

Title of meeting:	Cabinet Member for Planning, Regeneration and Economic Development
Date of meeting:	2 February 2016
Subject:	Oil & Gas Development in Hampshire Supplementary Planning Document
Report by:	Assistant Director of Culture & City Development
Wards affected:	all
Key decision:	No
Full Council decision:	No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek approval for the adoption of the Oil & Gas Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Planning, Regeneration and Economic Development

- a) **approves the Oil & Gas Development SPD for adoption**
- b) **authorises the City Development Manager to make editorial amendments to the SPD prior to adoption, provided that the amendments do not alter the meaning of the SPD or do not affect Portsmouth.**

3. Background

- 3.1 As Minerals and Waste Planning Authority, the city council was a partner authority in the production of the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan (together with Hampshire County Council, Southampton City Council and the New Forest and South Downs National Park Authorities) and adopted it in 2013 as part of the development plan for Portsmouth. The Minerals & Waste Plan seeks to ensure that we have enough minerals for Hampshire's needs up to 2030 as well as ensuring there are enough facilities to effectively deal with our waste management requirements. It includes robust policies which are designed to balance the needs of the economy, the environment and communities in considering the need for and the location of minerals and waste development.
- 3.2 The plan contains a policy specifically on oil and gas development (Policy 24).
- 3.4 All oil and gas development requires planning permission from the relevant Minerals & Waste Planning Authority as well as the relevant regulating licences and/or environmental permits

from other agencies. These permissions and consents protect Hampshire's communities and the environment from many of the potential negative effects of development. However, since the adoption of the Plan, oil and gas development has emerged as an issue of great interest to Hampshire's communities. For this reason, officers at the partner authorities consider that an SPD on this issue would provide greater clarity and certainty to Hampshire's communities and interested parties on issues associated with this type of development. It explains the different stages of such development, the planning and licensing processes involved and the key social, economic and environmental considerations that will be taken into account.

3.5 PRED approved the draft for consultation in June 2015.

4. The consultation

4.1 The draft SPD was then subject to a 6 week public consultation which ran from 29 June – 7 August 2015.

4.2 A total of 28 responses were received in relation to the draft Oil and Gas SPD. The majority of responses were received from interest groups such as Friends of the Earth and Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE), statutory consultees and regulators such as the Environment Agency and the Health and Safety Executive, local planning authorities and parish councils across Hampshire. Respondents sought clarification and amendments to certain detailed matters within the SPD. A full report on the consultation results can be found at: <http://documents.hants.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste/consultation-2015/OilGasSPDConsultationReport.pdf>

4.4 Amendments have been made to the SPD taking into account the consultation responses received. The final SPD proposed for adoption is attached as an appendix.

5. Reasons for recommendations

5.1 Officers at the partner authorities (Hampshire County Council, Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council and the New Forest National Park Authority) consider that it would be helpful to set out further detail for communities, local authorities and potential applicants to explain the planning powers and processes which are used to control oil and gas developments.

5.2 If adopted the SPD will sit alongside the adopted HMWP, providing guidance on the implementation of specific policies within the Plan.

6. Equality impact assessment (EIA)

6.1 As the SPD is a Partnership document, Hampshire County Council has prepared an Equalities Impact Assessment for the SPD, which is published at: <http://documents.hants.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste/consultation-2015/EqualitiesImpactAssessmentEqIASafeguarding-OilandGasSPD.pdf>

6.2 The SPD provides guidance on the implementation of the policies of the adopted Minerals & Waste Plan and does not contain any additional policies over and above those in the plan. As a result, it is considered that the documents have a low if not no impact on all groups.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 No additional legal comments.

8. Director of Finance's Comments

8.1 The adoption of the recommendations in this report will not result in any additional costs being incurred by the Planning Service. The policies will be applied and managed within the existing budget resources.

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Signed by:

Appendix: Oil & Gas Development in Hampshire Supplementary Planning Document

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: