

<b>SUBJECT: MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE</b>
<b>MEETING: PLANNING COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE: 1 MARCH 2016</b>
<b>DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL</b>

**1. PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is:

- 1.1 To advise Planning Committee of the results of the consultation on Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (REEE) to support the policies of the Monmouthshire Local Development Plan (LDP) and a Draft Planning Advice Note on Wind Turbine Development: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Requirements.
- 1.2 To seek Planning Committee's endorsement of the SPG and to recommend to the Cabinet Member accordingly, with a view to the document being formally adopted as SPG to support the Monmouthshire LDP.
- 1.3 To seek Planning Committee's endorsement of the Planning Advice Note and recommend to the Cabinet Member accordingly, with a view to it being formally adopted as an advice note to assist in the determination of planning applications for Wind Turbine Schemes

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 To endorse the Draft REEE SPG and to recommend to the Cabinet Member accordingly, with a view to the document being formally adopted as SPG to support the Monmouthshire LDP.
- 2.2 To endorse the Draft Planning Advice Note on Wind Turbine Development: LVIA Requirements and to recommend to the Cabinet Member accordingly, with a view to it being formally adopted as an advice note to assist in the determination of planning applications for Wind Turbine Schemes

**3. KEY ISSUES:**

**3.1 Background**

Planning Committee endorsed the documents that are the subject of this report on 6 January 2015, with a view to issuing them for consultation purposes. Subsequently, on 28 January 2015, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Public Services and Housing took the decision to issue them for consultation. The original report to Planning Committee is attached as **Appendix A**.

- 3.2** The consultation took place for a period of 6 weeks from Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2015 to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015. A notice was placed in the Monmouthshire Free Press on 18 February 2015 and 348 individual notifications were sent out to:

- Specific (including Town and Community Councils), General and Other consultees, as identified in the LDP Community Involvement Scheme;
- Residents who were on the LDP consultation data base and had specifically requested to be notified of the SPGs;

- Agents/developers who work in the Council area.

3.3 8 replies were received in response to the consultation on the SPG. These have been split into 46 representations that are summarised, together with the suggested Council response, in the Report of Consultation provided as **Appendix B**. Generally, no significant objections were received and only minor amendments to the SPG documents have been necessary. It is considered, therefore, that the documents can be formally adopted as SPG to support the Monmouthshire LDP. An amended and updated SPG is attached as **Appendix C**. Energy Fact Sheets provided as supporting information in Appendix 9 of the SPG are attached as **Appendix D**.

3.4 No comments were received in relation to the Draft Planning Advice Note on Wind Turbine Development: LVIA Requirements. The document was subject to a regional consultation, however, the results of which are attached as **Appendix E**. The amended Advice Note is attached as **Appendix F**.

3.5 Next steps.

It is intended to report the Draft REEE SPG and the Draft Planning Advice Note on Wind Turbine Development to the responsible Cabinet Member later in the month with a view to seeking their adoption.

#### **4. REASONS:**

4.1 Under the Planning Act (2004) and associated Regulations, all local planning authorities are required to produce a LDP. The Monmouthshire LDP was adopted on 27 February 2014 and decisions on planning applications are now being taken in accordance with policies and proposals in the LDP. The REEE SPG provides further explanation and guidance on the way in which the relevant policies of the LDP will be implemented.

#### **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

5.1 Officer time and costs associated with the publication of the SPG document and Planning Advice Note. These will be within the existing Planning Policy budget and carried out by existing staff.

#### **6. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:**

6.1 These were considered in the report that was presented to Planning Committee on 6 January 2015 and which is attached as **Appendix A**.

6.2 A Future Generations Evaluation is attached.

#### **7. BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

- Monmouthshire Adopted LDP (February 2014)

#### **8. AUTHOR & 9. CONTACT DETAILS:**

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