

Sustainability Commission – 29 October 2003

Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in developments.

Briefing Note – For information only

- The SPG was taken to the Environment Committee on 23/10/2003 for approval to go out to public consultation.
- As part of this consultation, the Sustainability Commission's views will be sought. This will feature at the next Commission meeting on 3 December 2003 where full information will be given and the Commission will have the opportunity to comment.
- Supplementary Planning Guidance Notes (SPGs) are a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.
- The Government's White Paper "Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy" sets a national target of reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050.
- More detailed guidance is needed for developers to incorporate energy efficiency and renewable energy in new developments as well as the need for developments to have regard to issues of sustainability. In order to help reduce carbon dioxide emissions.
- The proposed SPG will provide relevant guidance to developers and applicants to stimulate their thinking and give examples of how applicants can incorporate renewable energy and energy efficient measures into the design of buildings.
- The draft SPG is consistent with the proposed alterations to regional guidance on renewable energy and will supplement the requirements of Second Deposit Draft Local Plan policies SU2 and SU17.
- The guidance is divided into two parts:

Part one sets out general guidance on how a development proposal can be designed to maximise the use of passive energy such as solar heat. Expanding on the policies of the Local Plan, setting out the standards that we will expect from new developments, e.g. we will expect homes to achieve nothing less than an EcoHomes rating of 'very good'.

Part two then goes on to give guidance and background advice on the existing and new technologies that can be incorporated into proposals such as Combined Heat and Power.

- The Environment Agency have confirmed their support for the draft SPG and consider it to be a positive step in forwarding more sustainable development in the area and helping to improve air quality.