



Historic Parks and Gardens Supplementary Planning Document

Initial Consultation Statement

December 2019

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. Historic Parks and Gardens are important heritage assets that add substantial value to both the landscape and environmental quality within the borough. It is therefore important that such heritage assets are protected and that they are treated in accordance with the character and significance of their grading. The Council's policy for the protection of Historic Parks and Gardens is set out in Development Management Plan 2019 (DMP) Policy NHE9 'Heritage assets'.
- 1.2. The previous List of Historic Parks and Gardens Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) adopted in 2001 no longer provides an up-to-date list of Historic Parks and Gardens in the borough. The SPG refers to 1994 Local Plan. The List of Historic Parks and Gardens SPG therefore needs to be updated to reflect the adoption of the DMP, and in particular DMP Policy NHE9 'Heritage assets'.
- 1.3. This Initial Consultation Statement has been prepared to accompany the draft SPD for the formal consultation in accordance with the relevant legislation¹. These require a Consultation Statement to be prepared to accompany the draft SPD which the Council makes available for comments through the formal consultation. This Initial Consultation Statement should state:
 - Who the Council consulted when preparing the SPD
 - A summary of the main issues they raised, and
 - How those issues have been addressed in the SPD.

¹ Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended); Regulation 12

2. Preparing the SPD

2.1. The process of preparing this draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has followed legal requirements² and the requirements as set out in the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement in Planning (SCI) (April 2019). The SCI summarises how the Council will engage its communities in its planning functions, including in the preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). The process is summarised in **Figure 1** below.

Figure 1: Process of preparing a SPD

Source: RBBC (2019) *Statement of Community Involvement*

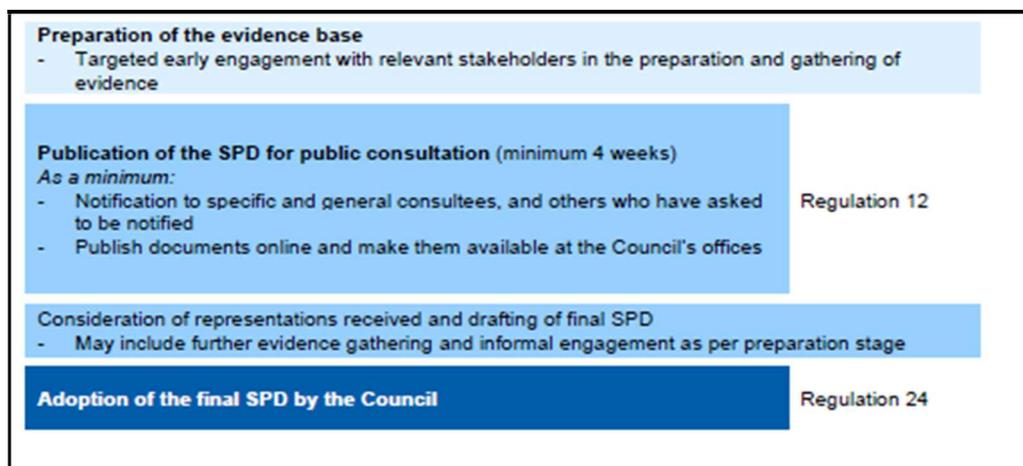


Figure 2: Timeline for preparation of the SPD

Stage	Date
Early scoping and information gathering	July - August 2019
Preparation of draft SPD with relevant key individuals and organisations	August – October 2019
Consultation on draft SPD with supporting initial	January 2020

² Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 2012 (Local Plan Regulations)

Consultation Statement, SEA/HRA/EqIA screening (minimum of 4 weeks)	
Consider representations received and update draft SPD as relevant	February 2020
Adoption of SPD (and revocation of the 2001 List of Historic Parks and Gardens SPG) by Council's Executive	April 2020
Publish SPD with final Consultation Statement and Adoption Statement	April 2020

2.2. In preparing the Historic Parks and Gardens SPD, we involved and sought the views on early drafts from the individuals and organisations listed in **Table 2** below. Their suggestions were incorporated into the draft SPD for consultation.

Next Steps

2.3. The Council will hold a statutory public consultation on the draft SPD for a minimum of four weeks, when we will invite comments by emailing and writing from interested parties³. We will make the documents available on our website and in paper format in the main Town Hall and at the six libraries in the borough. This consultation is currently timetabled for January 2020.

2.4. Following the formal consultation stage, the draft SPD will be amended to take account of consultation responses received and any further relevant information. This Consultation Statement will also be updated with a list of who we consulted, a summary of the comments received, and how those comments have been addressed in finalising the SPD. Following its adoption, the SPD will be a material consideration used in determining planning applications and appeals.

2.5. On adoption of this SPD, which is currently anticipated to be April 2020, the Council's 2001 List of Historic Parks and Gardens SPG will be revoked.

³ Specific and general consultees, prescribed bodies for the Duty to Co-operate and other individuals and organisations registered on the Planning Policy database for such purpose

Table 1: Individuals and organisations involved in preparing the draft SPD

Person / organisation	Issued / comments raised
<p>RBBC Senior Conservation Officer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial meeting on 08 August 19 to discuss the need to update the original List of Historic Parks and Gardens SPD to reflect the changes to the designated boundaries • Reviewed the original SPD and suggested changes that should be made to the maps of historic parks and gardens • Discussed the changes to the boundaries that have taken place since the adoption of the 2001 SPG and identified amendments that should be made. • Noted that in 2003, Historic England has changed boundary to Priory Park (a Grade II Listed Historic Park) that was included in the 2001 List of Historic Parks and Gardens SPG. • Noted that Walton Manor Historic Park and Garden has changed boundaries. The revised boundary was approved by the Executive in 2005. • Noted that Park Down (Walwood House) Historic Park and Garden has been added to the list of historic parks and gardens of special borough interest by the Planning Committee in 2012.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussed proposed changes to the boundary of Kingswood Warren and Banstead Place historic parks and gardens.• Changes suggested to the Appendix: “Useful contacts / Reference Material”
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• During the consultation on Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Statement, Natural England provided information on additional detail it considers should be included in the SPD with regard to biodiversity.• On their advice, additional guidance has been included on the importance of biodiversity and landscape enhancement as well as advice on provision of Green Infrastructure.