

**GODMANCHESTER (EARNING STREET) CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER
STATEMENT
(Report by Planning Policy Manager)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the Cabinet's approval for the attached document to be formally adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Huntingdonshire Local Plan.

2. CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER STATEMENTS

- 2.1 The District Council is committed to the production of Conservation Area Character Statements to provide an analysis of the special interest of all the District's 63 Conservation Areas. These documents are intended for adoption as Supplementary Planning Guidance and are used to guide decisions on planning matters and other changes to the fabric of Conservation Areas to ensure that the character and appearance of Conservation Areas is not diminished by development proposals. It is also hoped that the publication of such documents will help to increase public awareness of the special qualities that make the District's Conservation Areas unique.
- 2.2 It has been agreed by Cabinet that from the 1st April 2003 the boundaries of Conservation Areas would be reviewed alongside the production of the Character Statements. The programme of boundary reviews has now commenced. Please note that the Godmanchester (Earning Street) Conservation Area Character Statement was in production prior to the 1st April 2003 and therefore a boundary review has not been included within this document.
- 2.3 The special character and interest of the Conservation Area is presented within the document through, maps, photographs and written text. Specific references are made to:-
- The historical development of Godmanchester.
 - The essential characteristics of different streets and spaces within the Conservation Area.
 - The important views and focal points.
 - The public open space and pattern of development in the Conservation Area.

- The prevalent architectural styles in Godmanchester.
- The variety of construction materials.
- The importance of traditional local detailing such as window styles and rendering, within the street scene.
- The opportunities for enhancement presented within the Conservation Area.

3. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 3.1 A draft version of the Conservation Area Character Statement for Godmanchester (Earning Street) was approved for public consultation by Cabinet on 17th April 2003. The consultation is required before the document can be considered for formal adoption as Supplementary Planning Guidance.
- 3.2 Feedback generated from the consultation process has identified a small number of factual inaccuracies within the draft. Other comments made have been considered and some have resulted in amendments or additions being made to the text. No formal objections to the document were received.
- 3.3 Please refer to Annex 1 for a summary of the comments made by the consultees who responded. The action taken against each comment is duly noted.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That the Cabinet consider the comments given in Annex 1 and agree to adopt the revised Godmanchester (Earning Street) Conservation Area Character Statement as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Huntingdonshire Local Plan.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Godmanchester (Earning Street) Conservation Area Character Statement

CONTACT OFFICER

Enquiries about this report should be made to Chris Surfleet, Urban Design Officer on Tel: 01480 388476.