HUNTINGDONSHIRE LANDSCAPE AND TOWNSCAPE ASSESSMENT (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 Landscape and Townscape Assessment and to consider the Council's response. A revised document is recommended for adoption as Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG).

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Landscape and Townscape Assessment identifies the particular characteristics of our district and sets a context for the appropriate management of new development. It will be an extremely important tool for achieving high quality, locally distinctive development, as well as a valuable resource for local environmental projects.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 3rd October 2003, Cabinet approved the draft Huntingdonshire Landscape and Townscape Assessment for public consultation.
- 2.3 As part of the consultation exercise, all Parish and Town Councils were invited to a series of evening presentations where the aims of the Design Guide were explained, in addition to the usual consultation with statutory agencies.

3. THE CONSULTATION RESPONSE

- 3.1 Over 22 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 proposed 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 Landscape and Townscape Assessment, incorporating the specified changes, as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Huntingdonshire Local Plan.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Draft Huntingdonshire Landscape & Townscape Assessment 2003 Report to Cabinet 3rd October 2003.

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