

EAST NEWPORT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE

STATEMENT OF CONSULTATION

The East Newport Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) has been prepared with a wide range of public consultation, and over an extended period of time. (The SPG has also been known as the Eastern Expansion Area SPG and the East Newport Development Framework Plan SPG).

The first draft of the East Newport Development Framework Plan was prepared for the City Council and Newport Unlimited, the urban regeneration company, by David Lock Associates, and published in July 2004. A number of workshops and consultation events were carried out by the consultants in the preparation of the draft. The framework plan covered a larger development than could be achieved within the period of the Newport Unitary Development Plan 1996 – 2011, which the guidance is to supplement, and upon which it is based. The consultants therefore also produced a draft East Newport Development Framework Plan SPG in July 2004, restricting it to matters appropriate to the plan period to 2011. The SPG was not consulted upon at this stage, but was tabled as evidence at the UDP public inquiry, held between October 2004 and March 2005. At this inquiry the principle of development at East Newport was debated as a key part of the UDP's strategy. Consultation on the SPG would therefore have been premature at this stage as the principle of development had yet to be established through the inquiry.

The Inspector at the UDP Inquiry, having heard all the evidence, supported the Council's growth strategy and the development of the Eastern Expansion Area. Once the plan was adopted in May 2006, the July 2004 draft SPG was revised and updated.

A formal presentation of the SPG was presented to the Council's Cabinet on 15 February 2007, and Cabinet recommended the Cabinet Member for Development and Employment, who has delegated authority to determine SPGs, to release it for public consultation. This she did at her meeting on the 8 March 2007, and formal consultation began immediately, though the matter had been in the public realm since the Cabinet report of 15 February.

Formal advertisement was placed in the South Wales Argus of 10 March 2007, and an article was included in the March edition of Newport Matters, the Council's own newspaper, which is delivered free to every household in the County Borough.

In addition to being placed on the Council website www.newport.gov.uk the revised draft SPG was also placed in each of the libraries in the County Borough together with copies of the summary leaflet that was produced, which was also available at the Civic Centre. The leaflet included a small tear-off questionnaire to facilitate an easy response if people did not wish to write in more formally or at greater length.

A letter was sent to persons who had previously expressed an interest in the SPG, as well as to formal consultees.

A presentation of the SPG was made to the Neighbourhood Committees for Llanwern and Langstone, which together cover the Eastern Expansion Area. These are held regularly for the benefit of local residents, who can come and raise issues with the Ward Members and officers of the Council.

A similar presentation was also made to the Planning Services User Group, which meets regularly to feedback from users of the planning system. Professional users and voluntary bodies are represented on this group, which has an open invitation.

The Council's Planning Committee also received a presentation on the draft SPG.

The formal close of the consultation period was 5pm on 23 April 2007, giving slightly over 6 weeks. A few responses were received after the deadline, and the views expressed in those were also included in the report back to Cabinet Member. The formal decision to adopt the SPG, with some changes made in the light of representations received, was made by the Cabinet Member for Development and Employment on 23 May 2007.

Head of Planning and Economic Regeneration