developers towards infrastructure/improvements etc, and it would be helpful if the SPD showed the link to the parent LP policies context in this respect, as it does to the other policies.	Amendments have been made to include reference to the Local Plan within the SPD.
3) I thought that there SPD was stronger when it talked specifically about Alsager, and thought that this could be developed in some of the sections, such as in design- talking about the problems Alsager faced in this respect and how the SPD hoped to improve things, so that this section doesn't read too much like a general Design SPD.	Further Alsager specific references have been made where possible including parargraph 7.6 and 10.4.
4) I liked the use of illustrations and photographs.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
5) In terms of the development opportunity site at Fairview Car Park, it appears that the site has planning permission for retail development, but para 13.12 then goes on to talk about what type of development the Council is seeking on the site- i.e. a convenience store, and talks about it as a 'development opportunity'. Are the current permissions for a convenience store? Are they not likely to be built- is that why the Council has included this paragraph? The current wording is confusing in this respect. Also, you need to ensure that you are not making site allocations for additional retail provision through the SPD rather than through the DPD process.	The site has had a couple of permissions, and they are unlikely to be built. However, they have been ongoing discussions with a number of developers over the last few years and it is expected that there will be a new development on this site in the near future.
Catherine Hunt, Environment Agency	
By email 02/10/09	
7 Distinctive Character:	
Paragraphs 7.26 & 7.27 – Refuse and Recycling	
The provision for storage of waste and recyclables needs to be made not just for aesthetic or public health issues but also to encourage and facilitate the ability of both residential and commercial properties to temporarily store and make recyclable materials/refuse available for collection. Targets for the reduction of municipal wastes /proportions going to landfill are in place for all local authorities and facilities being planned to enable the processing of various waste types to further reduce waste to landfill. This is supported in the Regional Spatial Strategy by Policy EM11 and paragraph 9.24 which indicates that "Every type of development including town centres should: promote the minimisation of waste in site development such as the separation of different waste materials for recycling and reuse" and goes	A new paragraph has been added to the SPD (para. 7.28) to address this issue.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
onto to say "incorporate sufficient space to separate and store segregated waste streams waste and enable kerbside collection of materials".	
9 Leisure, Cultural and Community Facilities	
With regard to 9.4 we are in support of this principle and agree that community facilities should therefore aspire to be models of good practice in terms of sustainable design. We would recommend that any development aspires to achieve a BREEAM level 3.	Further text has been added to paragraph 9.6 to address this issue.
10 Accessibility	
We support the Council's decision to seek to provide a comprehensive system of safe and well signposted walking and cycling routes, both through and to the town centre and we encourage the use of walking, cycling and using public transport rather than the private car.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
We are pleased with the recommendations that 'the signage in Alsager Town Centre should be clear, unambiguous and avoid being unnecessarily intrusive' as this could help improve the town's legibility.	
11 Public Spaces	
We recognise the importance of open spaces often described as 'green lungs' and support the inclusion of these in any town centre. Open spaces can provide many benefits, including biodiversity, leisure and recreation.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
We support the inclusion of Section 11.9 which states 'this may included the creation of a network of tree lined streets and 'pocket parks' that provide green corridors for people and wildlife, and link to strategic open	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
space'.	
Sustainability Appraisal	
Objective 4 (p22) and section 1.10 (p43) refers to 2007 GQA chemical and biological water quality. Reference should be made to Water Framework Directive compliance as GQA has been superseded. More up to date Water Framework Directive compliance information for the Cheshire East area is available on the our website at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd .	Changes have been made to the Sustainability Appraisal to reflect this comment.
We agree with the assessment that the Alsager Town Centre SPD is unlikely to have a significant impact on the water quality of the Midland Meres and Mosses protected areas.	Acknowledged. No changes required.
We are unable to comment on the water quality implications for the River Dee and Bala Lake SAC as these lie outside of North West Region. They lie within Environment Agency Wales and are part of the Dee River Basin District. However, to us it seems very likely that your assessment that the SPD would have No Significant Effect on these would be correct.	
With respect to water quality the Local Development Framework needs to make reference to River Basin Planning. This is a new approach to water management that is stipulated in the European Water Framework Directive legislation. The Cheshire East area and specifically Alsager Town Centre lie within the North West River Basin District. Further information on this is available on our website at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd . River Basin Planning is the mechanism by which water quality is now managed and this requires close co-operation with stakeholders including local	Acknowledged. This will be considered during the production of future LDF documents.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
councils such as Cheshire East.	
E.W.Foster	
By post 30/09/09	
This is a very detailed document and it is obvious that a lot of effort has gone into its preparation.	
My comments are set against the numbered questions calling for observations.	
3.7 Pg 7 The length of Crewe Road included in the report has been the scene of a number of accidents with two happening recently. Footpath widths vary and will need extra attention in the project. The talked of a crossing at the "West End" becomes urgent when school children are crossing the main road.	
Ql Pg 13 Yes I do, the existing, well-tended Council gardens are much appreciated and should remain.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Q2 Pg 13 Very difficult but if funds were available," blind" Tee road junctions could be improved by the purchase of empty properties. The spaces cleared could be planted with low growth shrubs to enhance the area and improve visibility splays.	considered a Highways issue this has not been

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
	requirements.
Q3 & Q4 Pg15 The Vision is correct, but the Monday to Friday traffic congestion will hamper the projects completion. It may be outside the scope of these proposals but it is not too late to plan the routes of relief roads (A) to the South, (B) to the North of the town. If possible routes were "pencilled" in, future developments could be moulded to them.	This is considered to be a highways issue and as such have not been included within this SPD. However, these points have been highlighted with the Highways departments.
Pg17 (7.3) Could this happen? Good idea.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Q5 Pg23 Yes.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Q6 Pg26	
(a) They could start by re-wording the existing sign so that it read correctly WEDNESDAY MARKET!	
(b) The recent improvement to the entrance has made it more difficult to negotiate and some vehicles have to mount the kerb with their nearside wheels.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
(c) Wednesday is the day when the library is closed.	
Q7Pg27 Yes; There are no clothing outfitters in Alsager. I have asked neighbouring Proprietors but their replies were all about excess rents reducing profit margins.	Acknowledged. It is not possible for a planning document to control the level of rent charged and therefore no amendments have been made to the document.
Q8Pg 28 Yes -But the council should act now to secure the most useful buildings, courts & fields of UMIST before they are all destroyed.	The MMU site at Alsager is not actually covered by this SPD, however, it does have its own SPD

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
	and is also identified within the Local Plan, which seek to protect the facilities it provides.
Q9Pg31-Yes.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Q10Pg33 -Yes in outline.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Q11Pg35-Yes	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Q12Pg39-Once the Town Centre, Car Park and Council Yard have been built on, future residents will mourn the loss of open areas-which is surely not the aim of this planning document.	Parts of this document do indeed look to redevelop sites such as the Car Park and the Council Yard, however it also looks to protect and improve the public spaces within the town centre. Together they should ensure that only appropriate development occurs and that an appropriate level of space is retained within the town centre.
A supermarket on the Radway site could be serviced by their own shuttle bus service	At present there are no proposals for a supermarket in this area and there are a number of national, regional and local planning policies that would normally seek to ensure that retail development occurs within the town centre.
Local Issues 14.16 Many Alsager people shop in Sandbach	This may be the case but this hasn't been drawn out in the research mentioned.
14.17 See reply to Q7	Acknowledged. No amendments required.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
14.25 The frequency of the Crewe Bus service has recently been reduced for part of the day.	Amendments have been made to the information contained in this section of the document.
14.28 Many paths are substandard width, and need attention.	This issue has been raised with the Highways department. Whilst it is hoped that policies included within the SPD and in particular Appendix G should help to improve the quality of public spaces.
14.32 Not 100% true. This is basically correct, but when will graffiti become punishable? (perhaps some day spray paint cans will then carry a warning notice.)	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
14.33 The existing figures and predicted figures of the population would have been useful in this paragraph.	Further information has been added to this paragraph.
The Mere comes in for several mentions; but what a host of problems exist :-	
Three drowned in my time. (I helped in the recovery of one body.) People falling through thin ice and having to be rescued. Very deep water in some places and weed patches in others. Also the riparian owners are covenanted against allowing commercial activities. Any Council activity would require twenty-four hour supervision to satisfy Health and Safety requirements so it is best left as a viewpoint and waterfowl feeding attraction.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Nicole Johnson, Turley Associates on behalf of Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd	
By email 02/10/09	
Questions 3 and 4	A almanda da a d. Na amanda anta na avina d
In the first instance we would like to offer our support for the intentions of the Town Centre Strategy. We feel it is entirely appropriate to devise a strategy for safeguarding the future of Alsager Town Centre. On this basis we support the 'vision' for Alsager outlined at paragraph 5.4. We also support the 'objectives' for Alsager Town Centre at paragraph 5.6.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
However, we do question the wording of 'Objective 2'. Objective 2 says:	
"To maintain Alsager Town Centre as a vital and viable town centre area, with a variety of shops to meet the needs of the local residents, as well as a number of specialise shops and stalls that draw in visitors from further a field"	
The wording of Objective 2 implies that Alsager is a vital and viable town centre that only needs to maintain its current status and does not need any enhancement. This is at odds with paragraph 8.15 of the Draft Town Centre Strategy and the findings of the Cheshire Town Centres Study 2006-2021. At paragraph 8.15 it is said that 81 % of respondents to a survey thought that 'an improved range and choice of food shopping would encourage more people to shop in Alsager'. According to the survey of businesses summarised in the Town Centres Study, in Alsager 88% of respondents felt that the town needed an increased choice/range of shops to improve the centre.	This objective has now been reworded to address this concern.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
The Town Centres Study also states at paragraph ALS.08:	
With an Area Action Plan currently being prepared for the town centre, it is hoped that this will stimulate and deliver development opportunities which will enhance the vitality and viability of the town centre.	
Currently Alsager only has less than a 1% market share of available convenience goods expenditure and less than 0.5% market share for comparison goods expenditure within Cheshire. Alsager's convenience goods market share (0.7%) is the third lowest, ahead of only Middlewich (0.6%), Poynton (0.6%), Neston (0.5%) and Holmes Chapel 0.3%.	
On the basis of the above and our own observations of Alsager Town Centre we believe that the Town Centre Strategy should be making clear recommendations for improving vitality and Viability in Alsager.	
Question 7	
We agree with the principles of the proposed policies and proposals to create a vital and viable shopping area. However, we feel that they do not go as far as they could with directing new development. Firstly, at paragraph 8.16 the Draft Town Centre Strategy says that new retail provision should not undermine the vitality and viability of Alsager. In reality new retail development has definite potential to enhance a centre's Vitality and viability and this could be expressed at paragraph 8.16.	It is felt that the text in paragraph 8.16 is appropriate, although it is true that new development could enhance the vitality and viability of the town centre, it is important to ensure that it does not undermine the existing town centre developments.
This part of the Town Centre Strategy would also be a good opportunity to examine the suitability of the Principal Retail Areas. Earlier in the document key gateways and opportunity sites are explored. This analysis could be carried through to recommendations for amendments to the Principal	Further text has been included in para 8.6 to consider the Principal Shopping Areas in future LDF documents.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Shopping Area. The potential for altering the Principal Shopping Area could be explored with reference to the identified opportunity areas.	
Question 12	
Question 12 follows on from our comments regarding Question 7 above. The development sites identified provide the opportunity to expand the Principal Shopping Area but this aspect of the sites' potential has not been explored. The main examples of this are the Civic Quarter and Town Centre Car Park Development Sites. When combined these Development Sites provide a very good opportunity for Alsager to gain modern retail and civic facilities and enhance the Principal Shopping Area. However, the Draft Town Centre Strategy does not define the extent of the development sites nor approach the possibility for the two sites to be combined. Greater clarity would be beneficial for potential developers and Council Officers trying to interpret the document.	Further text has been added to para 8.6 to address the issue of the Principal Shopping Areas. For ease of reading and identification the two sites mentioned have been kept separate. However, this does not prevent development of the two sites as one.
Attached to this letter is a plan prepared by Sainsbury's Supermarkets Limited that demonstrates the potential of the two Development Sites. It illustrates that it is possible for the two sites to accommodate a modern foodstore and attractive purpose built council offices. The Cheshire Town Centres Study identifies that there is capacity in Alsager for new food and non-food retail floorspace which could support the provision of a scheme such as that shown on the attached plan.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
It is recognised that the detail for the Development Sites will come from the proposed Development Briefs. However, the Town Centre Strategy should provide the framework for the Development Briefs to be created. The Development Briefs should be able to take the aspirations of the Town	It is felt that if the SPD is read as a whole, alongside Local, regional and national policy, there is sufficient guidance to prepare a Development Brief. It is important to remember

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Centre Strategy and provide a tool for potential developers. At present the lack of detail within the Town Centre Strategy places too much onus on the preparation of Development Briefs. With all the detail on the Council's aspirations for the Development Sites being left to the Development Briefs there is a danger of a gap in planning policy being created.	that the SPD can only ever supplement existing policy and can not create any new allocations.
Conclusion	
The Alsager Town Centre Strategy is an excellent opportunity to promote the enhancement of the town and provide a sound basis for the creation of Development Briefs. At present it is our view that the draft document does not fully realise its potential. We recommend that it be amended to include:	
Analysis of the Primary Shopping Area.	Acknowledged. Each of these points has been
Aspirations for altering the Primary Shopping Area.	considered above.
Clearer guidance on how the vitality and viability of Alsager can be enhanced.	
• Sufficient information on the aspirations for the Development Sites to allow guidance for developers prior to the creation of the Development Briefs.	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Jim Granter	
By email 01/10/09	
Please consider that small is sometimes more beautiful than big.	
With the Health Centre and the proposed new supermarket (to which I look forward) both being quite large buildings for this small town, we do not need any more to create "a distinctive character" or "landmark buildings".	It should be noted that the SPD does highlight that any new development should be of an appropriate scale, form and massing, this will
The Library, Civic Centre and a building with great potential culturally or for businesses (the current information centre - open mornings only) are of sizes that are appropriate in scale to their visual context and their function. Replacement by one big edifice dominating that corner site will be a disaster, if approved. The £70,000 reported to be the current maintenance / repair cost of the Civic Centre is an issue that does not logically lead to deciding upon a new one-stop multi-purpose pile.	include any development of the Library and Civic Centre. Size is not the only way in which to create a landmark.
 A major impact on the Town Centre which can be beautiful, distinctive and improve the whole experience of being there, or thereabouts, would be: an integrated refurbishment of the whole surface of the pavement on both sides of the centre, reaching as far as possible in all 4 directions from Bank Corner using high quality and "distinctive", attractive but durable and <u>flat</u> materials and 	This issue has been raised with the Highways section. Through the SPD it is hoped that longer term authority initiatives for public realm redesign and inclusion of developer funded improvements along frontages to brownfield sites in the town centre will help to improve these public spaces and footpaths.
 incorporating street furniture such as seats, lamps and well placed signs or notices. 	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Nothing has a greater impact on a room in a house as the beauty of the floor. All else is wasted effort and expense if the lowest surface is	
• ugly,	
badly designed,	
higgledy-piggeldy in construction and materials,	
awkward to move along and through and	
eternally treated as an afterthought,	
when it needs to be the first thought.	
All the above characteristics describe our current surface(s) and have a fundamentally detrimental "impact" on everything else in the proximity.	
You will all be aware, of course, of the appalling state of the <u>road</u> surface approaching and through the town. Could this not effectively and efficiently be addressed at the same time as the above?	
Glennis Roper	
By email 30/09/09	
I attended the meeting at the Civic Centre Alsager on Monday evening. The meeting was poorly attended which was a great pity as I am sure that most Alsager residents are not aware of the massive changes that are being planned for our little town.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
There are a lot of fine ideas for Alsager but I wonder how many will actually happen. I am quite sure that you are planning and have a developer ready	The SPD can not allocate land and therefore it can not identify the exact end use of any

Co	mments / Issues Raised	Response
civ bu	h the funds to purchase the land that our Civic Centre, library and former ic offices occupy. I particularly asked what this proposed 'landmark ilding' was going to be and asked for reassurance that it would not be a permarket but of course I did not received any assurance.	development.
mo	vas also horrified to hear in answer to a question from the floor that any oney raised from the sale of the Civic Buildings would not be earmarked Alsager!	The sale of the land and any money raised is not a matter considered appropriate for inclusion within a SPD.
the the ma hu	e hub of community life in Alsager is centred on the Civic Centre, and e library and it is a beautiful setting with the well kept gardens. It is where christmas Tree is placed every Christmas. The annual Charities arket is held there and now the Christmas market which attracts indreds of visitors is centred there to. Should you persist in replacing all swith a supermarket you will destroy the heart of Alsager.	Section 13.8 to 13.10 look to ensure that the most appropriate development occurs in this location, including the provision of a new or improved area of public space.
pla de in Mo	nderstand that it is against Government planning for a supermarket to be used on land vacated by the MMU as it is classed as an out of town velopment. I think that it is earmarked for housing. There are no shops that part of Alsager surely a supermarket there would open up the area. The post people that use a supermarket use a car and if not the Rural Rider is serves the area concerned.	As stated national, regional and local policy look to ensure that retail development normally occurs within the town centre.
de	e suggestion for an indoor market is ridiculous, every market is in cline, you only have to look at Sandbach and Crewe to look how they we declined over the past 20 years.	The SPD looks to maintain the market, it will be for the market owners and any developers to discuss the potential for an indoor market.
In	your wisdom you are introducing car park charges in the New Year. I	Cheshire East Council has made the decision to

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
feel like most residents that you are going to drive business away from Alsager not encourage people to come here it is going to cost at least 50p to visit the library to change a book, that is before you relocate it to somewhere else in Alsager.	introduce car parking charges in order to ensure a uniform approach to car park management throughout the Borough; to benefit the town centre by removing long stay parking within the central locations freeing up spaces for shorter stay customers and visitors, to discourage non-essential car use; and encourage the use of more sustainable and healthy forms of travel.
In conclusion as an Alsager resident of nearly 50 years I am extremely concerned and worried about what is going to happen here and I just hope that you are not going to destroy the Alsager that we know and love. Yes we do need more variety of shops and a supermarket but not a supermarket on the Fairview car park or the site of the Civic Centre. The beautiful conservation area around St Mary's Church has been spoiled by the Sainsbury's supermarket in the former church hall I wonder how ever they managed to obtain planning permission for such an eyesore!!	No amendments required.
Mr Cotton	
By post 02/10/09	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Thank you for all the Public Consultation on the above document. When it is adopted I hope it will be applied rigorously in assessment of any relevant Planning Applications.	The SPD will be a material consideration in any relevant planning application.
I would like to make a few observations which are outlined below which are intended to be constructive not criticism of the document.	This business has been highlighted by the Alsager Partnership and a number of people during the consultation as a good example of

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Question 1	development within the town centre.
I accept the issues and areas of pride indicated although I don't think the Bank Corner Pub should be singled out above other primary businesses.	
Question 2 Although the two Conservation Areas are not strictly within the Town Centre I feel they should be included somewhere with the aim of merging them together linked through Milton Park into one Conservation Area.	As this is a Town Centre Strategy is not felt appropriate to include policies looking to merge these two Conservation Areas. However, it is an idea which may be considered in greater detail during the consideration of the historic environment in other LDF documents.
Question 3 I agree with the overall vision.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Question 4 Is improving access WITHIN the Town Centre for cyclists really a valid objective? There seems little scope to do so and distances are all walkable. Improving access TO the Town Centre is certainly valid.	It may be possible for people to cycle as part of a recreational pursuit within the town centre, stopping off to take part in other leisure activities or stopping as a visitor at any number of facilities or shops.
Question 5 I have always considered that any redevelopment of the Co-Op Store in Alsager should face the street (ie Lawton Road) not the car park. The main entrance should be on Lawton Road with windows not a blank wall facing the street.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Therefore I am in favour of the policies and proposals and hope that Paras	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
7.16, 7.17, 7.18 will be rigorously applied to any future Co-Op Planning Application.	
However, I feel the Gateways indicated on Diagram 4 are too close being actually at the Town Centre and have little scope for development of distinctive features since they involve residential property. I feel the gateways should be at a larger radius from the Town Centre where there is sufficient space to add some distinctive feature e.g.:	As this is a Town Centre Strategy it has not been possible to consider all the gateways
Eastern Gateway – by Twyfords entrance possibly with some distinctive art incorporating the word Alsager.	suggested here. Although it is acknowledge that gateway features at these points may be
Western Gateway - Hassall Road corner	beneficial for the town as a whole. The station site has however, been included as a potential
Northern Gateway – Some distinctive feature incorporated in grass verge of service road at Lodge Lane / Sandbach Road North junction.	gateway.
Southern Gateway – Alsager station with appropriate signing to the Town Centre and a 'You are Here' Town map.	
Question 6	
The Council should support the existing outdoor market but I do not think it needs to be held more frequently. Since Alsager does not have an existing indoor market hall creating a new one would not seem a very efficient use of retail floorspace particularly if it were closed for part of the week.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Specialist occasional markets could be organised in the existing Civic Centre or a Farmers Market appended to the existing market at intervals could be an option.	

Comments / Issues Raised

Question 7

I feel the first sentence of Para 8.14 is too restrictive. We would be glad of new retail provision anywhere within the prescribed Town Centre boundary so the 'main focus' should not just be 'the Principal Shopping Areas'.

Also I do not think that the whole of Fairview Car Park should be indicated as a development opportunity in Diagram 6. It is only the Co-Op store site that is the development opportunity with possibly a small portion of the Car Park.

Question 8

In itself Section 9 is satisfactory and I would agree with the proposed policies and proposals but could this Section in fact be included in Section 13 as the guidance for those development opportunities.

Question 9

I agree with the proposed policies but feel the sentiment at para 10.3 that the 'ease and effectiveness of walking should be enhanced' should be expressed more forcibly. See reasons and comments under Question 10.

Any car parking strategy will have to take account of 'charges' and any

Response

It is felt appropriate to encourage new retail development to be focussed within the Principal Shopping Areas, however, this does not prevent retail development from occurring elsewhere within the town centre. It should also be noted that the SPD also highlights the potential for further consideration of the Principal Shopping Areas in future LDF documents.

Although the whole of the car park is identified as a development opportunity the text does highlight the need for any development to ensure that an appropriate level of parking remains.

It is felt appropriate for Section 9 to remain a separate section as the retention of community, leisure and cultural facilities will apply to any developments within the town centre not just those developments on the sites identified.

