



Consultation Statement

May 2022

Draft Air Quality Assessments in New Development Supplementary Planning Document

Public Consultation on the Draft 'Air Quality Assessments in New Development' Supplementary Planning Document

The Draft 'Air Quality in New Development' Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was subject to a consultation period that ran from Friday 18th February 2022 to Friday 1st April 2022.

Together with publishing the document on the Council's website and issuing of a news release, all contacts on the Local Plan Database were notified of the consultation inviting them to comment. This included all the bodies and groups set out in Appendix 1 of the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (October 2020).

The responses to that consultation and how they were taken in to account are provided in full on the Council's website at [Air Quality in New Development - New Forest District Council](#).

There were 14 respondents to the consultation:

- Local residents (3)
- Town and Parish Councils (3)
- Other organisations, including the National Highways, Natural England, New Forest National Park Authority, Cranborne Chase AONB, and Hampshire County Council (7)
- Developers and Landowners (1)

The comments received ranged from general views on the overall content and guidance contained in the document, to more specific elements of detail or apparent errors. There was broad support for the content of the SPD, with a small number of suggestions that will aid clarity.

A few of the respondents noted that the guidance does not cover the full spectrum of air quality impacts (in particular in relation to nitrogen and ammonia on ecological sites) but that is outside the scope of this SPD and is being covered by ongoing work by this council in relation to impacts on protected ecological sites in the New Forest (as set out in Section 9 of the SPD).

The comments referred to above have been reviewed by officers and taken into account in preparing the final version of the Supplementary Planning Document. Whilst minor

amendments have been made (set out in red text in the Cabinet version at Appendix 1), the approach set out in the document has remained largely unchanged.

A summary of the main issues raised in those representations and how those issues will be addressed in the final SPD proposed for adoption are set out below:

Summary of issue raised	How the issue was taken into account
Paragraph 1.5 - relating to the geographical area covered by the SPD.	Clarification is provided in the SPD that the guidance relates to applications within the NFDC area but that the assessments may well extend beyond the New Forest Local Plan area.
Paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2	Correction made to the paragraph numbers referenced in the National Planning Policy Framework.
Paragraph 8.6 – with regard to the criteria for judging whether an assessment or statement is required.	An example is added to the SPD to aid clarity.
Paragraph 8.9 – in relation to how traffic figures are to be agreed.	Further content is added to make clear that assessments must use up to date information or be re-run to reflect the latest position.
A few of the respondents noted that the guidance does not cover the full spectrum of air quality impacts (in particular in relation to nitrogen and ammonia on ecological sites).	This element is outside the scope of this SPD and is being managed through a contribution to fund monitoring in relation to impacts on protected ecological sites in the New Forest. This is explained in Section 9 (Air Quality and the Natural Environment) of the SPD.

Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft SPD

Section 180 (5) (d) Planning Act (2008) removed the compulsory requirement for a Sustainability Appraisal for an SPD. A full Sustainability Appraisal has been undertaken on the Local Plan, therefore this document has not been subject to assessment under The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended).