

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
COUNCIL**

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

**DRAFT RENEWABLE ENERGY
SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

CONSULTATION STATEMENT

19 October – 30 November 2007

OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Supplementary Planning Document

The Government has reformed the system of development planning in England. Development Plans are used to control and guide the development and use of land. As part of the reformed system, Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council must prepare a “Local Development Framework”.

The Local Development Framework will be a folder of different documents, including Development Plan Documents, which set out the Council’s approach to future development in the Borough.

This document is part of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). SPDs are documents that expand on policy outlined in a Development Plan Document or provide more detail on it to help in its implementation. They are not formally part of the statutory Development Plan but are material considerations in determining planning applications.

Supplementary Planning Documents have three supporting documents:

- a Sustainability Appraisal,
- a Habitats Regulations Assessment, and
- an Equalities Impact Assessment.

Members of the public may comment on the Supplementary Planning Document and any of the three supporting documents. A document outlining who has been consulted in the preparation of the Supplementary Planning Document, and issues they raised, is also available alongside these documents. This is called a Consultation Statement.

Members of the public may comment on this document during the six-week public consultation period as indicated on the public notice and comments form.

Comments made on the document cannot be treated as confidential.

If you would like further help in interpreting this document please contact the Strategic Planning and Information section on the following telephone numbers: 0161 770 4139 / 4151.

You can also email the team on spi@oldham.gov.uk.

All documents connected with the Local Development Framework are available on the Council’s web site at www.oldham.gov.uk.

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The Council will arrange for this document to be made available in alternative formats including large print, electronically, and community languages if requested, and subject to resources being available. Please ring 0161 770 4139, 4163 or 4151 for further information.

पिनंती करवाथी, काउन्सिल द्वारा आ हस्तावेज विविध रूपमा उपलब्ध करवामां आवशो. हा.त., मोटा छापेलां अक्षरोमां, सीडी के ओडियो टेप पर अने विविध समाजनी भाषाओनो समावेश थाय छे. हृपा करी, वधारे माहिती माटे, 0161 770 4151, 4163 अथवा 4139 नंजर पर झोन करी.

काउन्सिल, एही दलिलटिके अनुरोध सापेक्षे एवं यदि उपयुक्त हय-अन्यान्य भावे पाওয়ার व्यवस्था करवे, यार असुबुद्ध हल वड अक्षरे, इलेक्ट्रनिकभावे एवं कम्प्युटरि विभिन्न भाषाय। दया करे आरओ विस्तारित तथेय जन्य टेलिफोन करन 0161 770 4151, 4163 अथवा 4139 एही नम्बरगुलोते।

अगर मांग हुनी और مناسب हुओ तो कुन्सिल अस दस्तावेज कुमुठी लकहाँ, थिप या सी डी वगैरे ओर कुमुठी की زبانुन मीसु भी फ्राहम करने का अन्तगम करेगी- मरिद मेलुमत किले 0161 770 4151 या 0161 770 4163 या 0161 770 4139 प्रिफुन करीस-

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council is required to prepare its Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) in accordance with procedures set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004. Regulation 17 requires that a Consultation Statement be prepared at the draft consultation stage on all SPDs.
- 1.2 This Consultation Statement is being made available during the formal period of consultation alongside the draft SPD, the Sustainability Appraisal Report, Equalities Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment.

2. Consultation on the draft SPD

- 2.1 The draft SPD was drawn up by officers in the Council's Strategy & Resources Directorate (Environmental Policy Unit), Environmental Services Directorate (Development Control) and Regeneration Directorate (Strategic Planning and Information). The aim of the draft SPD is to provide guidance on the implementation of UDP policies NR3.1 and NR3.2, which set how the Council will assess proposals for renewable energy infrastructure, either as part of a development or as a stand alone energy generating installation(s) and how the Council will implement Policy NR3.3 on renewable energy in major new developments. The policies themselves were subject to consultation and Sustainability Appraisal as part of the UDP review process (2000-2006).
- 2.2 As required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council carried out a Sustainability Appraisal alongside the preparation of the draft SPD. This process incorporated the requirements of the European Commission Directive 2001/42/EEC, which requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment of SPDs. The first stage of this process was the production of a Scoping Report. This involved an initial evidence gathering exercise and the identification of Plan and Sustainability Objectives. The Scoping Report is included as Appendix 1 to the Sustainability Appraisal, which is available for consultation alongside this draft SPD.
- 2.3 As part of the Scoping Report process the Council consulted the Environment Agency, Countryside Agency, English Nature, English Heritage, Government Office North West, Oldham Partnership, North West Regional Assembly, OMBC Environment Co-ordinator and Environment Partnership (via Oldham Partnership), United Utilities, British Wind Energy Association, Greater Manchester North Energy Efficiency Advice Centre, Energy Savings Trust, Renewables North West and Sustainability North West by letter. This consultation was carried out for five weeks between 10 July and 14 August 2006.

2.4 Appendix 1 of this document summarises the comments received and the Council's responses.

2.5 The Council also carried out an Equalities Impact Assessment on the draft SPD in order to assess its potential impact on the various equalities categories in the Borough. This was carried out by officers in the Strategic Planning and Information section on 17 July 2007. The resulting document is available for consultation alongside this draft SPD.

2.6 The Council also carried out a Habitats Regulations Assessment as required under Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive as implemented by the draft Habitats Regulations 2006. This involved an ongoing period of consultation with the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit and Natural England. A copy of this Assessment is available for consultation alongside this draft SPD.

3. Formal Public Consultation

3.1 The draft SPD is subject to a period of formal consultation from 19 October 2007 to 30 November 2007.

3.2 Appendix 2 contains a list of specific Consultation Bodies and Government Departments that will be invited by letter or email to comment on the draft SPD and its supporting documents.

3.3 Appendix 3 contains a list of other Consultees that will be invited by letter or email to comment on the draft SPD and its accompanying documents.

3.4 A public notice was published in the Oldham Evening Chronicle on 19 October 2007 and a press release with details of the SPD was issued.

3.5 The draft SPD and its supporting documents are available on the Council's website: www.oldham.gov.uk

3.6 The draft SPD and its supporting documents and comments forms are available at public libraries, the Civic Centre One-Stop Shop and Level 12 Planning Reception and Oldham Business Centre.

3.7 All Oldham MBC Councillors and the Oldham Partnership have been sent an electronic copy of the draft SPD and its supporting documents.

3.8 A letter or email has been sent to those individuals and organisations on the LDF mailing list, and those that have expressed a particular interest in the draft SPD, explaining that the document is available for consultation.

3.9 A pre-consultation meeting with Eco-Schools took place on 20 September 2007 at Stanley Road Primary School in Chadderton, attended by teachers from across the Borough who are part of the Eco-School project. This gave an overview of the draft SPD and details of how to view and comment on the SPD during consultation.

3.10 Paper copies of the draft SPD can be purchased for £10 (inclusive of postage and packing). To order a copy, please send a cheque made payable to Oldham MBC to:

Strategic Planning & Information
Regeneration Directorate
PO Box 452
Oldham Business Centre
Cromwell Street
Oldham
OL1 1WR

Telephone: 0161 770 4163

Email: spi@oldham.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Consultation on the Scoping Report – Comments received and the Council’s Responses

Respondent	Reference Number	Comment	Council Response
Government Office North West	052/RE/001/SPD	Do not wish to offer any comments.	Noted.
Environment Agency	003/RE/001/SPD	Supports the plans, policies and programmes outlined in the report, and also the key objectives, indicators and targets.	Noted.
English Heritage	004/RE/001/SPD	It is considered that the Scoping Report falls short of addressing impact upon the historic environment. Suggests including reference to the European Landscape Convention and PPS22 Renewable Energy paragraph 11 (other nationally-designated areas).	Noted, the European Landscape Convention has now been added. Reference to PPS22 and its key principles for renewable energy are already identified within the Scoping Report.
English Heritage	004/RE/002/SPD	There is no baseline information relating to the historic environment included in Table 2. It is suggested that an indicator is developed to cover this omission and include objectives to cover the historic environment. The following are suggested: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To preserve, protect and 	An additional sustainability objective has been included: “To have regard to the built and natural environments of the Borough”.