It is hoped that the final sentence of para 10.3 does express this more forcibly.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
potential repercussions.	
Question 10	
I have long held the view that one of the simplest most effective ways to enhance the Town Centre would be to sort out the footpath on the north side of Lawton Road. This could be one wide 'boulevard' type footpath all at one level all the way from the Civic Quarter to Wesley Avenue. Currently there are 8 vehicular crossing points over the footpath which is dangerous for pedestrians and causes traffic problems as vehicles wait to turn into premises. There should be no vehicles crossing the footpath or parking on the frontages including at any new Co-Op. Most if not all premises could have rear vehicular access from Fairview Car Park. See photos of how it is now and how it could be and imagine the possibilities with flower tubs, good quality street furniture (e.g. seats etc), bright modern paving, safe (clear views for CCTV) full of interest leading to a pleasant shopping experience.	This issue has been raised with the Highways department. Whilst it is also hoped that policies within the SPD, including Appendix G will lead to an improvement in the public spaces and footpaths.
As a long term project the new paving should be extended to the opposite side of the road and carried through to the western end of the Town Centre area to more positively link the two together.	
Therefore I would like to see some definitive wording in these Planning Guidelines that would promote this concept in Section 11, 13 and Appendix G. Thus supporting the desire expressed at Para 10.3.	
Question 11 I agree with the proposals.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Question 12 In section 12 development up to 2026 was mentioned. No mention of environmental issues has been made so far. Yet if we are talking of new build by 2026 that would have to last at least for the next 50 years possibly into the next century they should all be carbon neutral. The technology exists today and will improve in the future. This environmental feature should be explicit in the requirements somewhere but not hidden under other titles like possibly Design Criteria. Perhaps an additional Development Brief could be included Eg All new build to be carbon neutral. All refurbishments / modifications / conversions to include as many energy reduction measures as possible.	It is not felt necessary to include further policies on sustainability of buildings within this SPD as other planning policy documents look at the sustainability of development, this includes national, regional and local policy.
This issue should also be carried through into the Sustainability Appraisal.	
Sustainability Appraisal	
I am not competent technically to comment objectively on the SA and remain somewhat confused as to its value because it seems to me that both the SPD and the SA can each be massaged until they agree with one another.	
Some of the objectives are so broad that it is not difficult to come up with agreeable comments in the columns of the matrix. No real mechanisms of how the targets will be achieved are discussed so it is difficult to see how effective the Annual Monitoring Report will be.	considered as part of the SA process.
However, one observation I will make is that in Section 5 under environment whilst renewable forms of energy are mentioned energy	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
reduction, measures specifically in buildings are not. Any new build developments considered over the time scale of the SPD should be carbon neutral. Experience from pilot projects in other parts of the country should be taken into account. Similarly the requirement for energy reduction measures to be applied to all premises within the town centre, existing or modified should be highlighted. Not only does it affect the environment but it affects the economic viability of individual businesses and therefore the viability of the whole town centre.	
Mr and Mrs Clare	It is hoped that policies contained within this
By post 02/10/09	document will ensure that any development
Proposed redevelopment of Village Centre	within the town centre are appropriate and are of
We are writing to object to the above proposals as we think these changes will totally ruin the village centre. At the moment the layout of the centre gives the impression of space and the gardens are always clean, tidy and colourful, which is a joy to see.	the highest possible quality. It is intended ensure that public space is maintained replaced with equivalent or better quadevelopments where appropriate.
LIBRARY. We use information can be obtained, and various events that the library put on.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
COUNCIL OFFICES. Any problems or questions we have can be sorted out there and then with the office staff, also they give a variety of	At present it is the Council's intention that the Civic Centre, the library and the Council offices

information leaflets and brochures etc. Payments for various services can

The civic centre is well used, for various charity functions:- which is a

CIVIC CENTRE. What would we do without the civic centre?

be made and the staff are very helpful.

should remain within Alsager town centre.

However, it would allow for these buildings to be

replaced with newer buildings or for the existing

buildings to be redeveloped or refurbished.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
meeting place, having a cup of tea with scones or sandwiches.	
Alsager Animals in need, St. Lukes Hospice, The Gardening club, and various other charities have coffee mornings in the Civic Centre.	
There are Youth Bands which have evening events, which are very popular, also various other shows.	
The blood donor unit visits regularly, there are groups for Mums and their pre-school children,	
You should call in the Civic Centre when there are events, have a coffee and see how busy they are, sit down and have a chat with some of the people in there. You will be surprised how many people meet in the Civic Centre and how many people, especially the elderly, look forward to the next meeting.	
CAR PARKING.	
Many of the staff from the shops use the car park.	The policies contained within the Alsager Town Centre SPD aim to ensure that the needs of
The elderly are brought in by a carer to help them do their shopping.	both the pedestrian and car users are balanced.
People going to the shops or Civic Centre.	It is intended that an appropriate layout will be provided that ensures drivers have an easy to
Mums taking their children to school or play groups.	navigate car park, whilst pedestrians feel safe Any public art, lighting and/or trees would also need to be well considered, as stated in the SPD, to ensure that they provide a suitable environment for all car park users.
If the car parking charges go ahead many drivers will park down side streets taking up half of the kerb. In Cedar Avenue and Station Road there are many elderly people some using wheelchairs etc. If vehicles park on the kerb, thus avoiding paying parking charges, then life gets more difficult for the elderly. Many disabled who have to use motorised chairs have to	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
drive on the road because of cars/vans obstructing the path.	
GARDENS.	
The gardens are a credit to the council gardeners, they are always clean and tidy, the borders are so colourful and well kept, the seats around the area gives us a chance to sit down and have a chat and a rest.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
TOWN YARD	This desument can allegate land and as such
The town yard which is on Brookhouse Road adjoining the park should be made part of the park giving extra facilities:-	This document can allocate land and as such can not specify what type of development should occur on this site. It does however, highlight the
Toilets for the Parents to take their children to.	need for this site to provide a link between the town centre and Milton Park.
Facilities for various functions and events giving the park extra space.	town centre and willon Park.
THE PARK.	
The work that has been done in the park is wonderful and given parents a lovely place to take their children. It is well used and the children and parents are getting more exercise and fresh air, which is a great deal better than children sat in the house playing games.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
The ongoing improvements in the park have made such a difference to the surrounding areas.	
If youngsters have nothing to do then we are asking for trouble.	
We have so much going on in the centre of Alsager please don't spoil it. If anything should be done in the centre then improve the Civic Centre, the library and the Council Offices.	Section 9 and paragraph 13.9 both highlight the need to retain important community, leisure and cultural facilities including the Civic Centre, the

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
You will rip the heart out of the community spirit that we have if we loose these facilities in the heart of Alsager.	library and the Council Offices.
POST CODE	
If you are considering doing any change you should consider changing the postcode:- Our house insurance, car insurance and any other insurance would be cheaper.	Unfortunately it is not possible for this document to make any changes to the postcode for the
Seriously ill patients would be able to get the drugs that they need instead of being a post code lottery, we have experience of this because we have been in this position and it was a traumatic time. If our post code had been a Cheshire post code then there would have been no problem.	area.
Mrs S Dyke	Castian 0 and paragraph 12.0 both highlight the
By post 02/10/09	Section 9 and paragraph 13.9 both highlight the need to retain, or replace, important community,
Aspects to keep	leisure and cultural facilities including the Civic
 Centre of the community in Alsager. Library – Civic Hall – Gardens (in front of Civic) – Information / Council Offices – Fairview. Whether updated or rebuilt – to remain in the same central location 	Centre, the library and the Council Offices Paragraph 13.10 considers the provision of solandscaping in the Civic Quarter.
Aspects to Alter	It is hoped that design related policies within this
An enlarged supermarket on the present Co-Op site with landscaping to give atmosphere – not a giant 'hangar'	document, the Local Plan, regional and national planning guidance will all help to ensure that any future development is of the highest quality.
 Frontage to shops from Carpet Shop to Grapevine (in Lawton Road), to be made safer for pedestrians ie steps to ease the change 	It is hoped that paragraph 10.7 will help to

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
of level by the vets, uniform paving of a decorative nature to replace the patchwork tarmac.	address this issue.
Smarten up shop fronts in Crewe Road e.g. take-aways	It is hoped that paragraph 13.3 and paragraphs 7.35 to 7.38 will help to encourage this.
Create a Park entrance through the middle of the semi-circular flower beds in Crewe Road	Further text has been added to paragraph 10.4 to improve the access to and through Milton Park.
 Buy up empty properties backing on to the Mere – create more public access. 	Paragraph 11.9 does consider the potential to exploit areas such as the Mere.
Tidy up area between Wine Shop and Alcocks TV Shop to create an attractive entrance to the Park.	Paragraph 11.9 does consider the potential to exploit areas such as Milton Park, whilst paragraph 10.4 looks to improve the access to and through the Park.
 Impose Health and Safety Regulations to remove dilapidated garage. 	It is not possible to address this issue within this document.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Aspects to Introduce A development of the Town Yard (when vacated) that enhances activities in the Park. A café / restaurant with windows overlooking the Park which could serve shoppers and park visitors. To include toilet / baby changing facilities which would enable people to spend longer in the Park and make concerts etc more accommodating for families and elderly residents.	This document can allocate land and as such can not specify what type of development should occur on this site. It does however, highlight the need for this site to provide a link between the town centre and Milton Park.
The character of Alsager is already established – it needs some investment. Open spaces – like the gardens in front of the Civic Hall – are just as important as buildings. There is a shortage of green spaces in the town – we do not want to lose what we have.	Text has been included within paragraph 13.10 to ensure that the public space in front of the Civic Centre is replaced with a high quality scheme if it were to be developed. There is also an entire section of the document related to Public Spaces to ensure that they are of an appropriate quality. Whilst any areas of Protected Open Space are covered by Policy within the Local Plan.
Please do not clutter up Bank Corner or the Town amenities with Market Stalls. They can look untidy and are alright where they are – tucked away behind the shops.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Beautiful trees are worth more than public art.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Do not try to make Alsager something it can never be — a 'bustling' shopping centre. Residents value its village atmosphere. Although a wider choice of convenience shopping would be a welcome there is not the room for an area of shops selling comparison goods. There is scope for	The document identifies the suggested requirements for both convenience and comparison goods as identified in the retail study of 2006. Whilst the objectives do highlight

Comments / Issues Raised	Response	
specialist shops of a range comparable to the existing businesses.	the importance of specialist shops and stalls.	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Mr D. Beasley	
By Post 18 th September 2009	
Thank you for providing the opportunity to view proposals for the improvement of Alsager town centre as detailed in the Draft Supplementary Planning Document. I found the document to be laid out well and, with the exception of the maps, easy to read.	
The document is interesting and informative in a number of different ways. Firstly, it provides a background history and geography of the town centre and a resume (description) of what the town centre currently consists of, both materially (buildings and economy) and socially (people and their activities). It enables the resident to perceive that with which they are familiar in the context of the wider scene, and awakens them to likely future change.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Secondly, the inclusion of details of the restraints and requirements imposed by 'the system', and to which planners are subject, enables the reader to understand something of the constraints implicit in formulating and enacting planning policy.	
To me the document demonstrates that the perception of what the town is, and how its function, appearance and quality of life, may be improved, is in capable and sympathetic hands. I believe that the objectives of the proposals are more or less universally acceptable as ideals and, if implemented, would result in a model townscape and social community. I hope that support for the proposals will be reflected in the public response to the consultation document.	

Comments / Issues Raised

However, at a third level, because they are a 'vision', the proposals lack reality. The inevitable shortage of finance, stemming from the financial difficulties of both State and County, will impinge on investment in both the public and private sectors and will delay, if not defeat, many of the stated objectives. Consequently, a prioritisation of the objectives is necessary.

The fact that planners are concerned with the appearance of shop frontages, or of 'gateways' or of linking the town's two shopping areas, counts for little! The burning issues for most townsfolk relate to the provision and precise location of a superstore, and of the future of the Fair View Car Park. It will be only when the detailed plans for these sites are published and when the views and opinions of towns folk towards them are taken into account, that the people of the town will perceive that the 'consultation' has been genuinely meaningful.

Question 1: Do you think that the issues and areas of pride which have been identified are appropriate and reflect the current situation in Alsager Town Centre? Yes.

Question 2: Would you like to contribute any further issues or areas of pride, which should be considered by this SPD? Yes.

- 1. The skateboard and children's adventure playground in Milton Garden.
- 2. A U3A membership of over 1,000 elderly residents, with the organization being based in the Civic Hall.

Question 3: Do you agree with the proposed vision for Alsager Town Centre? & Question 4: Do you agree with the proposed objectives for the

Response

As this document is not time limited it is felt appropriate to have some aspirational objectives, although it is acknowledged that some may take longer to come forward than others.

Acknowledged. No amendments required.

It is intended that SPD will provide guidance for the developers of any future development within the town centre and will be a material consideration in any planning application made.

Acknowledged. No amendments required.

The SPD has been amended to make reference to the U3A and to the children's play area in Milton Park.

Acknowledged. No amendments required.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
Alsager Town Centre SPD?	
Yes to both but!	
All visions are idealistic, but are comforting, altruistic 'umbrella' introductory statements. That expressed in the Alsager SPD is less grandiose and pretentious than many. It appears to me to have been distilled into a series of common sense, and widely acceptable objectives. To that extent I am in agreement with most of Section 5 of the document.	
Nevertheless there is one statement in 5.4 that I wish to comment on. "The objective should be to link these areas (the two shopping areas) with a consistent high quality of public realm". The term 'Public Realm' is not defined in the Glossary, but there already is some quality of land use in this area. It is found on both sides of Crewe Road in the form of 'The Avenue' Conservation Area on the northern side and the lawn extension of Milton Garden on the southern side. One hopes that the enhancement of this important area will not imitate the unworthiness set by the wanton disregard shown by the planning authority towards 'The Avenue' Conservation Area. For a food store to be permitted to be built within one of only two Alsager conservation areas and abutting the hall of a Grade 2 listed building (St Mary Magdalene Church), has created a distasteful precedent and one detrimental to confidence in the conduct and implementation of the 'Vision'. Further, the Store's potential for impeding traffic flow along Crewe Road and risking pedestrian safety along its footpath, was ignored in favour of the access requirements of a powerful commercial interest. This is in conflict with the ethos of the SPD regarding both accessibility and the provision of a safe environment. Whilst realising that 'trade-offs' are an inevitable product of development negotiations, one	A definition of public realm has now been added to the glossary. It is agreed there is some good quality public realm in this area and this should be maintained and the same high quality principles promoted elsewhere.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
hopes that the outcome of decisions made relating to the Fair View Car Park and the proposed new food store will be more environmentally and socially responsible than has been the case with the Crewe Road development.	
The grassed area and ornamental flowerbed located along Crewe Road presents a site with the potential for a further conflict of interest between proposed development (of linkage) and current amenity. The land provides access to Milton Garden, and is a pleasant area in which to sit and relax. Also, the only public and disabled toilet provision in the town is located here. It is a poor site for this facility due to a lack of parking space. A second facility, in the Fair View Car Park area, is needed.	
Question 5: Do you agree with the proposed policies and proposals to create a distinct character for Alsager Town Centre? If not, please explain why, for example should the policies or proposals be expressed differently or are there other issues they should focus on?	
Yes.	
There are two buildings of considerable contemporary architectural merit recently added to the townscape of Alsager- Cranberry Point (retail+residential) and Alsager Medical Centre (NHS + Community Services).	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Although lying outside the town centre, both occupy prominent positions on its approach ('Gateway' locations?).	
Question 6: Should the Council provide support for the market to be held more frequently (No) or to be held indoors as well as outdoors? No.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.

Comments / Issues Raised Response Question 7: Do you agree with the proposed policies and proposals to create a vital and viable shopping area within Alsager Town Centre? Yes. This proposal involves the two most prominent issues of concern to Alsager residents. The apparent inadequacies of the existing Civic Hall, Town Library and Council buildings, and the desirability of replacing them. do not appear as priorities to townsfolk. They count for nothing when the burning issues for most townsfolk relate to the provision of additional facilities for food shopping in a superstore, and the impact of its size and location on the future of the Fair View Car Park. Acknowledged. No amendments required. Public demand for increased food shopping facilities has been demonstrated by past surveys. The present day major provider is the Co-It is intended that this SPD will provide guidance op store. This store is handicapped by its small size (floor area), and also for all future developments within Alsager by its inefficient and dangerous access, and its visual ugliness. A single including the development of a new foodstore. retail outlet (still the Co-op?) should replace it. Its floor area should represent an expansion over that of the present store, yet be related statistically to the population of its catchment area. It would extend across the land currently occupied by 2-12 Lawton Road and would be fronted by shrubs/flower beds. The site of the building would be set back to incorporate the area of its present rear car park and part of the field presently housing a children's play area. I would advocate that this play area should be abandoned. A replacement already exists in the form of the nearby Milton Garden play area. The land that the field currently occupies would become an integral part of the Fair View Car Park, doubling up as the site of an outdoor, Wednesday market. Laterally, the Store's car park

would integrate with the Fair View Car Park, resulting in a 'Crewe Asda'

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
type car park.	
Such a development would leave the Library, Civic Centre and One Stop Shop in their present locations. However, a future combination of the land they occupy could house a new public building incorporating their separate functions, and one served by access from the Fair View Car Park. Such a building, following the line of the road, could become the landmark building referred to in 13:9.	
Question 8: Do you agree with the proposed policies and proposals for leisure, cultural and community facilities within Alsager Town Centre? Yes.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Question 9: Do you agree with the proposed policies and proposals to make Alsager Town Centre accessible?	
Yes.	It is expected that the highways department, the
However, Alsager is so small as to make many suggestions excessive. As much car parking space as possible should be made available at Fair View. Thought could be given to the insertion of small traffic islands at sites illustrated on the accompanying sketch. Although there is generally excellent provision of 'dropped' kerbs, there are a few locations where an insertion, or repair, is necessary.	development management officer and any developer of this site will negotiate an appropriate level of parking for the town centre and the development proposed.
Question 10: Do you agree with the proposed policies and proposals to provide for high quality public spaces within Alsager Town Centre?	It is hoped that the new text included within paragraph 10.4 has addressed the issue of
Yes, although there already is a major area of P.O.S. in the form of Milton Garden. The introduction of the skate board and children's playground	1. 0.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
facilities represents a major forward step in its beneficial use. Access to Milton Garden could be improved by direct access through the small car park behind the NAT West bank.	
Question 11: Do you agree with the proposed policies and proposals for a well managed town centre?	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Yes- but who constitutes the Alsager Partnership? What is its standing and is it an elected body?	The Alsager Partnership was formed in 2006 to improve the economic, social and cultural health of the Alsager Area and is the result collaboration between Alsager Town Council, Cheshire East Council, and representatives from the community and businesses.
	The Objective of the Alsager Partnership is to "To promote for the public benefit, the improvement of the economic, social and cultural health of the Alsager Area."
Question 12: Do you agree with the proposed development opportunities? If not, please explain why, for example should the policies or proposals be expressed differently or are there other issues they should focus on? Yes	Acknowledged. No amendments required.

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
English Heritage By Post 08/09/09	
I refer to your letter dated 14th August 2009 consulting English Heritage on the above document I see from the SWOT Analysis in Appendix E that Alsager's Victorian architecture is identified as one of the town's strengths and its heritage as an opportunity with the historic environment needing further protection and enhancement Whilst the spatial portrait briefly covers the history of the town I suggest that the SPD would benefit from further analysis of what makes up this special character,	Much of the Victorian character of the town is actually outside of the town centre with only a very small number of properties within the town centre showing this same quality of character.
An objective of .the SPD is "to create a distinctive character for the Town Centre" it is not clear how much of this creation is to be new and how much it will rely of protecting and enhancing existing historic environment assets, My records show only one listed building within the study area however there will be buildings, features and spaces of local value and it would be beneficial if these were identified as part of the SPD to help inform future development proposals and schemes for enhancement	It is expected that the creation of a distinctive character will be mostly through the development of new buildings. Further text has been added to paragraph 7.35 to give greater consideration to the historic value of buildings.
The Vision for Alsager Town Centre is supported however it is suggested that reference to protecting and enhancing the town centre's historic environment is included in the objectives.	Due to the small number of buildings of historic interest within the town centre it is felt inappropriate to include this within the objectives of the town centre strategy.
Section 7 of the document is called "Distinctive Character" yet it does not identify or describe any elements of the town centre's historic environment which currently make or could potentially make a positive contribution, English Heritage supports the drive for architectural quality and we refer	It is expected that the creation of a distinctive character will be mostly through the development of new buildings. Further text has been added to paragraph 7.35 to give greater

Comments / Issues Raised	Pagnanga
	Response
you to our joint publication with CASE <i>Building in Context</i> . This section refers to the retention of traditional shop fronts and this supported, however it would be helpful to include relevant illustrations of Alsager town centre, This section could also cover enhancement schemes aimed at safeguarding and improving distinctive character.	consideration to the historic value of buildings.
Section 10 refers to reducing street clutter and this is supported. I enclose for your information our guidance on <i>How to do</i> a <i>Street Audit;</i> other publications in our <i>Streets for All</i> series will also be helpful.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Mr R J Cox	
By Post 03/09/09	This is a planning document and as such does
1) Fairview Car Park and Fairview Recreation Ground	not make decisions in relation to the sale of
a) I feel that Cheshire East Council should not sell of any part of this area nor hand over control of it to any private developer.	land. A retail study was undertaken in 2006 which
b) The possible building of a superstore on this site – I note that there is no analysis of the potential effects of such a store on other businesses in Alsager. More Charity Shops?	considered the level of spend available within Alsager this concluded that there was capacity for between 860sqm and 1,720sqm (net) of convenience floorspace.
 c) Any sale of the Fairview Car Park or recreation ground would be irreversible. Any bad effects would be irreversible. 	convenience noorspace.
2) Emphasis on Shops in the Development Plan	A retail study was undertaken in 2006 which
The assertion that Alsager is under-shopped and that overall spend can be massively increased seems to me naïve for the following reasons:	considered the level of spend available within Alsager this concluded that there was capacity
i) 80%+ of people who live in Alsager work outside Alsager and	for between 860sqm and 1,720sqm (net) of

Commen	ts / Issues Raised	Response
	therefore shop on their way home.	convenience floorspace.
ii)	There is no way Alsager will compete with Shopping Centres and hypermarkets with free car parking. Money spent on car parking in Alsager will reduce the spend in shops and deflect current motorist customers elsewhere.	
iii)	No cognisance has been taken of the rise of internet shopping, already 6% of total retail spend and rising e.g. could a bookshop in Alsager compete with Amazon?	
iv)	Arguably the UK as a whole is 'over-shopped' e.g. bankruptcy of Woolworths, withdrawal of C&A from British markets, problems at B&Q and so on.	
3) Social	and Community facilities in Town Plan	
a)	I would like to see more power of decision delegated to Alsager Town Council from Cheshire East Council.	This is a planning document and can not control
b)	If Alsager is to retain any sort of identity, it needs to retain as a minimum the library, the Civic Centre and some sort of Cheshire East Council Office.	the level of decision making power given to Alsager Town Council or the provision of resources for the U3A.
c)	One would like to see the library expanded to make good partially the loss of the MMU Alsager Campus library that many teachers were able to use.	This document seeks to ensure that the library and Civic Centre are retained within the town centre.
d)	One would like to see Cheshire East Council consult with the organisers of the University of the Third Age to see if teaching facilities in the Civic Centre could be improved by the provision	

Comments / Issues Raised	Response
of such low cost items as white boards.	
N.B. It is hard to over-estimate the benefits of the role played by the U3A in Alsager in involving in communal life people who might otherwise be isolated at home.	
3) Alsager Market	
I see this as a most useful venture in that some stallholders fill gaps where local provision of shops has been eliminated by hyper/supermarket competition. In my case, I appreciate the presence of a fishmonger and a green grocery stall (greengrocers in Alsager have failed). Other people doubtless have other priorities.	Acknowledged. No amendments required.
Conclusion	The SPD is intended to provide guidance for any
a) Cheshire East Council has little power to influence sites which it does not own.	future developments within Alsager Town Centre and it will be a material consideration in any decisions on future planning applications, regardless of land ownership.
b) My major concern, shared by most people in Alsager, is that the Council will wreck the centre of Alsager by selling part of Fairview Car Park for a supermarket.	No amendments required. The SPD is intended to set out principles and policies to ensure that any development is the best and most suitable it can be.

