

**Rochdale MBC Draft Shopfronts and Security Shutters Supplementary
Planning Document (SPD)**

STATEMENT OF CONSULTATION

MARCH 2012

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Rochdale Council is in the process of preparing a Shopfronts and Security Shutter as Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This document is a revision of the existing Shopfronts Supplementary Planning Guidance, as well as containing additional information in respect of the Council's planning approach to security measures such as shutters and good practice guidance in respect of these. This SPD is part of a series of documents on different policy areas produced since the Borough's UDP was adopted in June 2006.

1.2 The SPD offers practical guidance to shop owners and planning decision makers in respect of good practice for shopfront design including security measures such as shutters and grilles. It sets out what the Council will normally consider to be acceptable, in particular in areas such as town centres and Conservation Areas. Shopfront design can have a significant impact upon the feel of an area and its success in economic terms. There are good practice principles which can make this impact as positive as possible, and the document outlines these without being overly prescriptive.

1.3 This consultation statement sets out the whole of the SPD preparation process from pre consultation to the anticipated approval date of May 2012. It details how and when the public, interest groups, statutory organisations and stakeholders will be consulted. This is based on the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

1.4 Timetable for Preparation of the Shopfronts and Security Shutters SPD

Stage	Month/Year
Document First drafted	December 2011
Front Loaded Informal Consultation on initial draft with key stakeholders and other Council services	December 2011
Informal consultation with Cabinet member	December 2011
Draft SPD approved for formal consultation	Township Planning Subs in January 2012 and Licensing and Regulatory 2 nd February 2012
Formal Public Consultation Period	27 th March 2012 to 8 th May 2012
Process comments and consultation responses	May 2012
Amend Consultation Draft and seek Cabinet Approval of the SPD	29 th May 2012
Adopt SPD	June 2012

1.6 The Consultation Draft of the Shopfronts and Security Shutter SPD is available for public consultation. The consultation period is 6 weeks (from Tuesday 27th March 2012 to Tuesday 8th April 2012).

2. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN SO FAR

2.1 In advance of the publication of the SPD Consultation Draft some informal consultation was conducted with key stakeholders, other services of the council and the cabinet member prior to its approval at Planning Sub Committees and Licensing and Regulatory Committee. This was to

- establish a robust evidence/information base and consistency between proposed policies and the practicalities of delivery,
- ensuring consistency between Rochdale MBC's approach to shopfronts with such services as Conservation and the Greater Manchester Police
- ensuring all the key issues and best practice is included.

2.2 These have influenced the SPD's content and provided a good basis for the wider public and stakeholder consultation process which is starting. The consultation that has taken place to date is:

- December 2011 to January 2012 - Informal consultation on an initial draft of the SPD offering the following organisations with an early opportunity to comment :
 - Development Management, and Conservation,
 - Greater Manchester Police
 - Councillors with a relevant interest
- January 2012 – Planning and Sub Committees, and March 2012 – Township Committees

3. FUTURE CONSULTATION ON THE SPD

3.1 The consultation process will follow the commitments set out in Rochdale MBC's Statement of Community Involvement 2010 and will be consistent with the consultation requirements on SPD's in Planning Policy Statement 12 on Local Development Frameworks.

Proposed Methods

- 1.** Hard copies of the Supplementary Planning Document and related documents will be available for inspection at all libraries and Customer Service Centres in the borough.
- 2.** Website – the consultation documents will be available on the Council website www.rochdale.gov.uk/yourviews to view and download. Comments can be made to these documents directly via the consultation portal hosted by 'Objective'.
- 3.** Letters of participation will be sent to those organisations that have not registered with the LDF consultation portal, but may have an interest in commenting on this SPD.
- 4.** Council Communication: - Letters or emails to be sent to local councillors, adjoining district and county councils, and to the Local Strategic Partnership informing them of the consultation process and how to access the document.

4. DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

4.1 Copies of the SPD will be made available to statutory consultees and copies will be available for inspection at the locations highlighted in Appendix 1

4.2 The SPD comments form, Statement of Matters, Equalities Impact Assessment and the Consultation Statement will be available to view and download from the Council website www.rochdale.gov.uk/yourviews from 27th March 2012.

4.3 Additional printed copies of the Supplementary Planning Document and can be requested from the Strategic Planning Service (See address below)

4.4 Those who wish to view this in large print or in Braille should contact the office below to arrange this. Similarly, if anyone requires the translation of this document to be made in Bengali or Urdu they should also contact the office below to make the necessary arrangements.

5. ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE

For further information relating to this document please contact:

Strategic Planning Service
Planning & Regulation
Rochdale Council
Floor 1, Telegraph House
Bailie Street
Rochdale
Po Box 32
OL161JH

Tel: 01706 924361

By email: LDF.consultation@rochdale.gov.uk

Website: www.rochdale.gov.uk/yourviews

Appendix 1

Council Customer Service Centres:

Planning and Regulation Reception, Floor 1, Telegraph House, Baillie Street, Rochdale
Rochdale Information Centre, Floor 2, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, Rochdale
Heywood Information Centre, 44-46 Market Street, Heywood
Middleton Information Centre, Sadler Street, Middleton
Milnrow Information Centre, Newhey Road, Milnrow
Littleborough Information Centre, Council Offices, Harehill Park, Littleborough

Libraries

Wheatsheaf Library, Baillie Street, Rochdale
Balderstone Library, Balderstone Park, Rochdale
Belfield Library, Belfield Community School, Samson Street, Rochdale
Castleton Library, 881 Manchester Road, Rochdale
Smallbridge Library, Stevenson Square, Rochdale
Spotland Library, Ings Lane, Rochdale
Norden Library, Norden Community School, Shawfield Lane. Rochdale

Heywood Library, Church Street, Heywood
Darnhill Library, Argyle Parade, Heywood

Middleton Library, Long Street, Middleton
Alkrington Library, Kirkway, Middleton
Langley Library, Windermere Road, Middleton

Littleborough Library, Hare Hill Park, Littleborough
Milnrow Library, Newhey Road, Milnrow
Smithybridge Library, 121/3 Smithybridge Road, Littleborough
Wardle Library, 448 Birch Road, Wardle, Rochdale