		<p>enhance sites, features and areas of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect, enhance and manage the rich diversity of cultural and built environment and archaeological assests. • Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place. • Protect, manage and, where necessary, improve local environmental quality. • To achieve high quality and sustainable design for buildings, spaces and the public realm sensitive to the locality. 	
English Heritage	004/RE/003/SPD	The section on Key Issues and Problems also neglects the	Noted. The additional sustainability objective (see

		<p>historic environment. The following list provides examples of the environmental problems, issues and opportunities that we would expect the SA process to take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of significantly degraded landscape / townscape or areas where, on current trends, there is likely to be further significant loss of landscape / townscape character or quality. • Areas where development has had or is likely to have significant impact upon the historic environment and/or people's enjoyment of it. • Areas where landscape character or quality is being eroded because of changing farming, other land management practices or development. • Traffic congestion, air quality, noise 	<p>above) addresses issues relating to the historic environment.</p>
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		pollution and other problems affecting the historic environment.	
Countryside Agency (Now Natural England)	002/RE/001/SPD	General information and indicators relating to environmental interests are included within an appendix.	Noted.
Countryside Agency (Now Natural England)	002/RE/002/SPD	Baseline Information A2 - Oldham Borough Characterisation: The report makes no reference to part of Oldham district lying with the Peak National Park, although recognises that for planning purposes this is the responsibility of the National Park Authority. This should be covered here.	The SA report has to be read in conjunction with the draft SPD, which will include reference to the fact the UDP policy does not apply to that part of the Borough, which lies within the Peak District National Park.
Countryside Agency (Now Natural England)	002/RE/003/SPD	It would be helpful if the Scoping Report could refer to the Landscape Character volume for North West England and include a few sentences from the volume setting out the main features of the three character areas that are relevant to Oldham.	Noted.
Countryside Agency (Now Natural England)	002/RE/004/SPD	Identifying Key Sustainability Issues (A3): An additional issue to raise would be the	Policies NR3.1 and NR3.2 already address these issues.

		“landscape and visual impact” caused by renewable energy developments.	
Countryside Agency (Now Natural England)	002/RE/005/SPD	Developing the SA Framework: An objective could be added, “conserve and enhance the landscape and townscape character of the Borough and the setting of the National Park”.	An additional objective has been added – “to have regard to the built and natural environments of the Borough” - based on comments received from English Heritage.
Energy Savings Trust	RE/001/SPD	Agrees the plans, policies and programmes identified are relevant.	Noted.
Energy Savings Trust	RE/002/SPD	Recommends considering the following additional plans: 1) Climate Change – the UK programme 2006. 2) Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006. 3) EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. 4) Eco Homes.	1) – 3) Noted & including in scoping report. 4) Included - now Code for Sustainable Homes.
Energy Savings Trust	RE/003/SPD	Agrees the baseline data collected is appropriate for the SPD.	Noted.
Energy Savings Trust	RE/004/SPD	Suggests the following are considered as indicators: 1) Number of installations in the	Noted, but it is not proposed to include any of these suggestions as indicators.

		<p>area that received the DTI's Low Carbon Buildings Programme funding.</p> <p>2) Number of homes in fuel poverty.</p> <p>3) Average SAP rating of properties.</p> <p>4) Percentage of new and retrofit homes meeting EcoHomes Excellent rating.</p> <p>5) Excess winter mortality.</p>	
Energy Savings Trust	RE/005/SPD	<p>Recommends that the following sustainability issues should be considered:</p> <p>1) Renewable energy technologies on listed buildings and/or in conservation areas.</p> <p>2) Renewable energy technology impact on Green Belt.</p> <p>3) Renewable energy technology impact on archaeology.</p> <p>4) Reducing energy need and encouraging efficient use of energy prior to renewable energy.</p>	<p>Bullets 1) to 3) - Noted. Policies NR3.1 and NR3.2 already address these issues.</p> <p>Bullet 4) – The UDP policy relates to “new” developments, not to reducing the energy requirements of existing developments.</p>