Appendix A: Notes of Workshops / Meetings

Alsager – Next Steps Workshop

Meeting of Alsager Town Council and Alsager Partnership with Planning Officers

Review of Current Work

Presentation given by Joanne Dutton, highlighted the objectives for the town centre which have been subject to consultation and supported by local residents, these are:

- To improve the vitality and viability of Alsager Town Centre;
- To stimulate private and public sector investment in the town centre in terms of both built development and environmental improvements; and
- To secure enhanced community facilities.

Work undertaken by consultants has highlighted a number of opportunity sites within Alsager town centre these are:

- 1. Council Yard, Brookhouse Road
- 2. The Civic Quarter
- 3. The Town Centre Car Park, Playground and Co-op
- 4. Crewe Road Frontage

However, there are a number of areas where further work is needed:

- Creation of a positive identity for Alsager
- Public realm
- Pedestrian flows and accessibility for other modes
- Quality of built environment and design
- Building on, and linkages with, the historic environment
- Building on, and linkages with, Milton Park
- Potential for gateway or landmark developments
- Links between the opportunity sites

<u>Vision for the Town Centre – Ideas of the Town Council and Partnership</u>

A discussion was held regarding the vision for the town centre and the following points were raised:

- Barriers to pedestrian movement will need to be overcome e.g. the road ways which
 dissect the centre and road and rail routes which dissect the town more
 generallyConsideration needs to be given to transport routes and flows Cheshire
 County Council are believed to have undertaken some work in this area which could be
 investigated to determine in the are feasible / viable alternatives to the current
 situationLinks to Milton Park and other open spaces in and around the town centre
- Links to other elements of the town such as historic and cultural heritage, to walking
 routes within the town and to other areas such as residential and employmentEnsuring an
 appropriate level of retail offer discussion regarding whether this should be just for the

local residents are providing a wider offer to attract people into the centre – support was provided for both as it will be important to provide retail opportunities to meet local needs but some retailers may require a wider market in order to be successful – this potential relates to the 'destination' shopping which is mentioned later.

Issues in relation to the Village Green – whether it receives Village Green status, how and
if it will be protected, could alternatives be provided? Consideration was given to the role
of the town centre within the settlement – its relationship with other sites such as the
MMU needs to be considered – and in relation to other uses which can attract visitors
such as the Alsager Football Club, the cultural associations and heritage trails

Lindsay Lewis then ran through the note of the Alsager Partnership Strategy Workshop which had highlighted a number of recommendations for the town centre – which can help to contribute to the vision of the town centre. Including:

- · Maintaining green spaces with the town centre
- Maintaining the 'village' atmosphere
- Encouraging people to shop locally (reducing the carbon footprint)
- Creating a greater range and diversity of shops
- To provide a convenience retail offer to meet local needs, which should be located within the town centre
- Retention and improvement of the civic centre facilities potentially including a wide range of leisure activities and meeting rooms
- · One Stop Shop and Town Council facilities under one roof
- Enlarged and improved recreational space at Milton Park, potentially including the development of a café
- A modern, well maintained play area close to the Civic Centre
- Improved views and access to the mere
- Potential for a museum and / or gallery space to create a focal point for local heritage
- Improvements to the built environment including:
 - o General image of town centre
 - o Public realm
 - Shop front improvements
 - o Quality of roads, pavements and lighting

Potential Next Steps

Presentation given by Joanne Dutton which provided a number of potential options for the types of documents which could be prepared by the Council to take forward the planning policy for the development and enhancement of Alsager Town Centre.

These options were as follows:

- 1. Alsager Town Centre Area Action Plan(AAP)
- 2. Alsager Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
- 3. Alsager Town Centre Informal Masterplan
- 4. Development Briefs for Opportunity Sites
- 5. Alsager Town Centre SPD & Development Briefs for Opportunity Sites
- 6. Alsager Town Centre Informal Masterplan & Development Briefs for Opportunity Sites
- 7. Alsager Town Centre AAP production postponed until further work has been undertaken on the Core Strategy

Information was provided on each of the key options.

Option 1: Alsager Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP)

PPS12 states that

- "Area action plans should be used to provide the planning framework for areas where significant change or conservation is needed. A key feature of area action plans will be the focus on implementation. They should:
- i. deliver planned growth areas;
- ii. stimulate regeneration;
- iii. protect areas particularly sensitive to change;
- iv. resolve conflicting objectives in areas subject to development pressures; or
- v. focus the delivery of area based regeneration initiatives"

Cost / Benefits of an AAP		
Financial	Staff Resources	Risk
 Evidence Base Production of document 3 stages of public consultation printing posting Examination 	 Evidence Base Supporting documentation (SA and HRA) 3 stages of public consultation Exhibitions data input 	 Could be found unsound or request to withdraw Before the Core Strategy Required to prove 'need' for document
 Inspector Programme Manager Venue MOST EXPENSIVE 	TimeGovernmentGuidance suggests it takes 3 years to write a DPD	Status • The AAP will form part of the 'Development Plan' and provides the framework for planning decisions.

Option 2: Alsager Town Centre SPD

PPS 12 states that:

"Supplementary planning documents may cover a range of issues, both thematic and site specific, which may expand policy or provide further detail to policies in a development plan document. They must not however, be used to allocate land. Supplementary planning documents may take the form of design guides, area development briefs, master plan or issue-based documents which supplement policies in a development plan document".

Cost / Benefits of a SPD			
Financial Evidence Base Production of document 1 stage of public consultation printing posting	 Staff Resources Evidence Base Supporting documentation 1 stage of public consultation Exhibitions data input 	Can not allocate land and therefore does not provide the same level of policy as a DPD	
Potentially LEAST EXPENSIVE	TimeExperience suggests it takes 9 months to prepare an SPD	StatusA material consideration in the planning process	

Option 3: Alsager Town Centre Informal Masterplan

CABE define a spatial masterplan as a sophisticated model which:

- Shows how streets, squares and open spaces of a neighbourhood are to be connected
- Defines the height, bulk and massing of buildings
- Sets out suggested relationships between buildings and public spaces
- Determines the activities and uses which will take place in the area
- Identifies the movement patterns for people on foot, or by bicycle, car or public transport, as well as looking at the needs of service and refuse vehicles
- Sets out the basis for the provision of utilities and other infrastructural elements
- Relates the physical form of the site to social, economic and cultural contexts and takes account of the needs of people living and working in the area
- Shows ways in which new neighbourhoods can be integrated into existing communities, and built and natural environments

Cost / Benefits of an Informal Masterplan		
 Financial Evidence Base Production of document Could involve further consultants work for 	 Staff Resources Evidence Base As much or as little consultation as required not set out in guidance 	 Risk Does not carry the weight of a DPD and is therefore limited in scope
 Some elements Consultation Printing Posting 	 This will depend on the detail of the document but could be from 6 months to 2 years. 	Status • A material consideration in the planning process (but weight will depend on consultation undertaken and relation of document to current policies)

Option 4: Development Briefs for Opportunity Sites

A development brief is a document providing detailed information to guide developers on the type of development, design and layout constraints and other requirements for a particular site.

They can have differing levels of weight dependent upon the level of consultation undertaken.

Cost / Benefits of a Development Brief		
Financial	Staff Resources	Risk
 Evidence Base Production of document Consultation (if undertaken) 	 Evidence Base As much or as little consultation as required not set out in guidance 	 Does not carry the weight of a DPD and is therefore limited in scope
 Printing 	Time	Status
o Posting	This will depend on the detail of the document but could be from 3 months to 1 year.	 A material consideration in the planning process (weight will depend on consultation undertaken and relation of document to current policies) Could be linked to the sale of the land

This was followed by a discussion as to the best document to take forward to ensure the most appropriate development of the town centre. A number of issues and concerns were raised in relation to:

- Out of town retail and how it could be limited or prevented
- How to get the most effective, efficient and best usage out of the town centre car park, playground and Co-op site
- The risks associated with each option including costs, time taken to produced the document and the potential for the documents to be found unsound or unable to fulfil the requirements of the town centre
- The weight given to each document

A decision was then made the most appropriate way forward for Alsager Town Centre at this time is to produce a Town Centre Strategy SPD, which will include elements that could be included within the Masterplan such as the connections and relationships between buildings, the patterns of movement and elements in relation to design. Development Briefs should then be prepared for the relevant opportunity sites, which can be identified within the SPD.

It was agreed that further meetings be held to ensure that both the Town Council and the Partnership feel they have ownership of the documents which are produced.

It was also agreed that both the Town Council and the Partnership would be kept up to date via email to ensure that the links that have been made are maintained and that the current enthusiasm for the production of the document is maintained.

Next Steps

A recommendation will be made to the Council, (both the Borough Council and the Shadow Authority) based on the decision made at this meeting, to remove the Alsager AAP from the Local Development Scheme (LDS). The report will also provide information in relation to how the development of Alsager Town Centre will be taken forward, and again this will reflect the decision made at this meeting to prepare an SPD, covering some elements of a Masterplan, with Development Briefs prepared for appropriate sites.

The Planning Officers will bring together the current and new information in relation to Alsager Town Centre and will produce a draft copy of the SPD. The draft SPD will then be brought to a further meeting of the Town Council and Alsager Partnership to allow for further discussion, to ensure that the document is appropriate to meet the vision for Alsager, prior to the document being made available for public consultation.

The Planning Officers will work together with the Property Services team to determine the most appropriate method for the preparation of a Development Brief. This is likely to involve discussion with landowners to ensure that the Development Briefs cover the most appropriate areas.

Glossary

Allocation	Land which is acceptable in principal for development for a particular purpose and which is not already in use for that purpose and is therefore 'allocated' within the Development Plan. The development of such sites is still dependent on planning permission being obtained.
Area Action Plan AAP	Plans for areas of change or conservation for a specific geographical area. Their purpose is to deliver planned growth, stimulate regeneration, protect areas sensitive to change through conservation policies, make proposals for enhancement and resolve conflicting objectives in areas where there is significant development pressure. Area action plans are development plan documents, which means they carry the full weight of the planning system in determining planning applications.
Development Plan	The adopted statutory land use and spatial plans for an area. The development plan sets the policies and proposals for the development, conservation and use of land and buildings in the authority's area. Currently, the development plan includes the Regional Spatial Strategy, the Cheshire Structure Plan, the Cheshire wide Minerals and Waste Local Plans and the 'saved' policies of the Congleton Local Plan. In the future it will include Development Plan Documents, which may supersede the 'saved' policies of the Local Plan. The development plan - with its polices and proposals - is the most important consideration for local planning authorities when they make a decision on a planning application.
Development Plan DPD Document	The term 'Development Plan Document' covers any document within the Local Development Framework that is part of the Development Plan. A Development Plan Document has to be independently tested by a Planning Inspector and carries full weight in relation to planning applications, which distinguishes it from a supplementary planning document. Development Plan Documents

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1		
		include the Core Strategy, Area Action Plans and Site Allocations.
Local Development Framework	LDF	A portfolio or folder of planning documents collectively setting out the spatial planning strategy for a local area, it will eventually replace the Local Plan.
Local Development Scheme	LDS	A programme setting out the proposed documents within the Local Development Framework and the timetable for their production.
Local Plan		These were produced by District Councils, such as Congleton Borough Council, a Local Plan once adopted, provided detailed policies to guide development in the whole of the local authority area and includes detailed proposals for specific sites. The Local Development Framework will replace the Local Plan as it is produced.
Planning Inspectorate		Body that considers the appropriateness of planning policies, taking into account public consultation responses.
Planning Policy Statement	PPS	A series of statements issued by the Government, setting out policy on different aspects of planning. Local Planning Authorities must take their content into account in preparing their LDF.
Supplementary Planning Document	SPD	A Local Development Document that holds less weight than a Development Plan Document when determining planning applications an SPD provides additional guidance to development plan policies. It is not subject to an independent examination, but is subject to community and stakeholder involvement.

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Sources of Further Information

You can find out about the planning system and how it works at www.planningportal.gov.uk

Further information on Local Development Frameworks can be found in PPS12 and the Government guidance document 'Creating LDFs'. PPS12 and Creating LDFs can be found on the Communities and Local Government website at:

http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/pps12

The Planning Inspectorate has recently published a document called "Local Development Frameworks: Lessons Learnt Examining Development Plan Documents (PINS June 2007)". This document focuses on the lessons learnt from examining Core Strategies, however, there are a number of points which are relevant to any DPDs and some which are specific to Area Action Plans. This document can be found on the Planning Inspectorates website at:http://www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk/pins/appeals/local_dev/index.htm

More information in relation to Masterplans can be found in CABE's document 'Creating Successful Masterplans' which can be found on their website at: http://www.cabe.org.uk/default.aspx?contentitemid=451

To access a downloadable copy of the Draft North West Plan ~ Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) or to find out more information about regional planning, visit the North West Regional Assembly (NWRA) website at: http://rpg.nwra.gov.uk/planning/spatial.php or for a hard copy contact the NWRA by telephone on 01942 737921.

And obviously further information on the Congleton LDF can be found on the Council's website: www.congleton.gov.uk or by speaking to one of the planning officers on the Council's usual telephone number.

Example Documents

These documents just provide a couple of examples of each type of document option, they are not necessarily best practice.

Area Action Plans

- Walker Riverside AAP (Newcastle)
 http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/wwwfileroot/regen/ldf/Walker_Riverside_AAP
 .pdf
- Biddulph Town Centre AAP
 http://www.staffsmoorlands.gov.uk/site/scripts/documents_info.php?documentD=330&pageNumber=4

Town Centre SPDs

- Aldershot Town Centre SPD <u>http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=6882</u>
- Royston Town Centre Strategy SPD
 http://www.north-
 herts.gov.uk/royston town centre strategy jan 2008 part 1.pdf

Masterplans

- Burgess Hill Town Centre Masterplan SPD http://www.midsussex.gov.uk/page.cfm?pageID=4311
- Ilkeston Town Centre Masterplan
 This document had been prepared as an AAP but has been withdrawn as an AAP and is now just used as a Masterplan.
 http://www.erewash.gov.uk/Environment/Planning/localDevelopmentFrame
 work/masterplans/ilkestontowncentremasterplanplan.htm

Development Briefs

- Prospect Hill Town Centre SPD (Site Development Brief)
 http://redditch.whub.org.uk/home/rbc-planning-prospect-hill-linked.pdf
- Neston Town Centre Development Brief
 Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council wish to bring about the
 delivery of a major redevelopment scheme in Neston town centre
 comprising: the creation of new public space adjacent to the High Street
 together with new and improved pedestrian routes and environment, a new
 food store of around 33,500ft2 gross and a limited amount of
 commercial/additional retail /residential development.
 http://www.ellesmereport-neston.gov.uk/documents/document_display.htm?pk document=3022

Alsager Town Centre Strategy



Joanne Dutton

Approach

- Executive Meeting 25th June recommendation to Council:
 - Cease work on the Alsager Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP)
 - Prepare an Alsager Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
 - Development Briefs for Opportunity Sites notably Fairview Car Park

National Policy Context

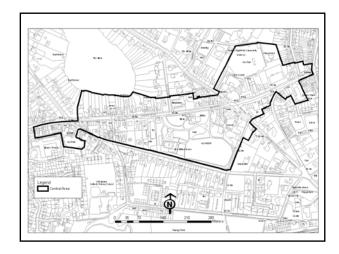
- PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development
 - policies should promote high quality inclusive design.
 - focus developments that attract a large number of people, especially retail, leisure and office development, in existing centres to promote their vitality and viability.
- PPS6: Planning for Town Centres
 - Government's key objective for town centres is to promote their vitality and viability by:
 - planning for the growth and development of existing centres; and
 - promoting and enhancing existing centres, by focusing development in such centres and encouraging a wide
 - range of services in a good environment, accessible to all

National Guidance

- CABE's Design Reviewed Town Centre Retail
 - key principles:
 - Good urban design the principles of which are set out in 'By Design', and include the importance of character, legibility, ease of movement, adaptability and a mix of uses.
 - Good architecture buildings with civic quality that enhance their internal and external environments through their scale, massing, proportions and detailing.
 - Good for retail the development must work for retail and leisure providers in their core business, selling products to customers.
 - Good for everyone the development must minimise any negative impacts on the environment and promote a safe and inclusive environment for all who want to use the town centre, including those with special access needs.

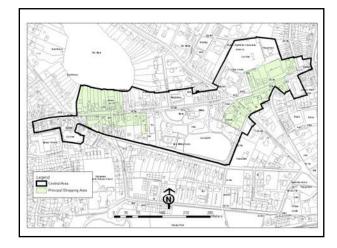
Regional Policy Context

- Draft RSS: Policy W5 Retail Development
 - 'investment, of an appropriate scale, in centres not identified . . . will be encouraged in order to maintain and enhance their vitality and viability, including investment to underpin wider regeneration initiatives, to ensure that centres meet the needs of the local community'.



Local Policy Context

- · Congleton Borough Local Plan First Review
 - S4 Principal Shopping Areas
 - Within the principal shopping areas as defined on the proposals map proposals for further non-retail uses at ground floor will not be permitted (other than proposals involving the change of use of A1 premises to A2 or A3 uses).
 - Proposals for the change of use of existing A1 ground floor retail uses to A2 or A3 uses will only be permitted where all of the following criteria are satisfied:
 - i) The proposed use is complimentary to adjacent shopping uses in terms of its operational characteristics:
 - ii) The proposed use retains a display frontage appropriate to a shopping
 - iii) The proposed use does not lead to a concentration of non a1 uses;
 - iv) The proposal accords with other policies of the local plan.



Local Policy Context

- S5 - Other Town Centre Areas

Within the town centre not otherwise defined as a principal shopping area, proposals for non-retail uses at ground floor level will be permitte where the proposed use is a commercial, leisure, entertainment, community or civic use appropriate to the town centre, or for residential use on the periphery of the town centre, where all of the following criteria are satisfied:

- i) The proposed use does not on its own or in combination with other existing non-retail uses detract from the overall town centre function of
- ii) There is no detrimental impact on the amenities of any future occupier from existing adjacent uses;
- iii) The proposal has no detrimental impact on the amenities of adjacent
- iv) The proposal accords with other policies of the local plan

Local Policy Context

- S6 The Use Of Upper Floors Within Town Centres
 - Proposals for the use of upper floors within town centres for non-retail use, including b1 office use or conversion into self-contained flats, will be permitted where the proposal meets the following requirements
 - i) A reasonable standard of accommodation is capable of being provided;
 - ii) No detrimental impact on the amenities of any future occupier, from existing adjacent uses;
 - iii) No detrimental impact on the amenities of other occupiers of the property or adjacent properties;
 - iv) Separate access to the accommodation is provided:
 - v) No detrimental alterations are required on principal facades;
 - vi) Availability of car parking in the vicinity;
 - vii) Accordance with other policies of the local plan

Local Policy Context

- Policy GR1: New Development
 - requires all new development to be of a high standard, to conserve or enhance the character of the surrounding area and to have regard to the principles of sustainable development.

- Policy GR2: Design
 requires development to meet a number of design criteria.
 Policy GR9: Accessibility, Servicing and Parking Provision
- provides the criteria that must be met for all developments requiring access, servicing or parking facilities.
- Policy S11: Shop Fronts and Security Shutters

 provides the criteria for new shop fronts, alterations to shop fronts and replacement shop fronts.

 Policy RC1: Recreation and Community Facilities Policies
- provides the policy to ensure that recreational and community facilities accurately reflect the needs of the Borough and that there development does not adversely affect the surrounding area.

 Policy RC11: Indoor recreation and community uses,
- - provides the criteria that must be met for the development of indoor recreation and community facilities.

National Issues

- Competition from retail parks which have a competitive advantage in terms of ease of access and abundant free surface level car parking can result in loss of trade or relocation of traders
- Superstores selling an increased range of non-food goods (including clothing) as they seek new profit and growth opportunities
- Growth in unit sizes to meet occupier requirements for fewer, larger units
- Growing disparity between large destination centres and medium and smaller centres as key operators focus their attention on a limited number of locations

Local Issues

- · Image and character of Alsager town centre
- Unfulfilled shopping potential and loss of trade to other Towns
- · Deficiencies in recreation, leisure and culture
- Civic Centre and other public buildings appearance and fit for purpose?
- Infrastructure quality of roads and paving, pedestrian facilities, signage in and around town
- · Ageing population
- · Fear of crime and anti-social behaviour

Local Issues

- Do you agree with this list of issues for Alsager Town Centre?
- Are there any other local issues which need to be considered as part of the Town Centre Strategy?

Local Pride

- · Character of Alsager 'the Village'
- Natural environment the Mere, Milton Park and town centre trees and planting
- Bank Corner Pub
- Civic Centre good location and well used
- · "Destination businesses"
- Market
- · Pro-active community

Local Pride

- Do you agree with this list of strengths and areas of pride for Alsager Town Centre?
- Are there any other local strengths or areas of pride which need to be considered as part of the Town Centre Strategy?

Objectives

Issue / Pride	Objective
Image and character of Alsager town centre	To create a distinctive character for the Town Centre that will inspire a sense of pride amongst local residents, workers and visitors.
Character of Alsager 'the Village'	
Unfulfilled shopping potential and loss of trade to other Towns	To maintain Alsager Town Centre as a vital and viable town centre area, with a variety of shops to meet the needs of the local residents, as well as a number of specialist shops and
Market	
"Destination businesses"	stalls that draw in visitors from further a field.
Deficiencies in recreation, leisure and culture	To support a good range of high quality, accessible, leisure, cultural and community facilities, to meet the needs of local residents, workers and visitors.
Civic Centre and other public buildings – appearance and fit for purpose?	
Civic Centre – good location and well used	

Objectives

Issue / Pride	Objective
Infrastructure – quality of roads and paving, pedestrian facilities, signage in and around town	To improve accessibility within the Town Centre for all pedestrians and cyclists and to the Town Centre by pedestrians, cyclists and
Ageing population	all other means of transport.
Natural environment – the Mere, Milton Park and town centre trees and planting	To provide an accessible, high quality, safe and attractive public realm and new public
Bank Corner Pub	spaces that will form the heart of civic life.
Fear of crime and anti-social behaviour	To provide a well managed and safe Town
Pro-active community	Centre.

