

Spatial Planning  
Environment, Sustainability and Highways  
Essex County Council  
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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

26 APR 2011

SUPPORT SERVICES DIRECTORATE  
REVENUES & BENEFITS

Debee Skinner  
Strategic Planning  
Enterprise, Tourism & the Environment  
Southend Borough Council  
Civic Centre  
Southend-on-Sea  
SS2 6ER

Your Ref: TP/100/455/2/ds  
Our Ref: RGL/SOS/DM-DPD-PS  
Date: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2011

Dear Sir/Madam,


**CONSULTATION ON SOUTHEND-ON-SEA DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT: PROPOSED SUBMISSION**

Thank you for inviting Essex County Council to comment on this stage of consultation on the Development Management DPD. Set out below are officer comments on the document.


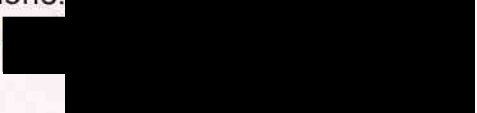
Essex County Council fully supports the preparation of the Development Management DPD. It will provide more detailed guidance which should greatly assist the process of securing high quality sustainable development in support of the strategic vision of the Core Strategy and meeting the needs of the community. The emphasis on a positive and proactive approach in pursuit of achieving better development outcomes through the whole Development Management process is welcomed.

The County Council considers that the Proposed Submission document is 'sound' but that future use and practical application of the document would benefit from further reflection on a limited number of matters, which are set out in the schedule overleaf.

Yours faithfully,

  
Roy Lewis  
Principal Planner

Please reply to Roy Lewis at the above address

Telephone:   
Email: 

**SOUTHEND-ON-SEA DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
DOCUMENT: PROPOSED SUBMISSION**

**ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL: SCHEDULE OF DETAILED COMMENTS**

- Paragraph 1.8 and 1.9 – the principle that the policies within the Development Management DPD should be read alongside other statutory policy documents, and with each other, is fully supported. However, the statements would benefit from additional highlighting within the text, perhaps by 'boxing' them and giving the title 'Relationship of Policies'. The paragraphs could also be usefully added for reference to the 'Policies' list in the Contents section (page 4 of Document). The principle of cross-referencing policies could be reinforced at appropriate points within the document, particularly the need for users to read and apply Policy DM16 (Sustainable Transport Management) alongside the other policies.
- Paragraph 2.19 - should also reference the Parklands Vision (2008) as a key document.
- Paragraph 3.13 - the reference to the Greengrid Strategy is welcome but reference should also be made to delivery of the strategic Thames Estuary Path (Survey 2008). Appropriate additional text would be,  
'An important strategic link is the Thames Estuary Path which runs from Central London to Shoeburyness. It is particularly important in Southend linking the Seafront to Chalkwell, Leigh-on-Sea and beyond to Hadleigh, the venue for the Olympic Mountain biking event in 2012.'
- Paragraph 3.14 - the reference to National Biodiversity designations is welcome but particular reference to their local importance could be included by addition of the following text,  
'These sites are significant attractions in their own right and the mudflats at Southend and Leigh contribute to the estuarine character of the place. Furthermore Two Tree Island and Leigh Marshes are important visitor attractions which could be further developed to boost the green economy.'
- Policy DM6 (The Seafront) - the policy could more proactively support the natural areas by adding a third measure to the first paragraph of the Policy to read,  
'iii) Contribute to the positive appreciation of the natural resources by increased information facilities and, where possible, physical access.'
- Paragraph 4.14 and Policy DM8 (Residential Standards) Policy Table 4 (Residential Standards) – the text of paragraph 4.14 and Policy Table 4 is inconsistent in respect of minimum storage area for 'each additional occupant'. The paragraph refers to 0.5m<sup>2</sup> whereas the Policy Table refers to 0.25m<sup>2</sup>. Either the values should be consistent or the document should explain the reasons for the variation.