Introduction

1.1 Under the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, it is a requirement to prepare and publish a Consultation Statement for a range of planning policy documents including Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). This is a reflection of the Government’s desire to ‘strengthen community and stakeholder involvement in the development of local communities’

1.2 The Hot Food Takeaway Shops Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been prepared to provide additional advice to applicants and their agents on the policy guidelines for hot food takeaway development.

1.3 SPDs relate to a “parent” statutory planning document, which in this case is the Waltham Forest Unitary Development Plan (UDP), adopted March 2006.

1.4 The Planning Obligations SPD document has been prepared in accordance with the process for preparing Supplementary Planning Documents.

1.5 The planning system requires Local Planning Authorities to engage the community in shaping places, in particular, when producing Local Development Frameworks (LDF) and making planning decisions. Government guidance sets out minimum requirements on public participation to ensure the involvement of people. Local Planning Authorities are called upon to apply the most effective way of enabling people to contribute to the LDF production process.

Consultation procedures

1.6 The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 sets out the full list of local and national organisations that must be consulted in preparing SPDs. The Regulations require the Council, as Local Planning Authority, to decide which of these might be affected by the SPD and provide appropriate opportunities and methods for their views to be taken into account.

1.7 In accordance with the Council’s adopted Statement of Community Involvement, a notification letter was sent out to key local stakeholders (including partner organisations, landowners, businesses, community representatives and residents groups) advising consultees of the draft SPD, Sustainability Appraisal Report, consultation period dates, and information on how to obtain a copy of the draft SPD. The consultation period was from 30 October to 8 December 2008.

1.8 Hard copies of the draft SPD and Sustainability Appraisal Report were posted to specific/statutory consultation bodies. Both documents were published on the Council’s website and copies made available for
inspection at the Waltham Forest Town Hall, all Waltham Forest Libraries and Waltham Forest Direct shops. Further information was published in the Council’s newspaper - Waltham Forest Magazine (WFM) on 20 October 2008 and again on 17 November 2008. This free magazine is a fortnightly publication with circulation of over 110,000. It is distributed to every household within the borough. A consultation questionnaire was mailed out to the Spatial Planning contacts database and also published in WFM.

Consultation responses

1.9 A total of 304 responses were received in response to the consultation, with 88.8% of respondents supporting the proposed SPD.

The following table provides a summary of the consultation response results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>88.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncertain</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Comment</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Responses</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key Respondents include:
- 30 Head Teachers;
- 9 Health Industry representatives (Inclusive of NHS/PCT, Food for Schools, Director of Health and Nutrition Policy at London Met Uni and GP’s);
- GOL and GLA;
- 3 Fast Food chains.

Key Responses:

The consultation attracted a large degree of support from Head Teacher, Health Industry Representatives and Academia as outlined below.

Head Teachers

- Head Teachers agreed that Hot Food Takeaways should not be located near schools and specifically identified the link between Hot Food Takeaway Shops within close proximity to schools and childhood obesity. There was a general consensus that competition from low priced Hot Food Takeaway Shops was proving to be a key obstacle in the implementation of Healthy Eating strategies and in conflict with the Every Child Matters Agenda.

Health Industry Representatives

- Health industry representatives agreed that Hot Food Takeaways should not be located near schools and specifically identified the link between childhood obesity and proximity of Hot Food Takeaways to schools.
Academia

Professor Jack Winkler, Director of Food and Nutritional Policy at London Metropolitan University expressed support for the document and provided the following key findings from a recent research paper "The School Fringe: what secondary school pupils buy and eat from the shops around their schools":

- Hot food takeaways contribute to the high fat diet of schoolchildren, and hence to their obesity. The food schoolchildren buy from nearby hot food takeaways contains 46% fat.
- All hot food takeaways offer child-size portions and child-size prices to local schoolchildren. Hence, they constitute powerful competitors to school canteens, used by most pupils who are allowed off the school premises at lunchtime.

Written Responses

The written responses received were largely supportive of the document. The following provides a summary of detailed analysis of the response comments and outlines the major issues that were specifically identified relating to the management of Hot Food Takeaway Shops in Waltham Forest:

- 56% of respondents identified Health (i.e. childhood obesity, proximity to schools & food quality);
- 56% of respondents identified Litter;
- 43% of respondents identified Proliferation of outlets;
- 10% of respondents identified Anti-social behaviour or crime;
- 9% of respondents specifically identified Lack of Retail diversity;
- 6.7% of respondents identified Road Safety; and
- 6% of respondents specifically identified Visual Amenity.

Consultation Questionnaire

Further to the written responses, we received over 200 responses to the consultation questionnaire. The results provided below demonstrate a very high level of support for the key policies outlined within the SPD.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1. Prevent high concentrations and clusters of takeaways,</td>
<td>93.6%</td>
<td>4.55%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2. Prevent them locating near schools, youth facilities, parks and residential properties</td>
<td>88.6%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q3. Resist proposals that would cause an unacceptable risk of crime and antisocial behaviour,
Q4. Ensure they don’t have an unacceptable impact on road safety
Q5. Ensure they have good systems in place to deal with smells and waste

|  | 93.2% | 2.3% | 4.5% |
|  | 93.6% | 2.3% | 4.1% |
|  | 99.1% | 0.5% | 0.5% |

Conclusion

1.10 As demonstrated by the results presented, an overwhelming majority of respondents support the Hot Food Takeaway Shops SPD, either through written confirmation of support/identification of the key issues relating to Hot Food Takeaway Shops or support for the policies proposed.

1.11 Therefore it can be assumed that the draft document has been largely successful in proposing policies that will provide the key link to addressing the issues and concerns of the community in managing Hot Food Takeaways in Waltham Forest in the future.

Schedule of Representations and the Council’s Response

1.10 A Schedule of Representations and the Council’s Response was prepared. The report contains a summary of all representations received during the consultation period – 30 October to 8 December 2008. It also contains the Council’s response to these representations and, where necessary, the changes made to the draft document. The adopted version incorporates all the changes identified in the schedule.

1.11 Representations received from GVA Grimley on behalf of McDonalds in the form of large formal submission have been addressed separately; a copy of Council’s response to these is included within the Consultation Report.

Adoption

1.11 On 24 March 2009, Council will consider all of the responses and officers suggested amendments, and pass a resolution regarding the adoption of Hot Food Takeaway Shops Supplementary Planning Document.