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Objectives

- To create a distinctive character for the Town Centre that will inspire a sense of pride amongst local residents, workers and visitors.
- To maintain Alsager Town Centre as a vital and viable town centre area, with a variety of shops to meet the needs of the local residents, as well as a number of specialist shops and stalls that draw in visitors from further a field.
- To support a good range of high quality, accessible, leisure, cultural and community facilities, to meet the needs of local residents, workers and visitors.
- To improve accessibility within the Town Centre for all pedestrians and cyclists and to the Town Centre by pedestrians, cyclists and all other means of transport.
- To provide an accessible, high quality, safe and attractive public realm and new public spaces that will form the heart of civic life.
- To provide a well managed and safe Town Centre.

Objectives

- Do you agree with these objectives, for Alsager Town Centre?
- Are there any other objectives which should be included as part of the Town Centre Strategy?

Distinctive Character

- Gateways
- Landmark Buildings
- Public Art
- · Design of new development
- · Shop Fronts
- · Do you have any other suggestions?

Gateways

- Signage Welcome to Town Centre?
- · Public Art
- · Buildings
- Change in quality of materials for paving, surfacing, street furniture etc?

Landmark Buildings







Landmark Buildings

- Landmark buildings create vistas and views and help people to navigate their way around
- Role of religious buildings
- Importance of road intersects
- Should the strategy promote landmark buildings on Bank Corner?
- · Or at other locations within the town centre?

Public Art









Public Art

- Should be encouraging each development to provide it's own public art?
- Should we be looking for each development to contribute to one specific installation?
- If it was to a specific piece who would determine what and where? Potentially there may need to be a Public Art Strategy.

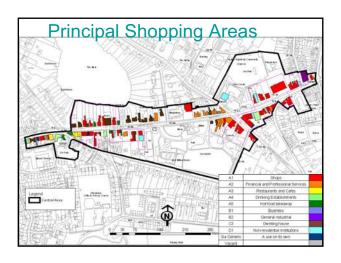
Design of New Development

- · Quality of materials
- Size and Scale (i.e. plot widths of 5-7m to create rhythm and height of buildings to create harmony with others)
- · Active frontages
- · Appropriate servicing and storage
- · Creation of views
- · Appropriate Shop Fronts



Vital and Viable Shopping Area

- Principal Shopping Areas
- Town Centre Market
- The Evening Economy
- · New Retail Provision
- · Do you have any other suggestions?



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Principal Shopping Areas

- Local Plan Policy looks to ensure that the Principal Shopping Area retain the A1 retail uses
- Current uses show that this is working better on the Lawton Street area than the Crewe Road Area
- Could others areas be identified for a concentration of uses i.e. services near Bank corner?

Town Centre Market

- · Should this be maintained?
- Is the current location the right (or only) location?
- · Could it be indoors as well as outdoors?
- · Could it be expanded?
- · Or more frequent?

Evening Economy

- · Impact of MMU closure?
- Significant numbers of Takeaways should they be maintain or should the Strategy look for change?
- Is there a demand for the creation of an evening economy in Alsager?
- If so, what elements should the strategy encourage?
 - Given that 60% of those questioned felt that 'Alsager would not be a better place to shop if more cafes and restaurants were provided'.

New Retail Provision

- When asked if they thought 'an improved range and choice of food shopping would encourage more people to shop in Alsager' 81% agreed.
- Cheshire Town Centre Study 2006 to 2021, capacity for:
 - convenience floorspace 860sqm 1,720sqm (net)
 - comparison floorspace 1,380sqm 1,971sqm (net)
- Strategy can not allocate but can identify this need and the capacity

Leisure, Cultural and Community Facilities

- Protection and enhancement of existing facilities
 - When asked if they 'used the existing community and leisure facilities in the Town Centre' 85% agreed.
- Should there be additional leisure, cultural and community facilities within the town centre? If so, what and where?
- · Do you have any other suggestions?

Accessibility

- Permeability
- Legibility
- · Access to the town centre
- Do you have any other suggestions?

Permeability

- How easy is it to walk, cycle or drive around the town centre?
- Direct access
- Desire Lines
- Lack of pedestrian crossings on the Crewe Road end of the town centre

Legibility

- Signage quality, location and decluttering
- · Views and vistas

Signage







Access

- Can access by Car be improved?
- Can access by Public Transport be improved?
- · Can access by Pedestrians be improved?
- Can access by Cyclists be improved?
- Can access by those who are less mobile be improved?

Access









Public Spaces

- Enhancing Public Spaces
 - When asked if they thought that 'improvements to the public spaces would make Alsager a more attractive place to visit' 85% agreed.
 - Clear definition between private and public spaces
 - Active frontages in public areas
- Public Art
- High quality street furniture and use of appropriate materials
- · Do you have any other suggestions?

Successful Public Spaces







Street Furniture



Town Centre Management

- · Partnership Working
 - Some elements of the strategy will require more than just planning input
- · Developer Contributions
- Do you have any other suggestions?

Area Specific Policies

- Crewe Road
- Milton Park
- 2-12 Lawton Road and 43-45 Sandbach Road South
- Civic Quarter
- Fairview Car Park
- Do you have any other suggestions?

Crewe Road

- Currently dominated by takeaways
- Impact from the closure of the MMU Campus?
- Should the strategy look to decrease the numbers of takeaways in the area?
- And encourage retail uses (A1) or restaurants (A3) or professional services (A2)?
- · Links to previous policy ideas





Milton Park

- · Protection and / or enhancement
- Access
- Signage
- Creation of links from the Park to the Street – Green Trail? Public Art?



2-12 Lawton Road and 43-45 Sandbach Road South

- Build on current improvements

 such a as 'The Bank' Pub
- Enhance existing shop frontages
- Potential for longer term redevelopment if current building is not or can not be enhanced?





Fairview Car Park

- Land owned by the Council and identified by developers as suitable for retail development, with 2 outstanding planning permissions
- The site is currently used as a car park, for the weekly market and as a neighbourhood recycling point
- · Development Brief to be prepared for this site

Civic Quarter



- Opportunity for improvements and enhancements to all the buildings within this area
- Importance of maintaining these facilities within the Town Centre
- Important that these buildings are accessible and fit for purpose
- Consideration of future use and management

Appendix B: Note of Public Meeting

Alsager Town Centre SPD Public Meeting 28th September 2009

Notes of public comments

Councillor David Brown opened the meeting followed by a presentation from Joanne Dutton.

Comments

David Beeston?

If the document came to pass, Alsager would be a splendid place to live. The document lists a number of sites, but they are not prioritised. First priority should be the supermarket and associated car parking because this will influence the rest of the town centre. Asked whether the money from the sale of the car park would be spent in Alsager.

Sarah Anderson

Impressed by document and pleased to see that CE thinking strategically about Alsager. Considers enclosed public spaces to create a good image - maybe something that could be considered for Brookhouse Road. Slightly concerned about the concept of 'signature' buildings at the X roads. Could block the view of the town.

Ted Gibbins

The document lacks crucial details as to market research. It should include that information to enable proposals to be challenged. Alsager is a dormitory town, people travel to the Potteries, Manchester etc to work. Many residents are retired and not looking for employment. People like to do their shopping at lunch time where they work.

Sainsburys has opened in Alsager and is providing a good service.

Report says one of the strengths of the town centre is the free parking. But proposals such as the supermarket, public art and tree planting will reduce parking

Even in cities people travel miles for shopping.

Car park charges will have an adverse impact on the town centre. He personally never found it difficult to park even on Market days.

A town of this size cannot support a museum.

The document proposes change for the sake of change.

Clive Waterman

Proposals will not work because people who use the car park are those who use the civic centre, the town centres shops etc.

The Civic Hall will fail if car park charges are introduced. Many of the organisations who use the Civic Hall will close down because people can't afford to pay for parking.

John Band

Asked why Sainsbury's was allowed to build.

Mrs Dyke

4 years ago people were packed into the Civic Hall because of the threat to the car park, the Civic Hall etc

The Park project has come to a standstill, nothing has happened on the Supermarket and car park charges are to be introduced. The Civic Hall is still under threat.

The town has a glut of supermarkets.

The report refers to No's 2 - 12 Lawton Road but what about the eyesore on the other side of the road?

There's no detail on when things will happen or where the money's coming from.

It's all 'pie in the sky'.

Peter Smith

Town Council and others have not built on their well established links with the High School – it would have been a good idea to asked school pupils for comment.

Disappointed that the document does not refer to the railway station. It would be good location for a 'gateway' for those coming into town from the Audley direction.

Welcome reference to 'specialist shops and stalls'

Difficult to find parking spaces on Market days after 11.00 am.

There would be benefit in having an indoor market.

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Hopes that Kimberley will take away from the meeting that the car park is called 'Fairview' – he is frightened by the gaudy green that the Co-op uses for its store décor.

Councillor Derek Hough

Has been involved in the production of the document and is proud of it. The meeting 4 years ago was packed and controversial. There has been progress since then but the same views have been aired tonight. Generally people want to encourage the use of the town centre. People don't want a commuter town with no facilities, we want a strong vibrant community. A planning application for the supermarket has not come forward, not because of Congleton Borough Council or Cheshire East but because of developer. The developer will have to take into account this document which looks to cater for local needs. We could improve the public realm with seating.

If you liken Congleton to Alsager, CE owns the car park, the civic hall, the one stop shop and the town yard. What happens to the money from the sale of these assets? We can't promise it will stay in Alsager. We have to be honest and say to the developer and say "You can have the car park but instead of paying us money you must repair the Civic Hall".

There is a need to retain and improved Alsager as a good place to live.

Lindsay Lewis

It is a shame that there aren't many young people here tonight. Young people have had an input to the Partnership and we are looking for opportunities for young people to express their views.

The area of the study should include the station and accessibility from it to the town centre. Connectivity to the town centre is important.

The document contains many ideas but where is the money? CE must take it seriously and work with people of Alsager to take it forward. Some things can be done without huge resources e.g. an indoor market

Mrs Dyke

I'm not negative, but it is important to understand what the SPD means. What will happen to the Civic Hall if it is sold?

Ted Gibbins

If a new supermarket opens, other shops will close. There is a need to compare Alsager with like towns.

If something new is created, there will be casualties in the retail sector.

If the document has weaknesses then it should be amended.

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Jane Holton

Her shop (on Crewe Road) is outside the green area (Principal Shopping Area) and would like clarification on the proposal to concentrating take-aways in that part of the centre.

There is a problem of accessibility in the use of upper floors for retailing.

Nevertheless, overall it is a goods document.

John Band

Should consider using the Garages on Bank Corner as a gateway to the park.

Cheshire East Council
Westfields, Middlewich Road
Sandbach, Cheshire CW11 1HZ
www.cheshireeast.gov.uk

This information is available in other formats on request

Local Development Framework

Smallwood Village Design Statement

Supplementary Planning Document

Consultation Statement



Equal Opportunities and Access

Cheshire East Council recognises that it can improve the quality of life of people in the area by seeking to ensure that every member of the public has equal access to its services, facilities, resources, activities and employment.

We want these to be accessible to everyone in the community regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, disability, marital status or sexual orientation. Furthermore, we are keen to respond to the individual requirements of our customers to develop services that recognise their diversity and particular needs.

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如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料,請與我們聯絡。如欲索取以另一语文印制或另一格式制作的资料,请与我们联系。

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਲਓ।

اگر این اطلاعات را به زبانی دیگر و یا در فرمتی دیگر میخواهید لطفا از ما درخواست کنید

Se deseja obter informação noutro idioma ou formato, diga-nos.

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Appendix 6

1. Introduction

1.1 Under Regulation 17 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, it is a requirement of Local Planning Authorities to carry out pre-consultation on all proposed Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs), and to publish a statement setting out who has been consulted during the preparation of the draft SPD, Sustainability Appraisal (SA) (including the Scoping Report), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Statement and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report. This includes a summary of the issues raised and how these issues have been addressed (see below).

2. Pre-production Consultation

- 1.2 The Specific Consultation bodies were contacted by email or by post, with the exception of the residents of Smallwood Parish, who were consulted via an open afternoon held on 27th April 2008. This was advertised in the monthly Village notes, which are distributed to all households in Smallwood Parish. The residents were given an opportunity to complete an anonymous questionnaire, which was advertised in the June 2008 'News' sheet. Along with the questionnaire informal views were also requested. The open afternoon included a photography display of village houses and scenes and the landscape of Smallwood. The local primary school also displayed local children's view of the village.
- 1.3 The consultation of Smallwood Parish residents on the draft SPD took place during the period 27th April 2008 to 13th June 2008. The SA Scoping Report, SEA Screening Statement and HRA were consulted upon between 3rd July and 3rd August 2009.
- 1.4 Pre-production Specific Consultation Bodies:
 - Residents of Smallwood Parish
 - Government Office for the North West
 - Natural England
 - English Heritage
 - Environment Agency
 - South East Cheshire Enterprise
 - Central and Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust
 - Learning and Skills Council
 - Cheshire West and Chester Council
 - High Peak District Council
 - Manchester City Council
 - Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council
 - North Shropshire Borough Council
 - Peak District National Park
 - Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
 - Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council

- Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council
- Warrington Borough Council
- 1.5 Congleton Borough Council (CBC) and Cheshire East (CE) internal departments and Cheshire County Council (CCC):
 - Conservation (CBC)
 - Local Planning and Economic Policy (CBC)
 - Highways Development Control Engineer (CCC)
 - Planning and Policy (CE)
 - Regeneration (CE)
 - Portfolio Holder for Performance and Capacity (CE)
 - Portfolio Holder for Prosperity (CE)
 - Urban Design (CE)

Pre-production Consultation Summary of Issues Raised and Responses

1.6 In total 60 questionnaires were returned, which represented the views of 99 residents of Smallwood Parish.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Draft SPD	
Smallwood Residents (By questionnaire, between April and June 2008).	
Concern was raised regarding the retention of the rural character of the Parish in terms of its openness, serenity, sense of community and its distinctiveness as a series of small settlements.	The SPD's vision is that any future development should have a regard to the history and appearance of Smallwood Parish.
Enthusiasm for the Parish's traditional and distinctive buildings was expressed particularly for the church, school and other listed buildings within the Parish.	Chapter produced on buildings with reference to the Parish's architectural heritage along with design guidelines for new buildings.
The design of any development or building work within the Parish should pay attention to existing traditional aspects of building stock, (their vernacular details) and the scale of dwellings to plot size in the Parish as well as the layout of dwellings in plenty of space and with open views to front and rear.	Building design guidelines produced with reference to the local architectural vernacular.
The suggestion that there was some room for "some modern design in new buildings in Smallwood" drew no strong opinion from the majority.	Comment noted.
Strong views were expressed regarding the preservation of the nature of the landscape of Smallwood, as both a rural setting and as a habitat for wildlife.	Landscape guidelines have been produced that preserve the character, setting and views of the natural environment.
1.01 The character of Smallwood should be preserved - majority strongly agreed.	The SPD's vision is that any future development should have a regard to the history and appearance of Smallwood Parish.

Со	mments/Issues Raised	Response
1.02 I would like to see some modern development in Smallwood -majority disagreed.		Comment noted.
1.03 I would like the population of Smallwood to remain basically the size it is at present -majority agreed.		Comment noted.
1.04 Smallwood should retain homes -majority agreed.	n a mix of smaller houses as well as larger family	Comment noted.
1.05 Smallwood's series of small settlements, with open countryside between are important and should be retained - majority strongly agreed.		The SPD's vision is that any future development should have a regard to the history and appearance of Smallwood Parish.
1.06 "Which feature of Smallwood is most important to you"?		
The following were put forward by more than one person:		There are references to these qualities throughout the document.
Church	9	
Open countryside	6	
Open aspect of the village	4	
The character of a hamlet	4	
The villages' rural aspect	4	
The serenity of the village	3	
The sense of community	3	

Col	mments/Issues Raised	Response
1.07 "Which feature of Small	wood are you most disappointed with?"	
		TI OPPI :: : II I
The following were put forward	ard by more than one person:	The SPD's vision is that any future development should have a regard to the history and
Traffic	11	appearance of Smallwood Parish.
The new housing estate	8	
Roadsides and verges	6	
Lack of a centre	3	
Fly tipping	2	
Demise of the Salamanca	2	
Lack of playground and spor	ts equipment 2	
Lack of a village shop	2	
Litter	2	
The lack of a bus service	2	
The main disappointments with the current state of the Parish were concerned with those things that threaten its character and rural quietness, for example: traffic (and the lack of traffic calming), damage to roadsides and verges, fly tipping, recent building developments (which have veered from the traditional layout of dwellings).		
found within its existing trace	lwood should take into consideration the features ditional buildings ('traditional buildings' refers to st 100 years old) - majority agreed.	Building design guidelines produced with reference to the local architectural vernacular.
	guide to provide examples of traditional building e for new buildings, conversions and building.	Inclusion in VDS of typical and traditional housing within the Parish along with notes on local architecture and illustrations of local building

	Comments/Issues Raised	Response
		vernacular.
1	w dwellings should reflect the traditional layout of with space and open views to front and rear - majority	The SPD's vision is that any future development should have a regard to the history and appearance of Smallwood Parish.
2.04 I am happy to see majority had no strong of	some modern design in new buildings in Smallwood - opinion.	Comment noted.
I and the second	ting buildings should be sympathetic in terms of scale nd the size of the plot - majority strongly agreed.	Building design guidelines produced with reference to siting, scale, design and materials.
2.06 Infill housing, utilis majority agreed.	sing land between houses, should be discouraged -	This would create a new Local Plan policy, which is not the role of an SPD.
2.07 "Which buildings important?"	in Smallwood do you find visually / historically	
More than one person p	ut the following forward:	These are Listed Buildings except for the Chapel, Blue Bell, Overton Hall Farm and the Mill.
Church	26	
School	15	
The Chapel	12	
The Blue Bell (pub)	11	
Smallwood House	9	
Old Farm	6	
Tithe barn	6	
Overton Hall Farm	4	
Pinfold Farm	3	

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
The Mill 3	
3.01 The planting of traditional trees, shrubs and hedge species should be encouraged in new planting schemes in the village - majority strongly agreed.	Guidelines produced on the replacement of trees and examples of suitable hedge varieties.
3.02 Grass verges should be valued and respected as a natural habitat - majority strongly agreed.	Comment noted.
3.03 Gateways should be traditional in design and not over-elaborate - majority agreed.	Examples have been provided of traditional gateways.
4.01 The road network in Smallwood needs more traffic calming measures. (For example, speed limits) - majority agreed.	Letter written to the VDS Chairman/Coordinator referring to Highways contact details to discuss this issue.
4.02 Public footpaths and bridleways need to be kept open and maintained - majority strongly agreed.	Comment noted.
4.03 The village should remain free of street lighting - majority agreed.	Comment noted.
5.01 Light pollution from excessive garden illumination should be discouraged - majority agreed.	Guideline produced referring to exterior lights and the issue of light pollution.
5.02 Natural sewage treatment such as reed beds and willow planting should be encouraged - majority agreed.	The support given to unobtrusive renewable energy developments is referred to within the SPD.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response	
5.03 Domestic scale wind turbines should be encouraged - majority had no strong opinion.	The support given to unobtrusive renewable energy developments is referred to within the SPD.	
5.04 Domestic scale solar panels should be encouraged - majority agreed.	The support given to unobtrusive renewable energy developments is referred to within the SPD.	
6.01 Smallwood village has a strong sense of community - majority agreed.	Comment noted.	
6.02 The existing community spirit would be damaged by substantial expansion of the village - majority agreed.	Comment noted.	
Government Office for the North West (Paul Byrne, by email 11/05/09)		
Overall the only real concerns with the document relate to the guidelines and the need to be more specific and/or related to place.	Comment noted.	
Whilst it is appreciated that East Cheshire has yet to compile its own SCI, it is assumed that that document will place emphasis upon the benefits to be derived from pre-application discussions in regard to planning applications. Therefore, it would be helpful if in either paragraph 1.21 or 1.22, the document highlighted the benefit of pre-application discussions.	Amendment made.	
Landscape Guidelines – would suggest that rather than state, 'any development', it would be better to say, 'where appropriate development should', as clearly L4 is not likely to be appropriate to all development. But you need to be clear that the guidelines are not merely restating other Local	Amendment made.	

