



Hull Local Plan: 2016 to 2032

SPD10 Trees

Supplementary Planning Document

Consultation Statement

October 2018

1. Background

- 1.1 In preparing Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) the Council is required to follow the procedures laid down in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
- 1.2 Regulation 12 states that before adoption of a SPD the local planning authority must prepare a statement setting out:
 - the persons that the local authority consulted with when preparing the SPD;
 - a summary of the main issues raised by those persons; and
 - how those issues have been addressed in the SPD.
- 1.3 This Consultation Statement accompanies the Trees Supplementary Planning Document. This document provides additional planning guidance on Policy 45 Trees of the Hull Local Plan: 2016 to 2032, which was adopted on the 23rd November 2017.

2. Consultation

- 2.1 Preparation of the draft SPD involved engagement with other Council departments, including arboriculture officers, ecologist and development management officers. The Council also engaged with HEYwoods during preparation. The draft SPD has been through the Council's committee regime and elected members have had the opportunity to comment on the draft document.
- 2.2 The draft SPD was made available for public consultation for six weeks between Monday 6th August 2018 and Monday 17th September 2018. A public notice to publicise this event was published in the Hull Daily Mail on Monday 6th August 2018. The consultation was also reported at Planning Committee on 17th July 2018 and Cabinet on 23rd July 2018.
- 2.3 The draft SPD and associated documentation was made available for inspection on the Council's website and at the following Council

locations:

- the Wilson Centre;
- Guildhall reception;
- Hull History Centre; and
- all Council Customer Service Centres and libraries.

3. Consultation responses and main issues

3.1 Following the consultations the Council received three written representations. These were from Hull and East Yorkshire Local Nature Partnership, the Forestry Commission and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. A summary of these representations, together with the Council's response, is attached at Appendix 1 below. The Council also received comments during meetings with the Local Nature Partnership Board and the HEYwoods Partnership Steering Group. Both the LNP Board and HEYwoods group gave their endorsement to the document.

3.2 The main issues raised through the consultation are provided in the appendix below together with the Council's response and suggestion for how the SPD may change. These are also shown as tracked changes within a revised version of the SPD published alongside this statement of consultation.

Appendix 1: Summary of representations received and suggested changes to the SPD

Respondent	Comments Received	Council Response
Forestry Commission	We recognise and support the ambition to 'promote an increase in the provision and diversity of green infrastructure, particularly tree and woodland provision.	Support welcomed.
	In relation to Section 2 of the SPD – Policy Framework – summary of Government policy on woodland provided, including reference to the newly updated NPPF July 2018.	References to national policy updated within the SPD, and references to other policy and guidance referenced in the appendix of the SPD.
	In relation to section 3 – the benefits of trees please see the Forestry Commission document 'The Case for Trees'	References made in the SPD to this document.
	In relation to section 4 we recognise and support that the Council are planning for the future	Support welcomed – reference to the documents inserted into the SPD.

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	<p>resilience and reference the need for relevant tree species.</p> <p>Reference 'Tree Health Resilience Strategy 2018' – GOV.UK.</p>	
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	<p>Support proposals to increase the number of trees, particularly the policy approach of planting three trees per new dwelling</p>	<p>Support welcomed</p>
	<p>Usage of native species and standard trees should be used throughout the document. Many ornamental species provide little value to wildlife or are invasive in nature.</p>	<p>The Local Plan and SPD do make reference to the need for new and replacement trees to be native British Species of local provenance. The SPD is clear however of the need to consider the potential long term effects of climate change, including looking towards species that are likely to thrive and offer their benefits in the future amidst rising temperatures, changes in weather patterns etc. The selection of tree species will also need to be mindful of plant health issues. The</p>

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		<p>main objective will be to ensure tree species resilience which is likely to be achieved most successfully by introducing a high level of species diversity.</p>
	<p>Should be additional encouragement for the retention of trees on site.</p>	<p>The SPD is clear that it is vitally important that the existing tree stock in the city is maintained. It encourages applications for new TPOs and outlines the mechanisms available for ensuring retention of trees. In terms of development sites the SPD references British Standard guidance of how trees and hedges should be accounted for as part of developments to ensure appropriate retention, protection and management. The BS is a key document used by the Council when assessing planning applications. The emphasis is on retention rather than loss of trees, but where this is deemed necessary then two replacements will be expected for each tree lost.</p>

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	<p>Support the ambitions of the northern Forest Initiative. This could be further encouraged through the retention and strengthening of current corridors with the aim to create an ecologically coherent network across the city.</p>	<p>The Local Plan designates a Green Network. Policy 43 of the Plan states that development that adversely affects the continuity and value of the Green Network will not be permitted. Development within or in close proximity to the Green Network should seek to protect and enhance the functionality and connectivity of the corridor. Development should incorporate and enhance existing and or new green infrastructure features within their design proportionate to their scale. The SPD identifies a number of locations where trees could be planted where trees cannot be achieved within development sites. These identified locations include some within this wider green network.</p>
	<p>Requirement for survey and protection of trees could be further clarified by the specification of the need for both</p>	<p>Inserted reference to ecological and arboricultural surveys. Cross reference also made to 'SPD 12 Ecology and Biodiversity' which covers ecological surveys and</p>

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	arboricultural and ecological surveys.	protection in more detail.
Hull and East Yorkshire Local Nature Partnership	Support ambitions to increase the quantity of trees and woodland in the city by retention of existing and incorporation of new tree planting within new development.	Support welcomed
	Welcome requirement for new trees to be planted within development, but important that retention of any existing trees, hedges and wooded features within a development is given full consideration in decisions, given the length of time for new trees to become part of the landscape.	<p>One of the stated intentions of the SPD is to demonstrate clear procedures for the retention and protection of existing trees, individually or as part of parkland or woodland areas.</p> <p>The SPD supplements the Local Plan policy which has a strong framework against which supports retention of trees.</p> <p>Para 5.12 of the SPD refers to how older trees are particularly important for their landscape and wildlife value and their retention is highly desirable.</p> <p>Reference is also made to British Standard –</p>

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		Trees in relation to design demolition and construction which provides guidance of how trees and hedges can be retained and protected.
	Welcome the reference to identification of 611 appropriate sites by HEYwoods survey, and that these sites will be used to prioritise off-site planting where on-site planting is deemed not practical.	Welcome support for the approach to off-site planting.
	Should be noted that veteran trees are extremely important for biodiversity and heritage.	Reference inserted into document to stress the importance of veteran trees.
	Welcome support for the ambitions of the Northern Forest Initiative. The contribution made by planting across the city could be quantified by calculating the proposed level of development	A significant proportion of the identified supply of land expected to meet the stated housing requirement in the Local Plan already has planning permission so wouldn't need to comply with the policy – although there is scope for some of this to lapse and require

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	<p>over the lifetime of the Local Plan multiplied by 3 trees per dwelling to give a planting target within the SPD.</p>	<p>new permissions which would be subject to the policy. The policy also does not apply to conversions or change of use. Over the past 12 years this has amounted to 17% of development. Given the potential for variation a figure should be quoted in the SPD to provide an indication of minimum expected provision rather than to constrain to a target that could be subject to change.</p> <p>Commercial development is encouraged to provide trees so it would be difficult to set a target for this.</p>
	<p>Welcome the proposal for tree planting to be innovative to be innovative to deal with multiple issues.</p>	<p>Welcome support.</p>