

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DESIGN GUIDE
(Report by Head of Planning Services)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Cabinet of the responses to the draft Huntingdonshire Design Guide and to consider the Council's response. A revised document is recommended for adoption as Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG).

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Design Guide aims to promote high standards of design within Huntingdonshire, reinforcing the district's particular distinctiveness, as well as giving encouragement to good quality contemporary solutions.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 3rd October 2003, Cabinet approved the draft Huntingdonshire Design Guide for public consultation.
- 2.3 As part of the consultation exercise, a public exhibition was held in Pathfinder House foyer for two weeks in November 2003. A launch event was held in Hartford Village Hall for local architects, agents and interest groups, in addition to the usual consultation with statutory agencies. All Parish and Town Councils were invited to a series of evening presentations where the aims of the Design Guide were explained.

3. THE CONSULTATION RESPONSE

- 3.1 Over 32 written responses were received from statutory agencies, Parish Councils and local groups. A summary of the respondents is contained within Annex 1. The overall response to the aims of the document has been very positive. Most concerns relate to specific points of detail and terminology rather than issues of principle. A full summary of comments received is shown in Annex 2 along with the action taken on each comment within the revised document.
- 3.2 Due to the relatively minor nature of amendments to the text and the cost of printing replacement copies, responses have been summarised and text changes explained in full in Annex 1. If acceptable to Cabinet, these changes will then be incorporated into the revised, adopted document.

4. RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet considers the responses to comments presented in Annex 2 and agree to adopt the revised Huntingdonshire Design Guide, incorporating the specified changes, as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Huntingdonshire Local Plan and Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Structure Plan.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Draft Huntingdonshire Design Guide
Report to Cabinet 3rd October 2003

Contact Officer: **Chris Surfleet**
Urban Design Officer
 **01480 388476**