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Plan policies regarding protection of, for example, rights of way, ponds, hedgerows etc. Are there specific locations which need protection and could be mentioned?	
Settlement Guidelines – query whether S2 is not covered by the green belt policy or a similar policy in the Local Plan? Is it appropriate that S3 would apply to 'any development'? Or might it be better to say of a similar design, scale and massing to neighbouring properties?	Comment will feed through to the consultation on the draft SPD, where it will be considered.
Buildings Guidelines – B1 relates to 'low density' but doesn't define what 'low density' is. Care will need to be taken to ensure that this guideline does not seek to make new policy and is consistent with Local Plan policies on density.	Comment will feed through to the consultation on the draft SPD, where it will be considered.
Paragraph 6.4 could refer to the existence of Tree Preservation Orders to protect threatened trees.	Comment will feed through to the consultation on the draft SPD, where it will be considered.
Open spaces, Paths etc., Guidelines – the first bullet point needs to be reviewed in light of Local Plan policies on new development. Will new houses be expected to provide public amenity space?? The third bullet point repeats guidance under landscape above.	Bullet points deleted.
Highways and Traffic Guidelines – there is no guidance shown but care will have to be taken to ensure that any guidance is consistent with Local Plan policies.	Comment noted.
Monitoring – the document needs to explain how the effectiveness of the document will be monitored within the authority's Annual Monitoring Report and how that document will advise on any changes necessary in the future to the VDS arising from future LDF document production etc.	Amendment made.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Glossary – it may be necessary to consider the need for a glossary of terms.	Amendment made.
Contact Details – you will need to review some of the contact details given following local government reorganisation; especially you will need to include details of the new Council's website.	Amendments made.
CBC Internal departments (Local Planning and Economic Policy and Conservon various dates during 2008)	vation, hand written on the draft document, received
Suggestions of various amendments to be made.	Amendments were made.
CCC Development Control Engineer (Nigel Curtis, by email 19/11/08)	
Suggestions of various amendments to be made and for other sources of information and provided contact details for departments that may aid in the resolution of some of the issues raised.	Amendments made and letter written to the VDS Chairman/Coordinator providing contact details for the resolution of some of the issues raised.
Draft Sustainability Appraisal Scopi	ing Report
English Heritage (Judith Nelson, by email 08/07/09)	
No comment to make. Guidance on SA/SEA and the historic environment was attached.	No changes required.
Natural England (Lisa Taylor, by email 15/07/09)	
We acknowledge that you have broadly covered topics related to our interests of conservation and enhancement of biodiversity, geo-diversity, green infrastructure, landscape character and quality, sustainable use of resources and access to green spaces and countryside.	No changes required.
Environment Agency (Catherine Hunt, by email 05/08/09)	
Baseline Information: Stage A2	

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna We are pleased to see the inclusion of an indicator relating to the 'number and area of sites of local importance for nature conservation (Sites of Biological Importance) Smallwood Parish, by grade'.	
Issues: Stage A3 (Part 1) Issue 4: 'the need to promote high quality building standards (in terms of sustainability, character and build standards), for all new development and improve the quality of existing residences that fail to meet the decent homes standard' we would recommend that new developments, particularly major developments, meet a BREEAM Very Good level as a minimum standard.	The Council is trying to ensure that the same issues and objectives are used for all Local Development Documents. These can be changed through the Core Strategy process and the comments will therefore be taken on board for the future.
Issue 7: 'there is a need to conserve and enhance the biodiversity and geo diversity of the Borough. Particularly important wildlife and habitat sites and areas under threat'. We are pleased to see that this is considered to be of great significance within the document. However, this could perhaps be linked to Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (PPS9) which states that development should:	issues and objectives are used for all Local Development Documents. These can be changed through the Core Strategy process and the
"promote sustainable development by ensuring that biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development, so that policies and decisions about the development and use of land integrate biodiversity and geological diversity with other considerations."	
"conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England's wildlife and geology by sustaining, and where possible improving, the quality and extent	

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
of natural habitatand the populations of naturally occurring species which they support."	
"enhance biodiversity in green spaces and among developments so that they are used by wildlife and valued by people, recognising that healthy functional ecosystems can contribute to a better quality of life and to people's sense of well-being; and ensuring that developments take account of the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic diversification and contributing to a high quality environment."	
Issue 8: 'the need to conserve, enhance and where necessary provide additional Green Infrastructure in the Borough, including open spaces, countryside, woodlands, lakes, private gardens, the countryside and the setting of the Peak District National Park'. We recognise the importance of Green Infrastructure (GI) and support the development of GI networks. GI can provide many benefits, including flood storage, biodiversity and recreation. Particular areas of flood risk may be addressed through the protection or provision of GI. Additionally, GI can also have wider community benefits. PPS9 refers to GI as 'networks of natural habitats' which should be maintained by avoiding or repairing fragmentation and isolation of natural habitats. Such networks should be protected from development, and where possible, strengthened by or integrated within it. See http://www.greeninfrastructure.eu/ for more information.	Comment noted.
Issue 9: 'threats to the quality and quantity of water within the Borough, particularly rivers and canals. In line with the Water Framework Directive (WFD), good chemical and ecological status in inland and coastal waters should be reached by 2015. The WFD is a wide-ranging and ambitious piece	Comment noted.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
 of European environmental legislation. Its overall objective is to bring about the effective co-ordination of water environment policy and regulation across Europe in order to: Prevent deterioration and enhance status of aquatic ecosystems, including groundwater, 	
Promote sustainable water use,Reduce pollution and	
Contribute to the mitigation of floods and droughts.	
The WFD will have implications for spatial planning and development decisions. Development can contribute to an improved water environment, but can also have an adverse impact. Spatial planning bodies can help deliver the WFD objectives by adopting policies that contribute to or support measures that need to be put in place to achieve 'good status'. For example, new developments (such as new housing) when proposed, could be assessed against: • available water resources; • existing capacity for sewage treatment; • the potential environmental impacts discharges of treated effluent might have on receiving water bodies.	
Within the current document there is little mention of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDs). SUDS provide an opportunity to protect rivers and groundwater from the effects of pollutants and reduce flood risk in urban areas by changes in the design of drainage systems and/or the provision of treatment facilities prior to discharge. We are now promoting, with help of unitary authorities and councils, a range of structures with a flexible series of options for reducing the damage of our freshwater resources of this country.	information on SUDs and will be taken into consideration when determining planning

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Therefore any new development should assess the feasibility of incorporating SUDs. (http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/sectors/36998.aspx)	
Issue 10: 'the need to reduce waste generation and reliance on landfill disposal; primarily through recycling and composting'. We are pleased to see this included and support recycling.	No changes required.
Issue 12: 'managing and mitigating flood risk in the Borough' we are pleased to see this included as a key sustainability issue within the Borough.	No changes required.
Objectives: Stage A3 (Part 2) 1. 'To protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and important geological features; with particular care to sites designated internationally, nationally, regionally and locally'. We are satisfied with this sustainability objective.	No changes required.
2. 'To prevent inappropriate development on flood plains and guard against increased risk of flooding'. We are satisfied with this sustainability objective however, the wording could possibly be changed to link in with PPS25: Development and Flood Risk. We are satisfied with this sustainability objective.	The Council is trying to ensure that the same issues and objectives are used for all Local Development Documents. These can be changed through the Core Strategy process and the comments will therefore be taken on board for the future.
3. 'To minimise the need to travel by car and facilitate integrated forms of sustainable transport'. We are pleased to see the inclusion of this objective and support the use of sustainable transport.	No changes required.
4. 'Encouraging sustainable waste management by reducing the production of waste and increasing opportunities for recycling and composting'. We are satisfied with this sustainability objective.	No changes required.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
7. 'To reduce the consumption of natural resources, protect green infrastructure and optimize the re-use of previously developed land and buildings'. We are pleased to see this as a sustainability objective.	No changes required.
8. 'To minimize the requirement for energy use, promote energy efficiency, and increase the use of energy from renewable sources'. We welcome this target and promote the use of energy from renewable sources.	No changes required.
9. 'To promote high quality building standards, particularly in relation to sustainable design, the incorporation of renewable energy generation, building character and good/considerate construction techniques'. We would recommend that new developments, particularly major developments, meet a BREEAM Very Good level as a minimum standard. With regard to 'good/considerate construction techniques' we are unsure what exactly this means and suggest that it could perhaps be reworded to make it clearer.	The Council is trying to ensure that the same issues and objectives are used for all Local Development Documents. These can be changed through the Core Strategy process and the comments will therefore be taken on board for the future.
SEA Screening Statement	
Natural England (Lisa Taylor, by email 15/07/09)	
We acknowledge that you have broadly covered topics related to our interests of conservation and enhancement of biodiversity, geo-diversity, GI, landscape character and quality, sustainable use of resources and access to green spaces and countryside.	No changes required.
Environment Agency (Catherine Hunt, by email 05/08/09)	
We would agree with the Council's statement that the Village Design Statement is unlikely to have a significant environmental effect and accordingly will not require a SEA.	No changes required.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Draft Habitats Regulations Assessment Scoping Report	
Natural England (Lisa Taylor, by email 15/07/09)	
Given the nature of the SPD, we are satisfied with the selection methodology and description of the European site, and welcome the interpretation of the site information to pick out the key points. We are satisfied that the methods of assessment and prediction are clearly explained and that the potential effects of the plan on the conservation objectives of the site are clearly demonstrated.	No changes required.
We note that you have reported the conclusion of the assessment at paragraph 1.5 of the SPD Habitats Regulations Assessment report. We recommend that the reason for this conclusion should also be made as part of the summary.	Amendment made.
We recommend the inclusion of a map which illustrates the location of the relevant parish in relation to European sites in the area, in order to give the report geographical context.	Amendment made.
In paragraph 3.1 of the SPD Habitats Regulations Assessment report, reference is made to the SPD being used in conjunction with and support of the 'saved' policies in the Congleton Borough Local Plan First Review, 2005. Natural England recommends that this statement is followed with reference to the predicted length of time that these 'saved' policies are likely to remain relevant.	A footnote has been added to say that the most up to date information on the LDF can be found in the Council's Local Development Scheme, with a link to the web page.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
In a number of places through the report Bagmere is referenced as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This is of course correct, but in the context of the HRA, the higher designation of Bagmere, as forming part of the Midlands Meres and Mosses Phase 1 Ramsar site should be the suffix, rather than the national SSSI designation.	
Overall, we are satisfied with the assessment and concur with the conclusion that the proposed SPD is not likely to have a significant effect on European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.	No changes required.

3. Statutory Consultation

- 1.7 The consultation took place during the period 12th March to 23rd April 2010 with consultees being contacted either via email or by post. The consultation consisted of supplying consultees with either hard copies of the documents or web links to the draft SPD and background documents, following which the consultees were invited to make any comments in respect of the draft SPD, Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment, by email or post. The documents were also available to view at local Council Customer Service Points, Council Customer Service Centres, Congleton Tourist Information Centre and local libraries.
- 1.8 Two consultation events were also held within Smallwood Parish for interested parties on 25th March 2010 from 10am to 12pm and 5.30pm to 7.30pm. A Planning Officer and members of the Village Design Statement group were available to answer any questions. The SPD consultation and the consultation event were publicised in the local press and within the Smallwood Notes, a local newsletter that is delivered to all households within the Parish.

Statutory Consultation Summary of Issues Raised and Responses

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Draft SPD	
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council (Dave Bryant, by email 09/03/10)	
The Council does not wish to comment.	No changes required.
Manchester Airport Group (Andrew Murray, by email 09/03/10)	
We do not have any comment to make.	No changes required.
Network Rail (Diane Clarke, by email 09/03/10)	
No comments at this moment in time.	No changes required.
Congleton Cycling Campaign (Peter Hall, by email 11/03/10)	
Paragraph 7.2 correctly identifies the lane known as Church Lane/Congleton Road as being a road which receives a lot of traffic at rush hour both morning and night. As you also correctly note this road is also designated as part of Route 70, the Cheshire Cycleway (please note that this is not part of the National Cycle Network but is described as being part of the regional cycle network). The speed of traffic and the space given to cyclists when overtaking on this lane is particularly menacing. This is not just at times when people are travelling to work or travelling to Smallwood school to drop off or collect their children. In keeping with government guidance on reducing speed in rural roads and lanes the Congleton Cycling Campaign and the Cheshire East Cycling Campaign would like the Cheshire East Council to consider reducing the speed limit on this lane to 40mph (it is currently 60mph). We feel that this would go a long way to making Smallwood a more attractive place to live and travel through than it currently is.	scope of the VDS however this comment has been forwarded to the Congleton Area Highways Team, with Mr Hall cc'd.
Mary Logan (Smallwood Resident, by email 25/03/10)	
 I found the Design Statement very interesting and had a useful discussion at the consultation event this morning. I hope it might be helpful to point out a few typos. p16 3.1 "incluses damsons" should be "included damsons" 	Amendments made.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
 3.2 should be "practised" not "practiced" p20 Signposts say Martins Moss, without an apostrophe s. p22 4.10 "Pollution" does not need a capital p. p23 Settlement Guidelines S4 Should be "affect", not "effect". p24 Should be Four Lanes End not Four Lane Ends, I think. p29 6.7 Should be farmers' not farmer's or just "gates." Should be "five barred" not "five bared" gates. 	
Smallwood Parish Council (Helen Baker, by email 25/03/10)	
I am requesting the following amendment on behalf of Smallwood Parish Council. Hedgerow maintenance "Except where site lines and pedestrian safety need to be maintained, along roadsides it is not necessary to cut hedges annually".	Amendment made.
Highways Agency (Victoria Ridehaugh, by email 25/03/10)	
We have no comments to make.	No changes required.
CABE (Andrew Davies, by email 29/03/10)	
Unfortunately, due to limited resources, we are unable to comment on this document. However we would like to make some general comments which you should consider. A good spatial plan is essential to achieving high quality places and good design. CABE believes that getting the local development framework (LDF) core strategy (CS) right is one of the most important tasks planners are undertaking. We have run workshops with over 65 local planning authorities to look at how design is being embedded in CS documents, which form part of the LDF. The workshops offer local authorities independent informal advice from an expert panel and allowed us to identify the strengths and weaknesses of current approaches to spatial planning and how design, functionality and space are dealt	No changes required.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
with in CS documents. Three key messages for local planning authorities preparing CSs have emerged from our workshops. These are now embedded within a CABE publication called <i>Planning for places: delivering good design through core strategies</i> , available to download from the CABE website: www.cabe.org.uk/publications/planning-for-places	
The three key messages are also applicable to other LDF documents and you should keep these in mind when preparing other Development Plan Documents and SPDs:	
Tell the story A good CS needs to tell the story of the place, explain how it works and highlight its qualities and distinguishing features. Telling the story helps everyone understand how the qualities of the place have shaped the strategy and its priorities for future quality. For more information, refer to: www.cabe.org.uk/planning/core-strategies/tell-thestory	
Set the agenda Use the CS to say what is wanted for the area, express aspirations and be proactive and positive about the future of the place and say how this will be achieved. Set out what is expected in terms of design quality and where necessary provide links to the relevant development plan documents or SPDs. For more information refer to: www.cabe.org.uk/planning/corestrategies/ set-the-agenda	
Say it clearly Make the CS relevant and understandable to a wide audience. Use diagrams to inform the text and communicate the strategy and show what quality of place means. For more information refer to: www.cabe.org.uk/planning/core-strategies/say-it-clearly	
It is also important that there is a clear priority for design quality and place-making objectives in the CS, setting out the key principles. This needs to be explicit so that it cannot be challenged when applications are being determined. We would also like to respond by drawing your attention the following CABE Guidance that you might find useful:	

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
 Making design policy work: How to deliver good design through your local development framework Protecting Design Quality in Planning Creating Successful Masterplans – a guide for clients and Design Reviewed Masterplans By Design: urban design in the planning system towards better practice (published by DETR) These, and other publications, are available from our website www.cabe.org.uk 	
English Heritage (Judith Nelson, by email 07/04/10)	
I am afraid that I am unable to respond in detail to this consultation but suggest that you take a look at our recent publication on SA/SEA and the Historic Environment which you can download from www.helm.org.uk . The historic environment is more than an environmental and cultural asset; it is an important driver for economic development and delivering social objectives. The historic environment contributes positively to all aspects of sustainable development. English Heritage is one of the designated environmental consultation bodies for SEA and SA.	No changes required.
The Coal Authority (Rachael Bust, by email 13/04/10)	
Having reviewed your document, I confirm that we have no specific comments to make at this stage.	No changes required.
Natural England (Kieran Preston, by email 13/04/10)	
We strongly support the preparation of village design statements (VDS), and very much welcome this draft SPD, which should help to guide and shape development in a way that reflects and enhances local character and distinctiveness. We support the incorporation of the VDS as an SPD, which should ensure it is given appropriate weight in planning decisions.	No changes required.
While we do not wish to comment on individual proposals, we welcome the general approaches in the draft VDS, in particular:	
 The strong reliance on landscape character and village character assessments. The recognition of the role that hedges and associated landscape features can have on providing habitats for wildlife. 	

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
 The emphasis on local distinctiveness in any new development. The attention given to building form, appearance, materials and spacing of new development, amongst other considerations. 	
We have some general comments on the text of the SPD:	
The Landscape Setting Section 3.10 and 3.11 refers to the importance hedges have in respect to wildlife and also refers to the area as being "ecologically rich". While we concur with these statements we would advise that further information could be included in this section to give a more informative description of the "ecologically rich" area. References to biodiversity and the parish's contribution to this should be mentioned, for example habitats and species contained within the area would improve the description of the Parish.	habitats, flora and fauna can be found in
Settlement Guidelines In the section on Settlement Guidelines (page 17), there is a need to consider protected species in terms of alterations to existing buildings and construction of new buildings. There is the potential for protected species (Bats / Barn Owls / Breeding Birds) to be present on/in existing buildings as well as other protected species such as great crested newts, water vole and badgers in the wider area which could be affected by building. Reference should be made in this section to ensure protected species such as these are considered in the design and construction/alteration of any building in the parish.	Additional guideline (S6) created to incorporate this.
We note in this section the recommendation that exterior lights should not adversely affect the character of the settlements or their settings. As exterior lighting can affect bats emerging from roost entrances and also foraging at night, we would also advise that exterior lights are positioned away from any potential bat roost or foraging areas (trees hedgerows etc.) to avoid any potential impacts on bats.	(S5) created to
Building Guidelines Natural England believes in encouraging the adoption of the principles of sustainability in all plans and	No changes required.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
projects. We support the implementation of standards such as; The Code for Sustainable Homes (http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/theenvironment/codesustainable1) and BREAAM (http://www.breeam.org/), both of which are concerned with a range of measures from building design to water and energy use. We are generally supportive of the policies for building guidelines and while we note that a policy to cover sustainable design including sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) is not included within the SPD, we do note that this important area is included within policy GR2 of the Local Plan, which this SPD supplements.	T.Gopones
Open Spaces, Paths, Trees, Boundaries and Gateways Natural England believes that the provision of high quality green infrastructure should be an integral part of the creation of sustainable communities. One function of green infrastructure is the provision of new opportunities for access. Natural England's Access to Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt) gives a useful minimum standard of the extent and quality of provision which could be expected. Information regarding ANGSt is again available through our website at: http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/enjoying/places/greenspace/greenspacestandards.aspx We note in this section that the parish of Smallwood is characterised by open spaces, occurring within the farmland setting, spaces between settlements and within the gardens surrounding houses. Most of this land however is private (although there are many footpaths and rights of way within the parish) and it is acknowledged in the report that there is very little public open space within the settlements of Smallwood itself. While a policy to support provision of open spaces in this document is not included we do note that such provision is included in policy GR1 of the local plan which should create more public open spaces when developments are built.	No changes required.
Smallwood Storage Ltd (Stephen Goodwin, Goodwin Planning Services, by post 20/04/10)	
We welcome the production of a VDS for Smallwood and believe this will greatly assist in the preparation and determination of planning applications. The document provides useful information in relation to	No changes required.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
existing design features and landscape character. It also provides useful guidance in relation to architectural heritage including materials and detailing.	
We believe the document has missed an opportunity to identify existing problem sites which would potentially benefit from redevelopment. We note that there is limited mention in the highways and traffic section (7) regarding the use of the local road network by HGV's The road network is generally very narrow and unsuitable for such HGV movements.	Supplementary
The document would benefit from the identification of potential redevelopment sites, one of which, we believe should be the Smallwood Storage site. This is a brownfield site with substantial existing commercial buildings which generates considerable HGV movements through the local road network and settlements. We believe the area covered by the VDS would benefit substantially from the redevelopment of the site for a mixed use scheme which would provide a limited level of additional employment together with a range of housing, including affordable housing (if required).	
Cheshire Wildlife Trust (Chris Driver, by email 21/04/10)	
L1 Landscape Character should be more precisely defined and evaluated in order to allow assessment of whether or not development 'detracts' from it. The VDS could include relevant extracts from the Cheshire Landscape Character Assessment (2009), as well as the documents cited here.	
L2 Similarly, settings and important views should be identified on a map, with viewpoints and main elements identified.	Although this is outside the scope of the existing document, this is something to be considered in future reviews.
L3 It would be helpful to explain which elements formulate the 'distinctive character'.	This is already covered

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
	within the guideline.
L4 The CWT supports this proposed guideline, which is based on sound detailed principles.	No changes required.
S1 Is already covered by LP Policy.	It is assumed that this comment relates to either Policy GR2 or Policy H6. The VDS provides more detail on GR2 in the form of a locationally specific guideline. H6 refers to the scale of residential development within the open countryside and Green Belt, with respect to limited development within an Infill Boundary Line (IBL) ¹ . Smallwood doesn't have an IBL due to the predominantly open and loose-knit character of existing development. Therefore no changes necessary.

