

DECISION NOTICE

Notice is given that the following decision has been taken under the Provisions set out in the Council's Constitution

Decision maker: Cabinet Member for Children and Families, with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning

Date: 12 January 2016

Decision in the matter of: Cheshire East Borough Design Guide - Authority to Undertake Consultation

Decision: That officers be authorised to conduct public consultation on the Draft Cheshire East Borough Design Guide after undertaking a Sustainability Assessment (SA) and making any minor amendments required to the document as a result of the SA and initial informal feedback.

Background: Cheshire East is experiencing significant pressure for change and securing high quality design, and protecting the character of Cheshire East, are key Council and community priorities. The Council is therefore implementing a number of measures, including the preparation of a Design Guide, which will be adopted by the Council as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to the Local Plan.

e*SCAPE Urbanists were appointed to assist the Council in preparing the Design Guide and they were specifically chosen because of their local knowledge, being based just outside Macclesfield, and because they have a practical understanding of modern housing development, through working with a number of the main housing developers.

The Design Guide comprises two documents; the first volume defines what is special about Cheshire East as a place and the process developers need to follow to deliver and explain design quality within proposals; and volume 2 builds on the content of volume 1 and sets out guidance on achieving quality in respect of a range of topic areas ranging from urban design through to achieving quality of life for occupants of new development.

There has been extensive engagement with internal stakeholders, in addition to engagement and training for Councillors and Development Management officers. There has also been some soft testing of the guide and meetings with Developers and Agents, both at the

commencement of the project and recently to unveil the Design Guide in its draft form.

The Design Guide now needs to be consulted upon publically, following a Sustainability Assessment (SA). The intention is to use the same consultation portal as that for the Local Plan consultation. The consultation period will be for 6 weeks, with the intention of getting the Design Guide adopted as soon as possible thereafter.

Background Documents: The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer.

Approved:

Signed
Councillor Rachel Bailey (Cabinet Member for Children and Families)

Signed
Councillor Ainsley Arnold (Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning)

Date: 12 January 2016

Advising Officer:

Signed
David Hallam (Principal Conservation Officer)