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| Report of Head of Planning and Regeneration  To  Report to  Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Place)  14 June 2022 |
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| **Draft Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)** | |

1. **SUMMARY**
   1. The purpose of this briefing paper is to inform Overview & Scrutiny Committee about the preparation of a ‘Draft Sustainable Drainage Systems Supplementary Planning Document’ (SPD). The draft SPD (which is appended to this paper) sets out more detailed guidance to elaborate on the SuDS policy (CC3) in the Local Plan and set out the Council’s approach to delivering SuDS within the district.
   2. The key milestones for the preparation of the SPD are set out in the table at paragraph 4.1 of this report.
2. **RECOMMENDATION**
   1. It is recommended that Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Place) note the content of the Draft Sustainable Drainage Systems SPD and provide any comments in relation to the draft SPD as part of the consultation that will take place in July and August 2022.
3. **BACKGROUND**

Purpose of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

* 1. The Mansfield District Local Plan 2013 – 2033 was adopted on the 8th September 2020. The document forms part of the statutory development plan for the district and is used to guide development and inform decisions on planning applications. The Local Plan contains strategic and development management planning policies. More detailed guidance is sometimes required and this is delivered through ‘Supplementary Planning Documents’ which can be beneficial in setting out the Council’s aspirations for development.
  2. The Draft SuDS SPD supplements policy CC3 of the Mansfield District Local Plan 2013 – 2033. This primarily seeks to secure measures that reduce and manage surface water to minimise the potential risk of flooding. Although the SPD is not part of the statutory development plan it would be a material consideration in determining planning applications.
  3. The SPD also seeks to complement and align with the ‘Mansfield Sustainable flood resilience - green recovery programme’. This programme is being implemented by Severn Trent Water Limited in partnership with Mansfield District Council. Severn Trent Water Limited is investing some £76m in the District using SuDS to help alleviate the risk of flooding during storms. The programme will deliver some 15,000 SuDS interventions to provide 58,000m3  of surface water storage (the equivalent to the volume of 23 Olympic size swimming pools) and minimising surface water directly entering the combined sewer network.
  4. The SuDS programme is funded up to March 2025. The SPD alerts potential developers to the additional time-limited funding that is available to enhance the quality and effectiveness of SuDS above minimum standards. However, the SPD also seeks to set out the Council’s longer term aspirations for seeking high quality SuDS beyond the programme period.
  5. The SuDS guidance is consistent with the overall aims of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (NPPF) and the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) by seeking to deliver Sustainable Drainage and flood resilience. The SPD also seeks to encourage other benefits including:
* Improved biodiversity
* Enhanced Green Infrastructure
* Reduced water pollution
* Public realm improvements, and
* Helping to provide resilience and adaptation to climate change

Scope of the SPD

* 1. The SPD sets out the legislative and policy context for the delivery of SuDS and the key principles underpinning their delivery. It gives an overview of the Severn Trent Sustainable flood resilience programme. The main scope of the SPD is to provide more detailed policy guidance in relation to:
* Optimising opportunities for SuDS enhancements through the ‘Mansfield Sustainable flood resilience - Severn Trent green recovery programme’
* Prioritising and linking the most effective surface water drainage - the ‘SuDS Management Train’
* The different types of SuDS that could be used on large and small sites
* The SuDS ‘discharge hierarchy’ – prioritising discharge through infiltration and not discharge to sewers
* The design process for SuDS
* SuDS on Previously Developed (Brownfield) Land
* SuDS on Greenfield sites
* Securing high quality design of SuDS
* SuDS in Mansfield town centre
* Information Requirements when submitting planning applications
* Retrofitting of SuDS on existing estates
* SuDS and Bio-diversity
* SuDS and Green Infrastructure
* SuDS and Climate change
* Long term Maintenance of SuDS
  1. The SPD also explains the process of how potential developers can apply to Severn Trent for funding through the Green Recovery Programme in order to deliver enhanced SuDS.

* 1. The SuDS SPD will align with other planning documents being produced by the District Council including a ‘Biodiversity net gain SPD’ and ‘Green Infrastructure SPD’. The SPD also seeks to complement the SuDS schemes being delivered as part of Severn Trent town centre interventions which in turn seek to align with the town centre masterplan.

Extent of the SPD

* 1. This SPD covers the administrative area of Mansfield District. It sets out guidance for SuDS in the long term but also offers tailored and specific guidance for the duration of the Severn Trent green recovery programme up to March 2025.
  2. The SPD elaborates and provides guidance on policy CC3 of the Local plan but does not seek to introduce new policy or add any additional financial burdens on developers.

Implications of producing the SPD

* 1. The main implication of producing the SPD is that it will give the district council a sound, up to date policy basis for seeking to secure SuDS as part of new developments thereby reducing the potential for flooding and securing other environmental benefits.
  2. Without the SPD, the district council would have to rely on the content of the policies within the adopted local plan which do not provide sufficient detail to give a clear steer to prospective developers on the type of SuDS that may be suitable or how to effectively deliver and maintain them. The SPD also gives a clear indication of how developers can secure funding through the Green Recovery programme.

Consultation and engagement

* 1. The document will be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document by Mansfield District Council. It has been prepared with the engagement of Severn Trent Water Limited and Nottinghamshire County Council (the Lead Local Flood Authority). The early engagement of the Environment Agency was also sought.

1. **NEXT STEPS** 
   1. The key milestones for the preparation of the SPD are set out in the table below:

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| Stage | Timescale |
| Overview and Scrutiny Place Committee | 14th June 2022 |
| Portfolio holder - Approval for 6 weeks public consultation | TBC June / July 2022 |
| Commence public consultation (6 weeks) | July / August 2022 |
| Review comments received and amend draft SPD as required | September / October 2022 |
| Finalise SPD | October / November 2022 |
| Portfolio holder – Approval to adopt SPD | November / December 2022 |

* 1. Following Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Place), it is proposed that the SuDS SPD will be presented to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Growth seeking approval to go out for public consultation on the document in the summer for a period of 6 weeks (as set out in the timetable at the beginning of this paper). The consultation will seek the opinions and representations of local communities, businesses and other key stakeholders.
  2. Whilst the statutory period for consulting on SPDs is 4 weeks, it is considered that 6 weeks would be consistent with the approach taken when consulting on other planning documents. The consultation will be undertaken in line with the approach set out in the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). Following this period, a consultation statement will be prepared which sets out the responses received and the document will be amended where appropriate. The final version of the SPD will subsequently be presented to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Growth seeking approval for its adoption.

**5. CONSULTATION**

None

**6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

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