Within this boundary development is still subject to open countryside or Green Belt policies, but in addition some controlled housing infill may be permitted.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
S2 It would be helpful to define 'unobtrusive' in this context.	Comment noted.
S3 and S4 The CWT supports these proposed guidelines.	No changes required.
B1 – B6 These are very prescriptive and do not accommodate high quality contemporary design. Reliance on traditional materials and methods may be relatively costly and lead to pale imitations of the original models. A low-density constraint would not allow affordable housing, which may be the most sustainable (and necessary) form of development in the rural context.	The guidelines are worded to allow some flexibility with the words 'normally' and 'where appropriate'. They also wouldn't prevent high quality, contemporary design being acceptable.
Paragraph 6.3 Neither Sycamore nor Beech are native to the area, and their use should not be encouraged	'Native' deleted and replaced with 'common'.
OS2 It would be helpful to identify and place TPOs on important hedgerow trees. Species and sizes of preferred replacement trees should be given.	Information on Tree Preservation orders and tree planting are included in SPD 14: Trees and Development.
Paragraph 8.2 Are there also opportunities in the river or brook for micro-power generation?	Information on small hydro schemes can be found in Planning for Renewable Energy: A Companion Guide to PPS22.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Domestic-scale wind turbines are now considered to be inefficient in overall energy costs. (i.e. it costs more energy to make them than they save during their operating lifetime).	Research from the European Commission shows that this is not the case, therefore no changes required.
It is unclear how 'reed beds and willow (?)' would improve the <u>efficiency</u> of sewage disposal, although they could have advantages for biodiversity and pre-treatment water quality of domestic effluent to cess pits/septic tanks and highways run-off.	Text amended.
Appendix 4 Other noteworthy sites of biological value which should be mentioned are: Brookhouse Swamp SBI Grade A, Wet woodland/marshy grassland, Smallwood SBI Grade B	These sites are mentioned in the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal.
National Trust (Alan Hubbard, by email 22/04/10)	
The National Trust welcomes the initiative that has been taken locally to pursue the production of a VDS. It is re-assuring that local people take a special interest in the history and character of the places where they live and accordingly this initiative is generally welcomed and supported. The use of the final document to inform both LDF work as well as the preparation and assessment of planning applications would be appropriate (para 1.18).	No changes required.
The Trust's specific interest in this matter relates to its ownership and management on behalf of the nation, in accordance with its statutory purposes, of Little Moreton Hall which is situated some 2.5 kms to the east of the Village. Little Moreton Hall is regarded as one of the finest, if not the finest, example of Domestic Tudor Architecture in England. The Hall is a Scheduled Monument as well as a Grade I Listed Building and its grounds are unusual for having two prospect mounds. The National Trust owns 7 acres	No changes required.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
and a further 23 acres of land around the property are under restrictive covenants to help protect part of the immediate setting. Additional information about the Hall, including the Trust's Statement of Significance, can be provided on request.	
It is agreed (para 3.1) that the open countryside between settlements in this part of Cheshire is a key and defining characteristic. In this particular case it is also considered that the countryside to the south and east of Smallwood, including a small portion of land within the area covered by the SPD, forms part of the essential wider setting of Little Moreton Hall. As part of its work on "Conservation Performance" at Little Moreton Hall the Trust has identified that its wider setting is a key feature of the property and the related objective seeks to ensure that the setting is protected from adverse impacts – 'performance' in this regard is re-assessed on an annual basis. A plan is enclosed with this response identifying the assessed setting based upon work undertaken on site by Trust staff. It is anticipated that this work will have increasing importance in the context of existing planning policy and guidance, in particular following the recent publication of PPS5 (especially relevant are Policies HE6, HE9 and HE10) and the related Planning Practice Guide (e.g. paras 113 – 124).	
It is considered that reference to the south eastern part of the VDS area also being part of the wider setting of Little Moreton Hall should be added to Section 3 of the document.	Reference added to paragraph 3.11.
The proposed Landscape Guidelines are supported, but it is considered that they should be supplemented to include a new Guideline after L2 as follows: "Should not detract from the wider setting of Little Moreton Hall, including views to and from the Hall". In this context the Guidelines would also supplement 'saved' Congleton Local Plan Policy BH4.	
The content of Section 4 of the VDS is generally agreed; the reference at para 4.10 to the adverse impacts of light pollution is noted and supported. Accordingly the Settlement Guidelines are supported.	No changes required.
The Trust has no specific observations to make on Section 5 of the consultation document.	No changes required.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
In respect of Section 6 it is agreed that the open spaces are a key component of the distinctive character of the VDS area, and in particular that roadside and hedgerow native trees and areas of woodland are identifying features that are important positive elements of the landscape. The Open Spaces, Paths, Trees, Boundaries and Gateways Guidelines are supported.	No changes required.
The Vision for the future is considered to be appropriate and to reflect the key local characteristics of Smallwood.	No changes required.
United Utilities (David Sherratt, by email 23/04/10)	,
As there is little information on the size, location or timescale for the proposed developments; United Utilities Water plc (UU) does have any specific comments to make at this stage. UU suggests that developments should take place at locations accessible to existing public sewers & water mains. Developments may require enhancement to existing UU wastewater treatment facilities and water supplies. Developments must be drained on a separate system and sustainable drainage techniques should be employed.	Comments noted.
Environment Agency (Catherine Hunt, by email 23/04/10)	
2.4 We note that there are two rivers through the Parish – the Croco and The Brook. If these rivers are designated 'main river', the Environment Agency under the Water Resources Act 1991 has the powers to control any development, in, under, over or within 8 metres of any river designated 'main river'.	Comment noted. Neither the Croco nor The Brook are designated 'main rivers'.
If any new development is to take place within Flood Zones 2 (medium probability risk of flooding) and Flood Zone 3 (high probability risk of flooding) or a site in Flood Zone 1 over one hectare (low probability risk of flooding) a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) would need to be submitted with any planning application which should meet the requirements outlined in PPS 25: Development and Flood Risk, Annex E. Housing developments should be steered to areas at the lowest risk of flooding by applying the	Comments to be addressed in Appendix 1 of the SA in the Water and Soil section.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
'Sequential Test' in line with PPS25.	
We would recommend the use of Sustainable urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) where possible which can positively be incorporated into the design of any new development. Support for the SuDS approach to managing surface water run-off is set out in paragraph 22 of Planning Policy Statement 1: Sustainable Development (PPS1) and in more detail in PPS25 Annex F.	Information on SuDs can be found in SPD 4: Sustainable Development.
3.3 We note that Brookhouse Moss Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) lies within the Smallwood Parish and is now protected. We recognise that this site supports Alder Buckthorn and also nationally important communities of mosses, liverworts and uncommon flowering plants and supports the nationally rare Bog Rosemary.	Comment noted.
3.10 We welcome this paragraph which highlights the importance of hedgerows as being important to wildlife and they can positively enhance biodiversity.	No changes required.
4.8 We support the re-use of existing buildings and conversions of redundant barns to dwellings. We support the re-use of brownfield land and whilst brownfield land is generally relatively limited in rural areas, its re-use creates opportunities to positively contribute to the sustainability of rural areas within the borough.	No changes required.
6.1 We support this statement that open spaces have been recognised as 'essential ingredients' of Smallwood. Open space in Smallwood can positively contribute to Green Infrastructure (GI).	No changes required.
We recognise the importance of GI and support the development of GI networks. GI can provide many benefits, including flood storage, biodiversity and recreation. Particular areas of flood risk may be addressed through the protection or provision of GI. Additionally, GI can also have wider community benefits. Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (PPS9) refers to GI as 'networks of natural habitats' which should be maintained by avoiding or repairing fragmentation and	Comment noted.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
isolation of natural habitats. Such networks should be protected from development, and where possible, strengthened by or integrated within it. See http://www.greeninfrastructure.eu/ for more information.	
6.4 We welcome the inclusion of the statement relating to 'more tree planting of 'native' species should be encouraged where it fits in with the landscape'. We support this and we would recommend the use of native species where possible, not only in relation to tree planting, but also more broadly and we recommend the use of native species within any landscaping scheme. If there are distinct local varieties where the local gene pool should be maintained, then stocks of local provenance should be used. British forms tend to be more resistant to frost and damp than their European counterparts, and flower and fruit at times more appropriate to the British animals that depend on them.	
8.2 We welcome the inclusion of this paragraph and our vision outlined in our new Corporate Strategy, Creating a Better Place 2010 -2015, compliments this as we all need to act to reduce climate change and its consequences. We support the development and use of low-carbon technologies, including renewable energy such as domestic scale wind turbines and solar panels, while minimising other environmental impacts.	No changes required.
Government Office for the North West (Carolyn Burgess, by email 7/05/10)	
General There is good use of illustrations which help the flow of the document. It is a well organised and informative document with good use of cross references and appendices. Perhaps photographs could be used more to refer specifically in text to what they are trying to illustrate.	Text amended.
Chapter 1: Introduction The Policy Context should be separate from the Introduction, or at the end of it, for clarity.	Policy context moved to the end of the Introduction.
Page 1. The Map showing Smallwood Parish Boundary could be enlarged for greater impact.	Map enlarged.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Page 2. The inclusion of Burdett's Historical Map of Smallwood 1777 is interesting and if the aim is to demonstrate the differences between the Parish Boundary now and then, and to put the Village Design Statement into context of "past and present", this could be described in the Introduction.	Comment noted. The map was inserted to provide a historical background.
Page 2. What is a Village Design Statement? This section could include information to say that the Statement is a Supplementary Planning Document as part of the Local Development Framework and go on to refer to existing policies that relate to this area.	
Page 3. Purpose of the document is already mentioned in Paras 1.2 - 1.4, which could include reference to the Local Plan policies GR1, GR2 and GR5 as in Para 1.9.	Paragraph 1.9 deleted and text amended in para 1.2 to include reference to the supplemented polices.
Page 3. Please clarify and expand paragraphs 1.10 Method of Approach and para 1.11; e.g. these paragraphs could be incorporated into the 'National, Regional and Local Policy Context 'section.	Paragraphs 1.10 and 1.11 incorporated into 'Policy Context' section.
Page 5. Amend the end of Paragraph 1.15 to Appendix 6 for 4nw contact details.	Text amended.
Chapter 2: The Village Context	Map inserted to show

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Page 6. Para 2.1. An extract from the Proposals Map could be used to illustrate this context.	details of Green Belt and Open Countryside.
Chapter 3: Landscape Setting Page 12. You may wish to delete "where appropriate" from the guidelines, to provide more certainty.	See previous comment from GONW (11/05/09).
Page 12. The last paragraph should state "the above guidelines supplement"	Text amended.
Chapter 4: The Settlement Pattern Page 17. Settlement Guidelines could mention sustainability and also cohesive and/or complementary design and anything specific relating to Green Belt.	Information on sustainability can be found in SPD 4: Sustainable Development. Further design guidance can be found within the SPD.
Chapter 5: Buildings Buildings Guidelines. The previous point about describing low density made in previous GONW comments, and the need to fit with Local Plan policies, has not been addressed.	Text amended within the guideline with regards to low-density. The guideline is not contrary to local plan policy.
Chapter 6: Open Spaces The point made in previous GONW comments that the paragraph could refer to the existence of Tree Preservation Orders to protect threatened trees has not been addressed.	Text amended.

Comments/Issues Raised	Response
Chapter 7: Highways and Traffic	Comment noted.
This Chapter could be illustrated with a map of the roads, but does not really contain any guidance or say	
how it relates to the Local Plan or other policies.	Figure 4 incorporates a map of the roads.
	map of the roads.
Chapter 8: Vision for the Future Para 8.2. Delete the word "any" from "support any measures"	Text amended.
Fara 6.2. Delete the word any from support any measures	Text amended.
This Chapter could include expectations relating to population, rural economies, and facilities including schools, utilities, and infrastructure.	Although this is outside the scope of the existing document, this is something to be considered in future reviews.
Draft Sustainability Appraisal	
Natural England (Kieran Preston, by email 13/04/10)	
While we do not wish to comment on individual aspects of the reports, we acknowledge that you have broadly covered topics related to our interests of conservation and enhancement of biodiversity, geodiversity, green infrastructure, landscape character and quality, sustainable use of resources and access to	No changes required.
green spaces and countryside.	
Draft Habitats Regulations Assessment	
Natural England (Kieran Preston, by email 13/04/10)	
Given the nature of the SPDs, we are satisfied with the selection methodology and description of the European site, and welcome the interpretation of the site information to pick out the key points. We are satisfied that the methods of assessment and prediction are clearly explained and that the potential effects of the plan on the conservation objectives of the site are clearly demonstrated. Overall, we are satisfied with the assessment and concur with the conclusion that the proposed SPD is not likely to have a significant effect on European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.	No changes required.

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APPENDIX 7



LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK



















LOCAL LIST OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

July 2010

CONTENTS¹

Local list buildings are organised into alphabetical order according to Town/ Village name and street name.

Α

Adlington. - Brookledge Lane, **St. John's Church**, SK10 4JU.

Alderley Edge. - Beechfield Road, The Quinta, SK9 7AU.

Alderley Edge. - Brook Lane, Eastleigh & Greenside, SK9 7QQ.

Alderley Edge. - Brook Lane, Northleigh, SK9 7QJ.

Alderley Edge. - Congleton Road, De Trafford Arms, SK9 7AA

Alderley Edge. - Macclesfield Road, Summer Hill Cottages, SK9 7BG.

Alderley Edge. - Macclesfield Road, Sorting Office, SK9 7BG
Alderley Edge. - Macclesfield Road, Braeside, SK9 7BG.
Alderley Edge. - Ryleys Lane, The Meadows, SK9 7BN
Alderley Edge. - Ryleys Lane, 1 & 2, Brookside, SK9 7UU.
Alderley Edge. - Ryleys Lane, War Memorial, SK9 7QD.
Alderley Edge. - Talbot Road, Festival Hall, SK9 7HR

Alderley Edge. - Whitebarn Road, Whitebarn Lodge, SK9 7AW.

Alderley Edge. - Whitebarn Road, Windy Howe, SK9 7AW.

Alsager - Audley Road, Alsager Railway Station, ST7 2QL

Alsager - Brookhouse Road United Reformed Church, ST7 2PA

Alsager - Crewe Road , 44 ,ST7 2ET

Alsager - Lawton Road, Wesley Place Methodist Church ,ST7 2AF

Alsager - 79 Sandbach Road North The Firs, ST7 2AP
Alsager - Station Road, Milton House, ST7 2YS
Arclid - Congleton Road Brookside Hall CW11 4TF
Audlem - Rear of 16 The Square, Old Water Pump

B

Betchton - Alsager Road St Philips Church CW11 4Y
Betchton - Alsager Road, Station House, CW11 4YB
Betchton - Alsager Road, Sun Cottage CW11 4YB
Love Lane, Townsend Farm, CW11 2TS

Betchton - Roughwood Lane, Roughwood Hill Farm, CW11 4XY

Betchton - Vicarage Lane, Tall Chimneys, CW11 4TB

Bollington. - Adlington Road, Bollington Conservative Club (Adlington

House, SK10 5HQ

Flash Lane, Gregs Fountain, SK10 5AQ
 Bollington. - Grimshaw Lane, Railway Viaduct, SK10 5NJ
 Bollington. - High St / Lord St Dry Stone Field Wall SK10
 Bollington. - Lowther Street, Lowther Street School, SK10 5QQ

¹ The full SPD, containing a description/image for each listing is available for reference

Bollington. - Oak Lane, Kerridge War Memorial, SK10 5AP
Bollington. - Palmerston Street, Bollington War Memorial, SK10

Bollington. - Palmerston Street, **81& 83**, SK10 5JX.

Bollington. - Water Street School, **Water Street**, SK10 5PA

Bollington. - Wellington Road, **55-63**, SK10 5JH.

Bollington. - Wellington Road, 53, Brook House and outbuilding.

SK10 5JH.

Bollington. - Wellington Road, **27**, **The Manse**,

SK10 5JR.

Bollington. - Wellington Road, **34, Town Hall**, SK10 5JR.

Bulkeley - Mill Lane, Bulkeley Corn Mill, SY14 8BL

Chelford - Station Road, The Old Masters Building SK10 5JR

Cholmondeley - Cholmondeley Road, Cholmondeley Arms, SY14 8HN
 Cholmondeley - Cholmondeley Road, The School Masters House, SY148HN

Chorley - Nantwich Road, Bank House Farm, CW5
Chorley - Nantwich Road, Wallstone Farm, CW5 8JR

Congleton-Astbury Street, St James Church CW12 4EFCongleton-Biddulph Road, 28 High Town Works, CW12 3JTCongleton-Biddulph Road, Holy Trinity Church CW12 3LZ

Congleton-Biddulph Road, Mossley House CW12Congleton-Brook Street, St Stephens CW12 1RJCongleton-Castle Inn Road The Castle Inn, CW12Congleton-Castle Inn Road Bracken Cottage, CW12

Congleton - Cockshuts Path Old Grammer

Congleton - Congleton Edge Road Congleton Edge Methodist Chapel

CW12 3NB

Congleton - 40 Cross Lane, **Crofters**, CW12 3JX

Congleton - Cross Street, Pentecostal Chapel CW12 1HQ

Congleton - Duke Street 1 CW12 1AP

Congleton - 40 Holmes Chapel Road, West Heath Mill CW12 4NG

Congleton-Lawton Steet War Memorial CW12Congleton-87 Leek Road Stone House CW12 3HXCongleton-Leek Road Mossley Old School CW12 3HX

Congleton-Leek Road The Cedars CW12 3HSCongleton-Castle Hill Road The Chapel CW12 3LPCongleton-Market Street Congleton Musuem CW12 3LP

Congleton - Mill Street The Music Box CW12 1AB

Congleton - 2 Swan Bank Swan House

Congleton - Under Rainow Road, Coach and Horses CW12 3LP

Congleton - 29-35 West Road West End Villas
Congleton - West Road Westholme CW12 4EY

Crewe - Bridle Road, Former Comptons Clothing Factory, CW2

Crewe - Brierley Street, Brierley Street School, CW1 2AZ

Crewe - Broad Street, National School

Crewe - Camm Street, Former Clothing Factory, CW2

Crewe Green Road, Former Mill House

Crewe - Edleston Road, Edleston Road School, CW2 7HB

Crewe - Edleston Road, The Imperial, CW2 7HR

Crewe - 190 Edleston Road, Temple Chambers, CW2 7EP
Crewe - Flag Lane, Crewe Swimming Baths, CW2 7QX
Crewe - Flag Lane, The Technical Institute, CW2

Crewe - Gatefield Street, **Liberal Club**, CW2

Crewe - 2a Gresty Road

Crewe - 189-197 Gresty Road, YMCA, CW2 6EL

Crewe - Hightown, Former Congregational Church, CW1 3BP

Crewe - 30 Market Street, Midland Bank, CW1 2ES
Crewe - 24 Market Street, Former Bank, CW1 2EL
Crewe - Nantwich Road, Crewe Arms Hotel, CW2 6DN
Crewe - Nantwich Road, The Royal Hotel, CW2 6AG
Crewe - Nantwich Road, The Earl of Crewe, CW2 6BP

Crewe - Nantwich Road, Westminster House
Crewe - North Street, Horse Shoe Public House
Crewe - Pymms Lane, Bentley Motors, CW1 3PL
Crewe - Remer Street, Cross Keys Public House
Crewe - 38 St Pauls Street, Former AUEW Offices
Crewe - Vincent Street, Clothing Factory, CW2

Crewe Green - Butterton Lane, Brook Cottage

Crewe Green - Butterton Lane, Apricot Cottage/Seven Oaks Cottage

Crewe Green - Old Park Road, Bottle Lodge

Crewe Green - Old Park Road, Park Cottage/Apple Tree Cottage
Crewe Green - Slaughter Hill, Box Tree Cottage/Hill Top Cottage
Crewe Green - Slaughter Hill, Aster Cottage/Willow Cottage
Crewe Green - Slaughter Hill, Alder Cottage/Fern Cottage

Disley. - Buxton Old Road, Higher Disley Sunday School,

SK12 2BU.

Disley. - Buxton Road, **280, Albert House**, SK12 2PY.

Disley. - Buxton Road West, 12, SK12 2AE.
Disley. - Buxton Road West, 14, SK12 2AE.
Disley. - Buxton Road West, 16, SK12 2AE.
Disley. - Buxton Road West, 18, SK12 2AE.

Disley. - Green Lane, Lower Stoneridge Farm, SK12 2AL
Disley. - Jackson's Edge Road, Homestead Farm, SK12 2JR.

Disley. - Red Lane, **Stone Trough**, SK12 2AE

Egerton - Bickerton Hall Road, **Pumping Station**, SY14 8AW **Egerton** - Bickerton Hall Road, **Valve House** SY14 8AW

Gawsworth. - Church Lane, The Warren Cottage, SK11 9QY.

Gawsworth. - Dark Lane, The Old Police Station, SK11 9QZ.

Gawsworth. - Dark Lane, The Old Post Office, SK11 9QZ.

Goostrey - Station Road Railway Booking Office CW4 8PJ

Handforth. - Church Road, **28-36**, SK9 3LT.

Haslington - Alsager Road, Wheelock Heath Farm, CW11 4RQ

Haslington - Bradley Road, Primitive Methodist Church

Haslington - Butterton Lane, Offley Ley Farm

Haslington-73 Crewe Road, Pine Lodge, CW1 5QXHaslington-85 Crewe Road, Wray Cottage, CW1Haslington-194 Crewe Road, The Old Vicarage, CW1

Haslington - Crewe Road, 136, CW1 5RQHaslington - Crewe Road, 236, CW11

Haslington - 150 Crewe Road, Cast Iron Street Lamp

Haslington - 425 Crewe Road, **The Limes**

Haslington - 62-66 Hassall Road, Wheelock Heath, CW11
 Haslington - Holmshaw Lane, Type K6 Telephone Kiosk

Haslington - Nursery Lane, Cheshire County Council Guidepost
 Haslington - The Dingle, United Reform Church and Burial Ground

Haslington - Waterloo Road, 1a (Holy Bank Cottage)

Haslington - Taylors Lane, House attached to St Lukes Church, CW1

5XE

Henbury. - Chelford Road, **Ivydale Farm**, SK10 3LH.

Henbury.
Chelford Road, The Firs & Cockwood, SK10 3LH.
Henbury.
Fanshawe Lane, Henbury Moss Cottage, SK11 9PW.

Henbury.
Henbury.
Fanshawe Lane, Lingards Farm, SK11 9PL.
Fanshawe Lane, Marlheath Farm, SK11 9PP.
Henbury.
Fanshawe Lane, Sandbach Farm, SK11 9PL.

High Legh.
 High Legh.
 High Legh.
 Northwood Lane, Methodist Chapel, WA16 0QX.
 High Legh.
 Northwood Lane, Northwood Cottage, WA16 0QX.
 High Legh.
 Pheasant Walk, Eastholme & Westholme, WA16 6LN.

High Legh.
High Legh.
Warrington Road, Water Tower, WA16 0RS.
High Legh.
West Lane, Chaplains House, WA16 6LR.

High Legh. - Woodlands Crescent, **Gateposts**.

High Legh. - Wrenshot Lane, **No. 1 & 2, Gothic Cottages**,

WA16 6NW.

High Legh. - Wrenshot Lane, Rose and Primrose Cottages,

WA16 6NN.

K

Knutsford. - Chelford Road, Booth Hall, WA16 8GE.
Knutsford. - Chelford Road, Kerfield Hall, WA16 8RD.

Knutsford. - Chelford Road, **Post Office**, WA16 8ED.

Knutsford. - Chelford Rd Moseley Hall Knutsford WA16 8RB

Knutsford.
Knutsford.
Cranford Avenue, Cranford, WA16 0EB.
Knutsford.
Gaskell Avenue, Sandilands, WA16 0DA.
Knutsford.
Leycester Road, 15&17, Firwood, WA16 8QR.
Knutsford.
Leycester Road, Humbug Cottage, WA16 8QS.
Knutsford.
Leycester Road, 19, Somerford, WA16 8QR.
Knutsford.
Leycester Road, White Lodge, WA16 0HF.

Knutsford.
Knutsford.
Manchester Road, 11, WA16 0LY.
Manchester Road, 59-61, WA16 0LX.
Knutsford.
Manor Park North, East Lodge, WA16 8DD.

Knutsford.
 Northwich Road, The Conservative Club, WA16 OLT
 Knutsford.
 Parkfield Road, The White Cottage, WA16 8NP.

Langley. - Langley Road, **Abbotsdale**, SK11 0DG.

Langley. - Langley Road, **Cherrywood House**, SK11 0DG.

Langley. - Langley Road, **Invercraig**, SK11 0DG.

Macclesfield. - Beech Lane, **8-14 inc**. SK10 2DR.

Macclesfield. - Beech Lane, **81, Beech Knoll**, SK10 2DY.

Macclesfield. - Beech Lane, **83**, SK10 2DY.

Macclesfield. - Beech Lane, Lisle's (former Methodist Church),

SK10 2DR.

Macclesfield. - Beech Lane, **6**, SK10 2DR.

Macclesfield. - Birtles Road, 70, Lower Roewood. SK10 3JG

Macclesfield. - Blakelow Road, **61**, SK11 7ED.

Macclesfield.
 Macclesfield.
 Blakelow Road, 56, Blakelow House, SK11 7ED.
 Blakelow Road, 58, The Old Vicarage, SK11 7ED.
 Macclesfield.
 Bridge Street, Bridge Street Mill, SK11 6PZ.

Macclesfield. - Bridge Street, **85-87**, **Excelsior Buildings**, SK11 6PZ.

Macclesfield. - Brook Street, Brook Street Mill, SK11 7AW.
 Macclesfield. - Brook Street, The Old Stables, SK11 7AA.

Macclesfield. - Brough Street West, All Saints' Church, SK11 8EL.

Macclesfield. - Buxton Road, 248, Co-op, SK11 7EU.

Macclesfield. - Buxton Road, 149, Park Lodge, SK10 1JS.

Macclesfield.
 Buxton Road, 66, Tomkinson's Heating, SK10 1JS.
 Macclesfield.
 Buxton Old Road, 22-28, Hovis Pleasance, SK11 7EL.
 Buxton Old Road, 101, Windyway House, SK11 OAP.
 Macclesfield.
 Byron Street, St. Barnabas' School, SK11 7QA.

Macclesfield. - Byrons Lane, 89, 91, 93, 95, SK11 7JS.

Macclesfield. - Byrons Lane, 113, Elmside, SK11 7JS.

Macclesfield. - Byrons Lane, 113, Elmside, SK11 7JS.

Macclesfield. - Byrons Lane, 99a, Kelvin House, SK11 7JS.

Macclesfield. - Byrons Lane, Old King's Head Public House, SK11 0HQ.

Macclesfield.-Byrons Lane, 123, Rock House, SK11 0HQ.Macclesfield.-Byrons Lane, 111, The Elms, SK11 7JS.

Macclesfield. - Byrons Lane, **32, The Old Forge**, Bradley Smithy,

SK11 0HQ.

Macclesfield.
 Macclesfield.
 Byrons Lane, 88, The Vicarage, SK11 7JS.
 Byrons Lane, 99, Woodlands House, SK11 7JS.
 Macclesfield.
 Castle Street, Cheshire Building Society, SK11 6AF.

Macclesfield. - Chester Road, 97, SK11 8DLMacclesfield. - Chester Road, 164-166, SK11 8PT.

Macclesfield. - Chester Road, Regency Preparatory School,

SK11 8PT.

Macclesfield. - Chester Road, 168, 'Summerhill', SK11 8PT.

Macclesfield. - Dale Street, 14-26, Dale Street Mill, SK10 1NH.

Macclesfield. - Fence Avenue, Victoria Park Lodge, SK10 1LT.

Macclesfield. - Gunco Lane, **86-88**, SK11 7JL.

Macclesfield. - Hatton Street, Mafeking Hall (form. St. John's School), SK11

0AP.

Macclesfield. - Henderson Street, **Newbridge House**, SK11 6RA.

Macclesfield. - Hollins Road, **2**, SK11 7EA.

Macclesfield. - Hurdsfield Road, 78-88, SK10 2QJ.

Macclesfield. - Ivy Lane, **46**, SK11 8NU.

Macclesfield. - Knight Street, Liz Kaye House (Knight Street Mill),

SK11 7AT.

Macclesfield. - London Road, 109-111, SK11 7RL.

Macclesfield. - London Road, 113, SK11 7RL.

Macclesfield. - London Road, St. Edward's Church, SK11 7RL.

Macclesfield. - London Road, 6, The Albion Hotel, SK11 7QX.

Macclesfield. - Loney Street, **Dye Works**, SK11 8ER.

Macclesfield. - Mill Street, 5, SK11 6NA.Macclesfield. - Mill Street, 95, SK11 6NR.

Macclesfield.
 Mill Street, 78, J. D. Hilton, SK11 6NH.
 Macclesfield.
 Mill Street, 30, Mothercare, SK11 6LT.
 Mill Street, 76, The Mind Shop, SK11 6NH.
 Macclesfield.
 Mill Street, 105, The White Lion, SK11 6NN.
 Macclesfield.
 Newton Street, Kershaw Mill, SK11 6QJ.
 Macclesfield.
 Old Hall Street, Spring Mount, SK10 2DT.

Macclesfield. - Oxford Road, 265, SK11 8JY.

Macclesfield. - Oxford Road, 267, SK11 8JY.

Macclesfield. - Park Lane, 298, Highfield House, SK11 8AE.

Macclesfield.
 Macclesfield.
 Macclesfield.
 Park Lane, Park Villa, SK11 8AE.
 Queen Victoria Street, 5-15, SK11 6LP.
 Riseley Street, 2-20, SK10 1BW.

Macclesfield.
 Macclesfield.
 Saville Street, Mount Tabor Methodist Church, SK11 7LQ.
 South Park Road, Labour Exchange (form.), SK11 6RS.
 Macclesfield.
 South Park Road, Primitive Methodist Church, SK11 6RS.

Macclesfield. - Victoria Road, 201, Bollin Barn House, SK10 3JE.

Macclesfield.
 Western Drive, 1-16, Harry Turner Alms House, SK11 8AN.
 Macclesfield.
 Windmill Street, St Peter's House (form.), SK11 7HS.

Macclesfield. - Windmill Street, St. Peter's War Memorial Hall, SK11 7HS.

Millington. - Millington Hall Lane, Montebello Castle, WA16 6RP.

Millington. - Millington Hall Lane, Water Tank Building, Montebello

Castle, WA16 6RP.

Morton Cum - Change Hall Lane Chance Hall Cottages

Alcumlow CW12 4TL

Morton Cum - New Road Woodlands CW12 4RX

Alcumlow

Morton Cum - Wood Farm Yew Tree Lane CW12 3GY

Alcumlow

Mottram St. - Castle Hill, Rose Cottage, SK10.

Andrew.

Mottram St. - Wilmslow Road, Old School House, SK10 4QT.

Andrew.

Nantwich - London Road, Regents College, Chapel and Grove House

Nether Alderley. -Bollington Lane, Hanson House Mews, SK10 4TB

Nether Alderley. -Bradford Lane, Stone Wall, SK10 4TR
Nether Alderley. -Nursery Lane, Hill House, SK10 4TX

Newbold Astbury - Limekiln Farm Lane Limekiln Farm CW12 3NU

Newbold Astbury - Oak Lane Oak Farm CW12 4RT

Newbold Astbury - Sandbach Road Fieldhouse Farm CW12 4TE
Newbold Astbury - School Lane School House CW12 4RG
Newbold Astbury - Watery Lane Dubthorn CW12 4RR

Newbold Astbury - Watery Lane Whitethorn Farm CW12 4RR

Norbury - Marbury Lock, Lockkeepers Cottage, SY13 4HS

North Rode. - A54, Pill Box, CW12 2PH.

Odd Rode - Holehouse Lane Church Cottages ST7 3SX

Odd Rode - Sandbach Road 232 & 234 ST7 3SB

Ollerton - Moss Lane, Ollerton Water Tower,

Peover (Lower). - Cheadle Lane, **Appletree Cottage**, WA16 9SN.

Peover (Over). - Holmes Chapel Road, 1-3, Millbank Cottages, WA16 9QZ.

Peover (Over) - Holmes Chapel Road, **Nixon's Cottage**, WA16 9RD.

Pickmere. - Pickmere Lane, **Cobb Lodge**, WA16 OJL.

Plumley. - Moss Lane, Pill Box.

Poynton. - Chester Road, Poynton Railway Station, SK12 1HB.
- Coppice Road, 13-79, Petre Bank Cottages, SK12 1SN.

Poynton. - Fountain Close, **1-6**, **Alms Houses**, SK12 1NH

Poynton. - Fountain Place, **1-13**, SK12 1QX.

Poynton. - London Road North, Poynton Park Boathouse.
Poynton. - London Road South, 10, Old Cinema, SK12 1NJ.
Poynton. - London Road South, 24, 26, 30, 32, SK12 1NJ.

Poynton. - Middlewood Road, Newhouse Farm (Barn), SK12 1TU
Poynton. - Park Lane, Poynton Community Centre, SK12 1RB

Poynton. - Park Lane, Hockley Centre, SK12 1RJ

Prestbury. - Bonis Hall Lane, Old School House, SK10 4LP.
Prestbury. - Bonis Hall Lane, Woodside Farm, SK10 4LP.
Prestbury. - Butley Lanes, Higher Yewards Farm, SK10 4DS.
Prestbury. - Collar House Drive, Old Coach House, SK10 4AP
Prestbury. - Collar House Drive, White Oak Cottage, SK10 4AP
Prestbury. - Dale Brow, Prestbury Village Hall, SK10 4BL
Prestbury. - Dumbah Lane, Old Dumbah, SK10 4EW.

Prestbury. - 23 Heybridge Lane, Hawthorn Cottage, SK10 4ES Prestbury. - 61,Heybridge Lane, Yew Tree Cottage, SK10 4HD

Prestbury. - Woodford Lane, Lumb Farm, SK10 4LH.
Prestbury. - The Village, Ford House, SK10 4DG

Peckforton - Pennsylvania Lane, Pennsylvania Cottage

Rainow - Tower Hill, **The Tower**, SK10 5TX

Ridley - Nantwich, Barn, Ridley Hall Farm

Sandbach - Crewe Road Wheelock Silk Mill CW11 4QD

Sandbach - Vicarage Lane 76-80

Shavington - Crewe Road, Yew Tree Farm, CW12 2PF

Shavington - 144 Crewe Road, The Beeches

Shavington - Main Road, 138

Shavington - Main Road, Puseydale Farm, CW2 5DY

Shavington - Main Road, Former Shavington School/ School House

CW2 5DP

Shavington - Main Road, St Johns Methodist Church, CW2 5DP

Smallwood - Brookhouse Green Brookhouse Green Methodist Chapel

CW11 2XF

Sutton. - Church Lane, 'St. James Vicarage', SK11 0DS

Sutton. - Jarman, The Pinfold.

Tabley. - Chester Road, **'Red Lodge'**, WA16 0HD. **Tabley.** - Chester Road, **'Yew Tree House'**, WA16 0HN.

Tytherington. - Tytherington Lane, **15-17**, SK10 2JS. **Tytherington.** - Tytherington Lane, **31**, SK10 2JS.

Tytherington. - Tytherington Lane, **33-35**, SK10 2JS.

Willaston - 32 Coppice Road, Hawthorn Cottage, CW5 6QA.

Willaston - Crewe Road, School House

Willaston - Crewe Road Former Board School

Willaston - Wistaston Road 83/85
Willaston - Wistaston Road 129/131
Willaston - Wistaston Road 149-155

Willaston - Wistaston Road, Type K6 Telephone Kiosk

Wilmslow. - Carwood Road, 29, SK9 5DJ.Wilmslow. - Carwood Road, 46, SK9 5DN.

Wilmslow. - Albert Road, 5, Hawthorn Villa, SK9 5HT.

Wilmslow. - Albert Road, **12**, SK9 5HT.

Wilmslow.

Wilmslow. - Alderley Road, Former Rex Cinema buildings, SK9 1HY.
Wilmslow. - Alderley Road, 69-71, The Coach & Four, SK9 1PA

Bank Square, 2 & 4, SK9 1AN.

Wilmslow - Alderley Road, 97/95, SK9 1PT

Wilmslow. - Bollin Link, Western Railway Viaduct, SK9 1AE.

Wilmslow. - Chapel Lane, 22-40, SK9 5HZ. Wilmslow. - Chapel Lane, 40-48, SK9 5HZ.

Wilmslow. - Cliff Road, Boddington Arch, SK9 4AA.

Wilmslow. - Fulshaw Cross, SK9 1PZ.

Wilmslow.
Fulshaw Park, Chorlton House, SK9 1QH.
Fulshaw Park, Rostherne, SK9 1QQ.
Wilmslow.
Fulshaw Park South, Inglewood, SK9 1QG.

Wilmslow. - Gravel Lane, 4 & 6, SK9 6LA.
Wilmslow. - Goodrington Road, 20/21, SK9 3AT

Wilmslow. - Grove Street, Barclays Bank, 59, SK9 1ER
Wilmslow. - Hawthorn Lane, 60, Old Post Office, SK9 1AL.

Wilmslow. - Knutsford Road, 34, SK9 6JB.
Wilmslow. - Knutsford Road, 105-107, SK9 6JP.
Wilmslow. - Knutsford Road, 140-142, SK9 6JP.
Wilmslow. - Knutsford Road, 72/76 . SK9

Wilmslow. - Knutsford Road, 72/76, SK9
Wilmslow. - Knutsford Road, Fulshaw Cottage, SK9 1QH

Wilmslow. - Manchester Road, Milestone, SK9 2JB.

Wilmslow. - Manchester Road, Chadworth House, SK9 3HP Wilmslow. - Manchester Road, Freemasons Arms, SK9 3EW

Wilmslow. - Manchester Road, 32-38, SK9 1BQ

Wilmslow. - Manchester Road, **35, The King William**, SK9 1BQ.

Wilmslow. - Nursery Lane, Fulshaw C of E Primary School, SK9 5JQ.

Wilmslow - Station Road 2, 5, 7, 9, SK9 1BU

Wilmslow. - Styal Road, Brick Bridge.

Wilmslow. - Wilmslow Road, Handforth Library, SK9 3ES.
 Wilmslow. - Wilmslow Road, St Chads Church, SK9 3ES

Wirswall Road, Wicksted Old Hall SY13

Wistaston - Church Lane 73, CW2 8EZ

Wistaston - Church Lane, Wistaston County Junior School

Wistaston - Crewe Road, Mile Post near 397
Wistaston - Crewe Road, Mile Post near 587

Wistaston - Nantwich Road, Mile Post

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APPENDIX 8



LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK



















Local List of Historic
Buildings
Supplementary Planning Document

July 2010

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Supplementary Planning Document encourages the retention and conservation of the Borough's local heritage assets. The SPD is a material consideration in the assessment and determination of any planning application submitted for a site contained on the Cheshire East Local List. This guidance sets out the approach adopted in Cheshire East Borough, with the aim of achieving a common standard for all Locally Important Buildings. The Local List will supplement existing saved policies in the Congleton Local Plan (BH6), Crewe and Nantwich Local Plan (BE.13) and the Macclesfield Local Plan (BE20). It will also supersede the existing Local List Supplementary Planning Document for the former Macclesfield Borough.
- 1.2 The Government emphasises the need for good design which respects local distinctiveness, including reusing and incorporating existing buildings which contribute to the local distinctiveness and character of an area. Retaining buildings and structures on the local list meets the objectives of Planning Policy Statement 1, which seeks to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness and Planning Policy Statement 5; Planning for the Historic Environment, which encompasses local list entries as "heritage assets", stating that Heritage Assets are the valued components of the historic environment. PPS 5 also goes on to say, "they include designated heritage assets (as defined in this PPS) and assets identified by the local planning authority during the process of decision-making or through the plan-making process (including local listing)".1
- 1.3 Who should use the Supplementary Planning Document?

The SPD has been written for:-

- Councillors and Development Management Officers at Cheshire East Council, to guide their consideration of relevant planning applications.
- Architects and Designers, in order to explain the Council's approach to applications relating to buildings or structures on the Local List, so that they can incorporate this guidance within their planning applications.
- Residents, to offer guidance to enable desired alterations and extensions to harmonise with and respect the character of the building or structure.
- Anyone who wishes to promote Local Heritage within Cheshire East.

2. Relevant Local Plan Policies

The Supplementary Planning Document supports the following saved Local Plan Policies concerning the Local List of Historic Buildings.

2.1 Macclesfield Area; Local Plan Policy BE20:

"NON-LISTED BUILDINGS AND OTHER STRUCTURES OF ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST DO NOT ENJOY THE FULL PROTECTION OF

¹ PPS 5: Planning and the Historic Environment, Annex 2; Terminology

STATUTORY LISTING. HOWEVER, DEVELOPMENT WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THEIR ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC CHARACTER WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED IF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL IS SATISFIED THAT THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE IS BEYOND REASONABLE REPAIR".

2.2 Local Plan Policy BH6: Congleton

"DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS INVOLVING BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES LOCALLY LISTED AS BEING OR ARCHITECTURAL AND/OR HISTORIC INTEREST WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED IF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL IS SATISFIED THAT THE ARCHITECTURAL AND / OR HISTORIC CHARACTER IS CONSERVED AND THAT IN THOSE INSTANCES WHERE DEMOLITION IS INVOLVED THIS IS UNAVOIDABLE"

2.3 Local Plan Policy BE:13; Crewe and Nantwich

"BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES INCLUDED IN THE NON-STATUTORY LIST OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES OF LOCAL ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST WILL BE PROTECTED FROM INAPPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS AFFECTING THE REASON FOR THEIR INCLUSION IN THE LIST; UNLESS IT CAN BE CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THAT THERE ARE REASONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT WHICH OUTWEIGH THE NEED TO SAFEGUARD THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE."

3. Criteria for the selection of buildings

3.1 Nominations should represent the best of the non-statutory listed buildings in the borough, be substantially unaltered and retain the majority of original features. The nominated building is required to fulfil one or more of the following to be considered for local listing.

Architectural or historic character

- Design qualities typical of the local vernacular which contribute to the importance of the building.
- Buildings which are too recent or in some other respect fail to meet the criteria for statutory listing.

Historical associations

• Association with local historic events; people; locally or nationally important architects, engineers or designers.

Display evidence of "Local Distinctiveness"

- Help define a sense of place and local distinctiveness to individual communities
- Reflect traditional functional character of, or former use within the area

Group value

 Buildings and or groups of buildings which due to their form, massing and appearance provide a significant contribution to the street scene.

Townscape value

 A building that makes a special contribution to the environment of a street or locality by being a characterful, time-honoured or locally valued feature

Being part of a planned layout that has remained substantially intact (for example, a terrace, square, crescent, estate, etc).
 Contribute to the local street scene by virtue of landmark quality, interest as a curiosity or contribution to the quality of recognisable space

4. Implications of local listing

- 4.1 Inclusion on the local list is not primarily intended to restrict development, but will seek to ensure that any proposals take into consideration the local significance of the building.
- 4.2 Consideration to alter or demolish buildings/structures on the Local List can only be determined if such proposals require or are associated with an application for planning permission. Local List status will be taken into account as a material consideration through the planning processes. Permitted development rights are not affected by this designation. Inclusion in this list does not afford any additional statutory protection or grant aid.
- 4.3 Cheshire East Council is committed to protecting local heritage and as such will always favour the retention of a locally listed building where practicable. Normally, loss of the building will only be permitted if Cheshire East Council is satisfied it is beyond reasonable repair. Imaginative ideas will be sought by Development Management Officers to ensure elements of the locally listed building are incorporated into any new design proposal.
- 4.4 Where retention proves impracticable, the council will require that a photographic record of the building is made prior to demolition and submitted to the Council for record purposes.

Assessment of proposals for development involving a Locally Listed Building

- 5.1 Where an application is submitted to Cheshire East Council for alteration, extension or demolition the special interest of the building/structure will be taken into consideration and its local listing status will be a *material consideration* when determining the application. HE7 of PPS 5; Planning for the Historic Environment, outlines in greater detail the principles guiding the determination of applications for consent relating to Heritage Assets.
- 5.2 Development schemes which are brought forward for sites containing buildings of historic or architectural merit should be considered in light of the contribution that the building already makes to the local environment as well as the impact any new or replacement development may have upon the visual amenity and local character of an area.
- 5.3 Buildings subject to a current planning application or appeal are not considered eligible for inclusion in the local list because consideration for inclusion at this stage is likely to be taken as prejudicing fair consideration of the application. In the case of refusal of an application involving a

- building of potential interest, applicants have six months in which to lodge an appeal. Once this time period has elapsed the building(s) may be added to the Local List.
- 5.4 Buildings are automatically removed from the Local List if they become statutorily listed or are demolished². Buildings radically altered after inclusion on the list may only be removed by decision of Cheshire East Borough Council.
- 5.5 If planning permission is refused on Local Listing, or any other grounds, then applicants have their usual right of appeal to the Planning Inspectorate.

Demolition

- 5.6 There is no statutory protection for buildings on the Local List outside a conservation area; however, alterations, extensions, and changes of use may still require planning permission. Within Conservation Areas the demolition of unlisted buildings requires Conservation Area Consent. The inclusion of a building on the local list is a material consideration in the determination of application for planning and Conservation Area Consent. Planning permission or other relevant consent will not normally be granted for the demolition of a building on the local list.
- 5.7 Proposals for the demolition of locally listed buildings must normally demonstrate clear and convincing evidence that the building is no longer of local importance. Redevelopment proposals for buildings on the Local List should consider how such buildings can be incorporated into the development rather than demolished.
- 5.8 In cases where permission is granted for the demolition of a locally listed building, Cheshire East Council requires that provision is made by the developer to accurately record the building prior to demolition. Any archaeological survey work and accompanying report should be provided to the Council prior to the commencement of demolition. The information will be required to be made available for the Historic Environments Record and in local libraries for the purposes of local interest.
- 5.9 Where redevelopment is in accordance with Local Plan policies, there will be an expectation that the building is replaced with one of equal or greater architectural merit.

Sustainability

5.10 Sustainable development has become a government priority. Defined as "development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs", it includes the adaptation and reuse of historic buildings.

² Approval of the buildings demolition is not in itself a justified reason for removal from the list, only when demolition is carried out in full, the building is removed from the list.

5.11 Buildings and structures with architectural or historic interest, including those of local importance, are also a finite cultural resource which, once lost, cannot be replaced. When the energy used in demolition, waste disposal, site remediation, and the construction of new buildings is considered, there is a strong environmental argument for promoting the reuse of the historic building stock. The identification and conservation of locally important buildings can boost pride in the local area and help preserve and enhance the historic environment for the benefit of future generations.

The setting of a locally listed building

5.12 Planning permission will not normally be granted for alterations, extensions or development which adversely affects the architectural or historic character of the building or its setting. It is recommended that proposals to alter and repair buildings of local importance should be drawn up and carried out by professionals who have experience of working on historic buildings. (refer to Section 5; Application Checklist).

6. Guidance on alterations and extensions

- 6.1 It is hoped that the unique qualities of Locally Important Buildings recognised through inclusion in the Local List will encourage owners to take pride in their care and conservation. Alterations and extensions which respect the character of a property can also add to its value.
- 6.2 Cheshire East Council nevertheless recognises that buildings often need to be altered or adapted for changing needs. Where alterations are proposed, understanding of the buildings architectural or historic interest can help inform the most appropriate approach.
- 6.3 The following guidance will also be used as appropriate in the assessment of alterations to a building on the Local List where planning permission is required.

Extensions

Extensions should be designed to conserve or enhance the appearance, scale and character of the building. They should normally be subservient to the host building in height and massing. If traditional approach is adopted then attention to historic detailing, materials and workmanship is important. If a contemporary style is adopted the materials, quality, detailing and design should complement the existing building.

Repairs

6.5 Where historic fabric has deteriorated, repair rather than replacement should always be the first option.

Roofs

- 6.6 Roofing materials and chimneys all contribute to the character and local distinctiveness of an area. Concrete tiles and slates have different weathering properties and are often heavier, requiring additional strengthening of the roof timbers which may be harmful to the character of the Locally Important Building.
- 6.7 Roof lights and dormer windows can affect the character of the building and may not be appropriate. Roof lights should be kept to a minimum and located on the rear elevation where possible. Special conservation roof lights, fitted flush to the roof can reduce the visual impact.

Joinery

6.8 Original joinery details such as windows and doors contribute to the character of the building and the street scene and should be retained wherever possible. Modern details such as UPVC windows and doors with integral glazed fanlights and stained or varnished joinery is not normally appropriate.

Research

6.9 Proposals for alterations should seek to conserve the architectural or historic character of the building, so it is important to identify features which contribute to the character of the building or site. Specialist historic building consultants can help inform future changes and offer sensitive solutions. The heritage statement accompanying any application needs to clearly show there is an understanding of the important elements of the building or site, and evidence of how the scheme has been conceived, justifying how the proposals will respect the historic fabric or setting.

