



Housing Needs Development Plan Document

Screening Statement on the need for an environmental assessment in accordance with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and European Directive 2001/42/EC

Built Environment Division

January 2006

'leading for tomorrow'

File:
D/BE/LDF 4
February
2006

Title of DPD Housing Needs Development Plan Document (DPD)

Subject: This DPD will set out policies relating to affordable housing, housing for the elderly, those with disabilities, Key Workers and provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

Address: Further information may be obtained in writing or by e-mail from:

Planning Policy and Conservation
Built Environment Division
Surrey Heath Borough Council
Surrey Heath House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3HD

01276 707245

planning.policy@surreyheath.gov.uk

Relevant documents can be inspected on the Council's website www.surreyheath.gov.uk and during normal opening hours at the Council Offices.

Does the Housing Needs DPD require an Environmental Assessment?

Under the requirements of the European Union Directive 2001/42/EC (Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive)) specific types of plans which set the framework for the future development consent of projects must be subject to an Environmental Assessment. However, there are exceptions to this requirement for plans that determine the use of a small area at a local level and for minor modifications, if the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.

In accordance with the provisions of the SEA Directive and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004) (regulation 9(1)), Surrey Heath Borough Council must determine if the Housing Needs DPD requires an Environmental Assessment. In order to make this determination the four statutory environmental bodies must be consulted.

Following consultation in December 2005, Surrey Heath Borough Council determined that an environmental assessment under the SEA Directive is required for the Housing Needs DPD as it is likely to have significant environmental effects.

How will the Environmental Assessment be undertaken?

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) requires a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to be undertaken for the Housing Needs DPD. The environmental assessment will be prepared as part of the SA. Where the requirements of the SEA Directive are met, this will be highlighted.