

**STATEMENT OF CONSULTATION AND DRAFT REVISED SUPPLEMENTARY  
PLANNING DOCUMENT – LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY TO WIND TURBINE  
DEVELOPMENT - FEEDBACK  
(Report by the Cabinet)**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

At its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2013, the Cabinet considered the deliberations of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) on the contents of the Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbine Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and supporting technical evidence.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The revised Supplementary Planning Document has been prepared to update, clarify and replace the existing SPD document adopted by the Council in 2006.

**3. DELIBERATIONS**

- 3.1 In discussing the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being), Members concurred with the Panel that the SPD should not include the proposed upper limit for large groups of wind turbines. They also agreed that the specification of an upper limit would provide developers with an indication of the level of development that they could expect to receive approval for, and in some cases, they might expect to exceed that level. Having also expressed some doubts over the capacity judgements referred to in the document and in questioning the level of wind turbines developments in neighbouring local authority areas, the Cabinet requested Officers to review further the content of the SPD.
- 3.2 With regard to the Cumulative Landscape and Visual Impacts (CLVI) report, the Cabinet concurred with the Panel that this is an important piece of work given its role as technical evidence alongside the Council's policy. With this in mind, the Cabinet has requested officers to subject the CLVI to a separate public consultation exercise. This will strengthen the SPD during any potential appeal process.

**4. CONCLUSIONS**

- 4.1 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel are invited to note the contents of this report.

**Contact Officer: Mrs H Taylor, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
(01480) 388008.**