Setting

6.10 Consideration should be given to the location and design of new buildings within the grounds of locally listed buildings. The setting of a locally listed building may include land outside the buildings curtilage and could include adjacent land, important views or the wider street scene.

Boundary details

6.11 Walls, fences and railings can contribute to a building's character and new boundary features should be of an appropriate design. Original features should be retained where possible.

7. Application checklist

7.1 The scope and degree of detail necessary in a Heritage Statement will vary according to the particular circumstances of each application.

- 7.2 Applicants are advised to discuss proposals affecting a locally listed buildings or its setting with a Conservation Officer or Planning Officer before any application is made.
- 7.3 Guidance on the information required when submitting an application affecting a locally listed building is contained within Policy HE6 of PPS 5; Planning for the Historic Environment.

8. Nominating Buildings for the Local List

Reviewing the list

- 8.1 Anyone can nominate a building for inclusion on the local list, Parish and Town Councils, amenity societies, local history groups, local residents and members of the public. A full review of the local list will take place every five years. An internal emergency procedure is in place for Officers to include buildings on an ad hoc basis.
- 8.2 Nominations are welcome before the review process is carried out. These will be kept on record.

Emergency procedure

- 8.3 In exceptional cases, buildings of interest which are worthy of inclusion will come to light. It is therefore considered necessary to provide a mechanism for such buildings to be offered immediate protection by means of inclusion on the Local List, without a requirement for full review of the list or SPD.
- 8.4 In such cases, a report will be presented to the appropriate committee of the Council, with recommendations for the buildings inclusion onto the local list. The report will include justifications for the building's local interest based upon adopted criteria, as set out in the SPD.

Formal Designation of Local List Buildings

- 8.5 Buildings nominated for Local Listing are assessed against the agreed criteria by Conservation team in the first instance.
- 8.6 All reasonable effort will be made to notify owners when their building has been added to the local list with an explanation of what this means and how it affects them.
- 8.7 Requests for a building to be removed from the Local List must be supported by evidence to show that the building or structure is no longer of special interest and therefore no longer merits inclusion on the list. A building can only be removed from the list with the agreement of Cheshire East Council.

9. Nominating a Building/Structure for the Local List of Historic Buildings

9.1 Before nominating a building for the local list, check the building in question doesn't already appear on the English Heritage statutory list on the Heritage Gateway

http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/advanced search.aspx.

If the building **does not** appear on this list please submit your nomination using the following procedure.

- 9.2 Nominations should include as much information as possible in order to allow officers to make an informal decision, before formal recommendation to members. The following is a guide to the type of information required;
 - a) Name and address (or precise location) of the building being put forward
 - b) The reason for nomination, preferably with reference to the criteria for selection
 - c) At least one digital photograph of the entire building
 - d) Any available history of the building, with particular emphasis on dating evidence from maps
 - e) Any other relevant information
- 9.3 It may not be possible to supply all of the information noted above and this should not discourage people from nominating buildings or features for inclusion, but is desired where practicable. The Council will review all nominations.

Please send nomination forms and accompanying information to

Planning Service
Heritage and Design
Town Hall
Cheshire East Council
Macclesfield
Cheshire
SK10 1DX

Telephone; - 01625 504672

Email; - emma.mellor@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Nomination forms are available on the internet, at Council Offices or by contacting the Conservation Officer.

9.4 The adopted Local List features the name and address of the building or structure and a short reason for inclusion on the List. A full paper copy of the Local List is made available at libraries across the Borough and on the Cheshire East web site.



Nominating a Building/Structure for the Local List of Historic Buildings

Please read the guidance notes on nominating a building/structure for the Local List of Historic Buildings SPD before filling out this form.

1	Your Details	
	Name	
	Address	
	Phone number	
2	Details of Building	
	Name of Building or Structure	
	Property Address/Location	<u>I</u>
	Building/Structure Type	please specify
	Date of construction (if known)	
	Building Materials	please specify
3	Reasons for Nomination (please refer to SPD guidance)	

Do you know who the owner is?	YES/NO (If yes please give name and address):
Additional information (for example references from books or pelibrary /archives department)	eriodicals; research undertaken in your local

Please remember to attach photographs (electronic is preferable) and accurate address in support of your nomination

Please send the completed form to:

Planning Services, Heritage and Design, Cheshire East Council, PO Box 40, Town Hall, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK10 1DX

or email emma.mellor@cheshireeast.gov.uk

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APPENDIX 9

Consultation Statement

This statement has been prepared in order to comply with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, for the adoption of Supplementary Planning Documents by Local Planning Authorities



















Local List of Historic Buildings Supplementary Planning Document

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 it is a requirement to prepare and publish a Consultation Statement for a range of planning policy documents, including Supplementary Planning Documents. This comes from the Government's aim to strengthen community and stakeholder involvement in the development of local communities.
- 1.2 Following Local Government Reorganisation in Cheshire, Cheshire East Council became the Local Planning Authority on 1st April 2009. The draft Statement of Community Involvement was published for public consultation until 18th January 2010. In the absence of an adopted Statement of Community Involvement, consultation on the Local List Supplementary Planning Document is being carried out in accordance with both the draft Statement of Community Involvement and the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended).

2. Community Involvement

- 2.1 Following Local Government Re-organisation in Cheshire in 2009, Cheshire East became the Local Planning Authority on 1st April 2009.
- 2.2 The List of Locally Important Buildings is intended to consolidate and update the existing Lists of Locally important Buildings from the former Crewe and Nantwich Borough, the former Congleton Borough and the former Macclesfield Borough.
- 2.3 During the production of the Supplementary Planning Document a Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report was produced and formally consulted upon in July / August 2009. The document was sent to the three statutory consultees (Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency), who were given the opportunity to comment upon the document. The document was also made available on the Council's Web Site and a hard copy was available to view at the Council's offices in Market Place, Macclesfield; Westfields, Sandbach and Municipal Buildings, Crewe.
- 2.4 The Draft Supplementary Planning Document was approved for consultation in December 2009 by The Local Development Framework Panel and the Portfolio Holder for Performance and Capacity, with a 6 week consultation taking place between 11th January and 22nd February 2010.
- 2.5 In order to enable proper consideration of the document, prior notification of the Supplementary Planning Document consultation was given to Town and Parish Councils and a draft copy of the report was sent to them on 27th November 2009.

- 2.6 During the consultation a range of organisations and individuals were consulted, including affected property owners, Local Members, statutory agencies, neighbouring authorities and interested individuals and organisations.
- 2.7 The document was made available in local libraries and at the main offices of Cheshire East Council, as well as on the Council's website. A press release will also be issued.
- 2.8 There were six drop-in sessions organised, where a representative of Cheshire East Council was available to answer any queries in person. These sessions were held at the times / venues detailed below: Number of attendees are noted in brackets.

Macclesfield Library, Jordangate, Macclesfield:

- Tuesday 26th January 2010: 10:00am-12:30pm (10)
- Thursday 28th January 2010: 5:00pm-7:00pm (8)

Congleton Library, Market Square, Congleton:

- Monday 25th January 2010: 5:00pm-7:00pm (1)
- Thursday 28th January 2010: 10:00am-12:30pm (7)

Crewe Library, Prince Albert Street, Crewe:

- Wednesday 27th January 2010: 10:00am-12:30pm (10)
- Thursday 28th January 2010: 5:00pm-7:00pm (5)
- 2.9 Formal public consultation began on Monday 11th January for a period of six weeks. All responses received have been gathered, analysed, a summary of the main points are noted in Table 1. Responses to comments received during the external consultation period, together with any changes made to the Supplementary Planning Document as a result of these comments are also noted in Table 1.

3. Response to the Consultation Exercise

- 3.1 Responses to the draft document were generally positive and in favour of the principles behind its production. However, there were objections to the inclusion of a couple of buildings, from their owners (most notably in respect of The Cross Keys, Coppenhall and Dale Street Mill, Macclesfield). However, it is not proposed to remove these buildings from the final version of the list, as the reasons for their inclusion remain valid. A summary of these objections are note in Table 1 (Para 3.5) of this report.
- 3.2 Summary from Parish and Town Councils

The Council has received 14 individual responses from Parish and Town Councils across Cheshire East, some of these responses include acknowledgement of notification with no comment, document errors (i.e. postcode, incorrect building names, these changes are noted in paragraph

3.5 Table 2). English Heritage, welcome the SPD, Environment Agency and The Coal Authority presented no comments. All three consultees would like to be sent the adopted version of the SPD in electronic format.

- 3.3 Buildings removed from the Local List
 - Finlows Bower Farm- Demolished
 - Estate Cottages 23-27 Wirswall Road, Crewe- removed due to incorrect address/buildings of no merit (cannot confirm which properties this listing is intended)
 - Ridley Hall Farm (barn) new farm house, original dwellings have been demolished.
 - Caesars Place, Brook Street, Knutsford- Demolished by Owner 22nd June 2010

3.4 Additional Buildings for the Local List

Consultees have suggested that a number of additional buildings should be added to the List. Rather than delay the publication of the current List whilst these buildings are assessed, it is suggested that any buildings found to be worthy of inclusion on the List should be included in the next review.

Alderley Edge

Wienholt Pastry Cook, corner of London Road & Clifton St ('Wienholts')
South corner London Road & Stevens Street (until recently 'Wine Rack')
Union Club & associated bowling green
Terraces 1-6 Stevens Street
29 Trafford Road (cottage facing end Stevens Street)- Listed Grade II
The Royal Oak, Heyes Lane
Alderley Edge Cricket Club, Moss Lane, Alderley Edge
NatWest Bank, 52 London Road, Alderley Edge

Alsager

Alsager Hall Farm
Alsager Mill
Prison Bars Field
Hassall Road Chapel
The Old School
Christ Church
West Mere Lodge
The Mere
Grove House, Grove House
The Old Police House
Cresswellshawe Farm
The Firs, Sandbach Road
St Mary's Church
Milton House Crewe Road

Excalibur

Fannys Croft road leading from Audley Road to Bank House Farm Town House Audley Road Manor House Hotel Jane Maddock Homes, Crewe Road Woodbine House, 148 Crewe Road, Alsager

Aston

The Plantation and Yew Tree Farm

Audlum

Yew Tree Cottage and Milepost, Shropshire Street Smith & Wilkinson Chemist, Cheshire Street Williams Chemist & Arch, Shropshire Street Co-op, Shropshire Street 2 & 4 Churchfields 6&8 Churchfields Bridge Inn, Shropshire Street 13 Cheshire Street 1 Stafford Street, Country Store/Village Feeds

14 Stafford Street, Village Bakery

15 Cheshire Street

16&18 Stafford Street, Post Office

17 Shropshire Street

18 Cheshire Police House

Scout and Guide Hall, Cheshire Street

24 Cheshire Street

25 Cheshire Street

30 Cheshire Street

31 Stafford Street, The Manse

33 Cheshire Street, Townfield House

Cheshire Railings, Heathfield rd/A525C Cheshire

Countrystore, The Square

Maybridge, Stafford Street/School Lane

Rose Cottage, Vicarage Lane

Roseleigh, School Lane

Bollington

Greenfield Road Swanscoe Avenue Endon Avenue Grimshaw Avenue Kingsway in Bollington Cross

Crewe

Former AUEW Offices, 38 St Pauls Street, Crewe (already on the local list) Queens Park Lodges, Victoria Ave. Crewe. (Listed) Gatehouse, West Street, Crewe Bradfield Road Methodist Chapel, Bradfield Road Bonnas Farm, Remer Street, Crewe Elizabeth House, Groby Road, Crewe

Sherwin Street Houses Mock Tudor House, Gainsborough Rd Bedford Street, CofE Church Railway Works Wall, West Street

Henbury

Pale Farm
Sanbach Farm- already included
Lingards Farm- already included
Lodge Farm
Broomfield Farm
Home Farm
Bearhurst Farm
Ruewood Farm
Marl Heath Farm – already included
High Trees
Broome Cottage

The Moss; Glebe Cottage Sycamore Farm Fanshaw Cottage Moss Cottage Lily Cottage Springbank Cottage

Henbury Hall
Whirley Hall
Davenport Hayes
The Mount
Henbury School House
The Firs – already included
Rouh Heys Farm

Macclesfield

West Park Museum
King's School (Cumberland Street-main buildings -the reference library
may be Grade II?)
King's School cricket pavilion (front field)
Vetinerary Clinic (Wright Mortensen) -former fire station-what of other
buildings along this row on Cumberland St?

Old Boys Club, Churchside

3-3A Churchside

Café Nero, Marketplace

Massey Jewellers Shop (Market Place)

Gradus Mill (Park Green)

Doorway to Hewetson Mill, London Rd (Mill now largely getting derelict)_Hewetson were a main silk embroiderer in Macclesfield Generally there seems to be very few silk related buildings eg Brocklehurst Hall, Brocklehurst Way

There is a pretty frontage stone ashlar house (Georgian) on the road to the south side of Christ Church.

Newsome Nursing Home, Park Lane (the rear of the building facing onto Macc Tennis Club/Learning Zone)

The walling to the South Park terrace facing the tennis courts (part of the original Ryles House laid out formal gardens)

12 apostles Park Lane

11 disciples terrace -Prestbury Rd

Terraced houses on the slope Peter Street (fine doorways aka the ones to the Georgian properties on Great King St)

Terraced properties opposite St Paul's Church Hall, St Paul's Street?

Pretty Victorian houses toward end of unadopted Higher Fence Rd (from Cottage Lane/Swan's Pool side)

Fine Victorian Villa house sitting high above Crompton Rd -opposite West Bond Street

Factory/Mill Owner House Loney Street off the end of Peter Street

Blackshaw Brothers (old co-op?) Hurdsfield Rd

Baptist Chapel St George's Street

Puss in Boots Pub, Buxton Rd (early canalside pub)

Various Edwardian Houses on Ivy Lane (beyond Hazlemere Rd)?

Various houses on Ryles Pk Rd?

Old co-op at the end of James Street opposite the Old Star Inn (former Dales Oatcakes building).

Engineering brick Victorian terrace on the top end of Hobson Street

Macc -Nene Cottage, 209 Hurdsfield Rd, SK10 2PX -and also the cottages opposite.

Nantwich

Railway Station

Railway Hotel and Associated Buildings, Wellington Road

Cocoa House, 21 Pillory Street

Nantwich Museum, Pillory Street

Players Theatre, Pillory Street and Love Lane

Church House, Church Walk

WH Smith premises, High Street/Church Walk

Market Hall, Churchyardside/Market Street

Ye Olde Wyche Theatre, market Street

Peter Wilson auction rooms, Market Street 39 Beam Street The Gables, 55 Beam Street 31-33 High Street and 31a High Street 5 Churchyardside Conservative Club, Churchyardside The original Grammer School War memorial at the formal Grammer School, Welsh Row Former Police Station, Welsh Row 25-33 Prachetts Row 1-23 Pratchetts Row 33-47 Pillory Street The Cobblers, Pall Mall Remains of the watermill, opposite mill street Former Poor Law Institution and Hospital Barony Road and Princess Court Crash Site and Grave of Lieutenant Arthur Leslie Brown, Riverside Park

Over Peover

Ye Olde Park, Gate Inn, Stocks Lane, Over Peover, WA16 8TU

Odd Rode

Methodist Chapel, Primitive Street, Mow Cop Methodist Chapel, Chapel Lane, Rode Heath and nearby cottages St Lukes Church, Church Street, Mt Pleasant Woodcock Primary School

Poynton

Long Row Park Lane
The Old Library London Road North
House 2-14 on Clumber Road
Accommodation Cottages, Dickens Lane
Waterloo House, Waterloo Road
The Old Pump House, Middlewood Road

Spurstow

Springfield, Whitchurch Road. Spurstow, Tarporley CW6 9TA

Warmingham

Mill House, Bear's Paw PH, Hill Top Cottage Island House

Wistaston Parish Council

Wistaston Hall 89 Broughton Lane
Wistaston Mill and Cottage, Crewe Road
Huntsbank Farm, Crewe Road
61/63 Church Lane (workers cottages) (already included)
Huntsbank Cottage 421 Crewe Road, known as Dower House corner of
Church Lane
Rising Sun Inn, Middlewich Road
Brookland House 501 Crewe Road

3.5 Representations (Objections and Changes)

TABLE 1

OBJECTIONS			
Address	Comment	Officers comment	Officer recommendation
4 Brook Street, Knutsford	development proposal for the site. Extensive discussion with council, at no time was the demolition of Caesars Place/importance as a building of local interest identified. Inclusion at this late stage is	Conservation Officer verbally advised deletion of Caesars' Place from ALDI Proposal at pre-application stage. Supermarket can be provided without demolition of this property. Building is structurally stable and condition is immaterial to entry on the list in any event.	RETAIN ON LIST
Old Post Office, Gawsworth	Property does not meet the criteria of the local list; No individual or specialist architectural design	Appeared on list since January 2004 in Local Plan. Alterations over the 20 th century have not significantly diluted the traditional	RETAIN ON LIST
Cross Street Garage, Congleton	No letter. Building covered in new	The assessment of the building carried out and determined that the mention of the building within the recently appraised conservation area was a sufficient acknowledgment of the building. Additional inclusion as a local list building is not deemed necessary in this case.	REMOVED FROM LIST
Valve House, Bickerton	An aspect of the description impinges	The offending reference will be deleted.	RETAIN ON LIST AND

Hall Road, Pumping Station, Bickerton	on national security under the SaEM (WaSU) Direction, 1998. Where possible, United Utilities have asked for removal of such text from the electronic and updated documents?		AMEND DESCRIPTION.
The Cross Keys Public House	Cross Keys does not meet the criteria established in the Draft SPD. Degraded appearance of the pub along with compromised setting and lack of internal features means that it is not worthy of local listing. National criteria within PPG 15 are also relevant to any decision.	SPD comes with guidance notes and appropriate selection criteria reflective	HOUSE/STABLE TO REAR -
Nixons Cottage, Over Peover	interest. Removed thatched roof, told	Letters were sent out to all owners in early January 2010. The property has been on the Macclesfield List and SPD since 2008. Removal of thatch does not detract from the importance of the building. The description will be amended to include the following *Building retains a rare 18th century timber frame of vernacular interest.*	AMEND DESCRIPTION/ RETAIN ON LIST

Dale Street Mill, Macclesfield		Last or one of last remaining elements of industrial Macclesfield in the streetscape. Building appears on a map of 1840 as an established mill building. Until development commences and the building is demolished I see no reason for the building to be taken off the list. It contributes highly to the local distinctiveness of the street scene. The description will be amended to include the following	RETAIN ON LIST/AMEND DESCRIPTION
Ford House, Prestbury		Officers. The description will be changed to read	RETAIN ON LIST/ AMEND DESCRIPTION
	an earlier building rebuilt circa 1850-1875. Owned by St Peters Parochial Church Council since the 1960s. Prior to closure in May 2007 (due to structural problems) was used by the church to accommodate a Parish Office and as a meeting place for church groups including church choirs, PDD, Sunday	Nineteenth century reconstruction of an earlier building, rebuilt circa 1850-1875. Owned by Parochial Church Council and employed for a variety of church and community uses until closure in 2007. Very prominent position in the village	
	School, Church affiliated youth club, Mothers Union, Old Folks Fellowship, Church Coffee Mornings etc		

	Prominent position in the village street scene and a valuable contribution to the conservation area.		
Rose Cottage, Castle Hill, Mottram St Andrews.	of this. "Timber framed" state the house is of brick construction, the black and white effect is merely painted. "Old English Garden" state of no significance.	Officers acknowledge the description is not accurate and suggest the following Three-bay brick cottage of simple vernacular design, under a steeply-pitched, plain clay-tile roof. Appears on tithe map of 1848. Unusual survival on this road	REMAINS ON LIST
Zan Mill (Wheelock Silk Mill)	Identify which buildings are included within the listing. The objection is on		RETAIN ON LIST

23 Heybridge Lane. Hawthorn Cottage		The building was once a grade III building, positively contributes to the street scene.	RETAIN ON LIST
White Cottage, Parkfield Road Knutsford	• •	There is a general rule that local listing will not applied to buildings within conservation areas, however this is not always the case and it might be felt additional status is required.	RETAIN ON LIST
307 Park Lane, Poynton Hockley	20 th century, building considerably extended in early 21 st century. Internal features removed and windows replaced. Only items remaining are 2 stained glass windows circa 1932. The Building was erected in 1845 initially not 1832.	extended maintains a strong street presence. Alterations regarding incorrectly spelt building name and date	

TABLE 2

Alterations		
	Existing	Change to be made
West Heath Mill	Former 18 th century	Former mid 19 th century silk mill
The Emerson Group	Letters sent to all owners, criteria is not always stated through the	Letters have sent where possible (i.e occupied to owners). Process of removing buildings is only appropriate where the building has been

Henbury entries	Descriptions have been taken from the "Henbury, History of a Village"	The descriptions have been changed to ensure there can be no copyright issues with the "Henbury" text.
The Cross Keys Public House	No postcode	Add Postcode CW1 4LS
Poynton Town Council	Hockley Centre not Hockerly	Changed to "Newtown".
Brierley Street School	Photograph is of the Senior School	The listing is to cover the Infant and Junior School insert photograph/change description. Senior School to be added to the "to do" list.
88-92 Buxton Road, Macclesfield	Check SPD (not in Index)	
Labour Exchange South Park Road, Macclesfield	Labour Exchange South Park Road, Macclesfield	Peak House (Former Labour Exchange)
32 Manchester Road	Postcode incorrect	SK9 1BG
Park Villa	Not in SPD included in index	Add to document
298 Highfield House	Not in SPD included in index	Add to document
Dye Works, Loney Street	Chimney included in index	Remove reference to chimney in index
97 Chester Road	Missing from index	Add to index (After Cheshire Building Society)
Sorting Office, Alderley Edge	Includes Sorting Officer/Braeside	The post office thought to be Braeside, alter to read Post Office and Postmasters house
Old Milton House	Milton House	Old Milton House Milton Park ST7 2TS
Firs and Cockwood	Listing covers both properties and photographs taken on private land	Include in the SPD as separate listings and remove photograph from the SPD at request of owners.
Brookhouse Green Chapel	Doesn't still have the original windows	Take reference to the windows out
236 Crewe Road, Haslington	Same photo as 194 Vicarage Postcode CW11	Postcode should read CW1, 236 not photographable from public highway-owners sent a letter requesting permission (no response)
226 Crawa Dood	document. Process of removing buildings questioned.	demolished or listed; which is outlined in the SPD removal in any other case is not to be added as this is not the aim of the SPD.

	book without reference/or permission.	
	Photographs of properties on the list taken without the permission of the owners.	Where possible photographs retaken from the road, where inaccessible the entry has no photograph. A number of letters were sent to property owners where this is the case, with no response. Property remains on the local list with description, but no image.
Peover Parish Council	1-3 Millbank Cottages, Holmes Chapel Road, WA16 9QZ Document states Lower Peover	Actually the property is in Over Peover