

Planning & Development Committee Report Cover:

Report name:

Adoption of the SBC Impact of Development on Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document 2021

Officer(s) presenting:

Debbie Coates

Reason for it being before Planning & Development Committee:

Following consultation on a draft version of the SPD, the Executive will shortly be asked to approve the Adoption of the Impact of Development on Biodiversity SPD. Once adopted, the SPD will become a material consideration in decision making. The SPD provides steps for developers to follow to calculate the amount of biodiversity compensation that needs to be provided. This is calculated through the use of the DEFRA biodiversity metric which has been produced by Natural England in conjunction with Government and other stakeholders.

A copy the final version of the SPD is attached.

The officer will present an overview of the content of the SPD to members of Planning & Development Committee who will need to be aware of its content for future decision making.

Other briefings:

The Draft SPD was presented to P&D Committee, the Executive and Overview and Scrutiny Committee in addition to officer-level SLT and Clearance Board meetings in October and November 2020. The updated final version of the SPD has not yet been presented to any Councillor meetings.

Likely next steps:

The final SPD will be presented to the Executive on 10 March 2021 to inform the Executive about the representations received during the consultation period and how the representations have been incorporated in to the final SPD document. The Executive will be asked to formally adopt the SPD. The SPD will subsequently be presented to Overview and Scrutiny on 17 March 2021 for Councillors to scrutinise the decision taken by the Executive. Assuming Overview & Scrutiny Committee are content with the decision of the Executive to approve the SPD, it will be adopted the following day and become a material consideration in decision making on 18 March 2021.