Appendix 2

Specific Consultation Bodies and Government Departments to be consulted on the draft SPD

The following bodies are specific consultation bodies and will be consulted by the Council in accordance with its Adopted Statement of Community Involvement:

- The Regional Planning Body (North West Regional Assembly)
- The Environment Agency
- The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (English Heritage)
- Natural England
- The Highways Agency
- Local Planning Authorities, County Councils or Parish Councils, any part of whose area is in or adjoins the Borough
- A Regional Development Agency whose area is in or adjoins the Borough
- Any person to whom the electronic communications code applies by virtue of a direction given under Section 106 (3) (a) of the Communications Act 2003
- Any person who owns or controls electronic communications apparatus situated in any part of the area of the Borough
- The Strategic Health Authority
- A person to whom a licence has been granted under the Section 6(1)(b) or (c) of the Electricity Act 1989
- A person to whom a licence has been granted under Section 7(2) of the Gas Act 1986
- A sewage undertaker
- A water undertaker

Government Departments

The **Government Office for the North West** will be consulted by the Council and will be the first point of contact for consultation with the following Government Departments:

- Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)
- Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)
- Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF)
- Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS)
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR)
- Department for Transport (DfT)
- Home Office

In addition, the Council will also consult the following Government Departments, where appropriate:

- Department of Health (through Regional Public Health Group)
- Ministry of Defence
- Department of Work and Pensions

- Ministry of Justice
- Office of Government Commerce (Property Advisers to the Civil Estate)

Appendix 3

General and Other Consultees

The following bodies are general consultation bodies and will be consulted by the Council, where appropriate, in accordance with its Adopted Statement of Community Involvement:

- Voluntary bodies some or all of whose activities benefit any part of the Borough
- Bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the Borough
- Bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the Borough
- Bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the Borough
- Bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying out business in the Borough

Other Consultees

The Council will also consult the following agencies and organisations, where appropriate:

- Age Concern
- Airport Operators
- British Chemical Distributors and Traders Association
- British Geological Survey
- British Waterways, canal owners and navigation authorities
- Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
- Chambers of Commerce, local Confederation of British Industry and local branches of Institute of Directors
- Church Commissioners
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Coal Authority
- Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment
- Commission for New Towns and English Partnerships
- Commission for Racial Equality
- Crown Estate Office
- Diocesan Board of Finance
- Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee (now part of the Inclusive Environment Group)
- Electricity, Gas and Telecommunications Undertakers, and the National Grid Company
- Environmental groups at national, regional and local level, including:
 - (i) Campaign to Protect Rural England (Lancashire branch only)
 - (ii) Friends of the Earth
 - (iii) Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
 - (iv) Wildlife Trusts
- Equal Opportunities Commission
- Fire and Rescue Services

- Forestry Commission
- Freight Transport Association
- Gypsy Council
- Health and Safety Executive
- Help the Aged
- Housing Corporation
- Learning and Skills Councils
- Local Agenda 21 including:
 - (i) Civic Societies
 - (ii) Community Groups
 - (iii) Local Transport Authorities
 - (iv) Local Transport Operators
 - (v) Local Race Equality Councils and other local equality groups
- National Playing Fields Association
- National Trust
- Network Rail
- Passenger Transport Authorities
- Passenger Transport Executives
- Police Architectural Liaison Officers / Crime Prevention Design Advisors
- Port Operators
- Rail Companies and the Rail Freight Group
- Regional Housing Boards
- Regional Sports Boards
- Road Haulage Association
- Royal Mail Group plc
- Sport England
- The Home Builders Federation
- Traveller Law Reform Coalition
- Water Companies
- Women's National Commission

LDF Mailing List

The Council will also notify those individuals and organisations on the LDF mailing list that consultation is underway on the draft SPD and accompanying documents.