

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

TITLE: Draft Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (“SPD”)

VERSION CONTROL

Date	Version	Author	Description of Changes
19 / 07 / 2022	1	Tom Evans	Initial Draft
10 / 10 / 2023	2	Tom Evans	Final Draft

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL - EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Stage 1 Description: Fact finding (about your policy / service / service users)

Department	Strategic Planning
Service	Environmental and Neighbourhood Services
Lead officer responsible for assessment	Tom Evans, Neighbourhood Plan Manager
Other members of team undertaking assessment	n/a
Date	19/07/2022
Version	1
Type of document	Strategy
Is this a new/ existing/ revision of an existing document	New

<p>Title and subject of the impact assessment (include a brief description of the aims, outcomes , operational issues as appropriate and how it fits in with the wider aims of the organisation)</p> <p>Please attach a copy of the strategy/ plan/ function/ policy/ procedure/ service</p>	<p>Draft Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (“SPD”)</p> <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Supplementary Planning Documents (“SPDs”) provide further detail to the policies contained in the development plan. They can be used to provide guidance for development on specific sites, or on particular issues, such as design. SPDs are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but are not part of the development plan. They must be consistent with national planning policy, must undergo consultation and must be in conformity with policies contained within the Local Plan.</p> <p>In August 2022, the council consulted on a draft Developer Contributions SPD. The draft SPD provided additional guidance on the implementation of polices IN1 (“Infrastructure”), IN2 (“Developer Contributions”) and multiple polices related to highways, education, affordable housing, green spaces, blue light services and a series of other matters including heritage, design, public rights of way, public health and flooding.</p> <p>Feedback was received and the SPD has been redrafted. The SPD, once adopted, should assist applicants when making planning applications, and the council in determining them. The SPD provides further guidance on existing policies, rather than setting a new policy approach in relation to developer contributions and includes guidance on</p>
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	<p>the processes, financial calculations and the legal agreements that CEC use when securing contributions from development.</p> <p>The SPD has been prepared in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, the National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Practice Guidance.</p> <p>The SPD provides further guidance and advice on policies held in the Local Plan Strategy (LPS) and Site Allocations and Development Policies Document (SADPD). An Equalities Impact Assessment was prepared alongside the integrated Sustainability Appraisal work, for both these adopted documents.</p> <p>The assessment found that the LPS and SADPD policies are unlikely to have negative effects on protected characteristics or persons identified under the Equality Act 2010.</p> <p>A final draft Developer Contributions SPD has now been prepared and is the subject of this assessment.</p>
<p>Who are the main stakeholders and have they been engaged with? (e.g. general public, employees, Councillors, partners, specific audiences, residents)</p>	<p>Public consultation will take place on the final draft SPD for four weeks in accordance with the Town and Country Planning ((Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) and the council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement require at least 4 weeks public consultation. Consultation on this SPD will take place over the November and December 2023. Consultation will include focused communication to the general public, town and parish councils, statutory consultees, elected members and consultees who have registered on the strategic planning database plus general promotion to the wider public through press releases and social media.</p> <p>Consultation is mainly undertaken digitally through an online system that allows interested parties to comment on specific sections of the document most relevant to their interests, or to provide general comments on the entire document.</p>
<p>What consultation method(s) did you use?</p>	<p>The council prepares a Statement of Community Involvement which provides detail on how it will consult on Local Plan documents and SPDs. This includes the availability of documents, how residents and stakeholders will be notified etc. The council's Local Plan consultation database, which will be notified of the consultation, also includes a number of organisations who work alongside groups with protected characteristics in the borough.</p> <p>Once consultation has taken place on the draft SPD, all comments received will be reviewed before consideration is given to any amendments required. A report of consultation will be prepared alongside the final version of the SPD and this will also be subject to further consultation. This EIA will be kept updated as the draft SPD progresses.</p>

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Stage 2 Initial Screening

<p>Who is affected and what evidence have you considered to arrive at this analysis? (This may or may not include the stakeholders listed above)</p>	<p>Ward councillors. Those living and working in the borough, property owners, landowners and developers, clinical commissioning groups, special interest groups.</p>
<p>Who is intended to benefit and how?</p>	<p>Local communities including landowners and developers. The SPD will provide additional guidance on the implementation of existing planning policies related to securing investment contributions toward a range of public infrastructure, including public services infrastructure. Developers will benefit from additional clarity on how to successfully meet policy obligations, the Council will benefit from establishing consistent methods, in a single document, that all officers can use and ensure business continuity through staff changes. Individuals within local communities will benefit from the various contributions secured, and less visibly, the council will benefit from guidance that helps make CEC processes more efficient.</p>
<p>Could there be a different impact or outcome for some groups?</p>	<p>No, the SPD builds upon existing planning policy guidance and provides further information about how the council will consider planning applications. Securing developer contributions will assist in supporting balanced communities with the right range of social, transport and green infrastructure that underpins successful places. Further guidance on factors that inform an appropriate housing mix should also support balanced communities. The SPD, in applying additional guidance to assist in the interpretation of planning policies should be beneficial to groups.</p>
<p>Does it include making decisions based on individual characteristics, needs or circumstances?</p>	<p>No, the introduction of the SPD is not based on individual characteristics, needs or circumstances. The SPD includes information on the approach to assessing the impact of development, and the means that may be necessary to mitigate for any harmful impacts (for example providing improved habitats off site, where a development site cannot avoid destruction of an existing habitat).</p>
<p>Are relations between different groups or communities likely to be affected? (eg will it favour one particular group or deny opportunities for others?)</p>	<p>No, the SPD is not intended to affect different groups or communities in this way. Whilst development will take place in various different communities, the SPD is designed to apply to all development ensuring consistency of approach regardless of where the development takes place.</p>
<p>Is there any specific targeted action to promote equality? Is there a history of unequal</p>	<p>No, the SPD is not intended to target any group and will be consulted upon in line with the council's Statement of Community Involvement.</p>

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outcomes (do you have enough evidence to prove otherwise)?	
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Is there an actual or potential negative impact on these specific characteristics?	Yes/ No
Age	No
Disability	No
Gender reassignment	No
Marriage & civil partnership	No
Pregnancy & maternity	No
Race	No
Religion & belief	No
Sex	No
Sexual orientation	No

What evidence do you have to support your findings? (quantitative and qualitative) Please provide additional information that you wish to include as appendices to this document, i.e., graphs, tables, charts

Age	No negative impacts are identified at this stage in relation to any of the specific characteristics. No feedback was received from the first stage of consultation which indicates groups with protected characteristics would be negatively affected by this document. However, further public consultation will be undertaken, and this may raise issues officers are not currently aware of.
Disability	No negative impacts are identified at this stage in relation to any of the specific characteristics. No feedback was received from the first stage of consultation which indicates groups with protected characteristics would be negatively affected by this document. However, further public consultation



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	will be undertaken, and this may raise issues officers are not currently aware of.
Gender reassignment	No negative impacts are identified at this stage in relation to any of the specific characteristics. No feedback was received from the first stage of consultation which indicates groups with protected characteristics would be negatively affected by this document. However, further public consultation will be undertaken, and this may raise issues officers are not currently aware of.
Marriage & civil partnership	No negative impacts are identified at this stage in relation to any of the specific characteristics. No feedback was received from the first stage of consultation which indicates groups with protected characteristics would be negatively affected by this document. However, further public consultation will be undertaken, and this may raise issues officers are not currently aware of.
Pregnancy & maternity	No negative impacts are identified at this stage in relation to any of the specific characteristics. No feedback was received from the first stage of consultation which indicates groups with protected characteristics would be negatively affected by this document. However, further public consultation will be undertaken, and this may raise issues officers are not currently aware of.
Race	No negative impacts are identified at this stage in relation to any of the specific characteristics. No feedback was received from the first stage of consultation which indicates groups with protected characteristics would be negatively affected by this document. However, further public consultation will be undertaken, and this may raise issues officers are not currently aware of.
Religion & belief	No negative impacts are identified at this stage in relation to any of the specific characteristics. No feedback was received from the first stage of

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	consultation which indicates groups with protected characteristics would be negatively affected by this document. However, further public consultation will be undertaken, and this may raise issues officers are not currently aware of.
Sex	No negative impacts are identified at this stage in relation to any of the specific characteristics. No feedback was received from the first stage of consultation which indicates groups with protected characteristics would be negatively affected by this document. However, further public consultation will be undertaken, and this may raise issues officers are not currently aware of.
Sexual orientation	No negative impacts are identified at this stage in relation to any of the specific characteristics. No feedback was received from the first stage of consultation which indicates groups with protected characteristics would be negatively affected by this document. However, further public consultation will be undertaken, and this may raise issues officers are not currently aware of.

Lead officer sign off	
Date:	10/10/2023
Head of service sign off	
Date:	10/10/2023