

**Swindon Borough Council Diversity Impact Assessment (DIA)
Swindon – New Eastern Villages (NEV) Green Infrastructure (GI)
Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

1 What's it about?

Refer to equality duties

What is the proposal? What outcomes/benefits are you hoping to achieve?

The New Eastern Villages (NEV) Green Infrastructure (GI) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) supports Policies NC3, RA3, EN1, EN2, EN3, EN4, EN5, EN6, EN10 and EN11 of the adopted Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026 which sets the framework for the delivery of a mixed use development at the New Eastern Villages (NEV), to reflect high standards of urban design and sustainability.

As part of delivering comprehensive development at the NEV, Policy NC3 seeks to ensure the delivery of an integrated and connected green infrastructure network and green spaces. To this end, the SPD sets out Swindon Borough Council's approach to securing the green infrastructure to deliver an extensive network across the NEV.

The SPD sets out the approach for delivering green infrastructure at the NEV, providing further guidance on the spectrum of green infrastructure typologies that should be delivered at every village.

Who's it for?

External - developers, planning agents, architects, landscape architects, drainage engineers, highway engineers, the general public, parish councils, delivery partners, statutory consultees.

Internal - development management officers, highways, master planning and design, planning policy officers, members of the planning committee and other stakeholders.

The above reflects all parties that may be involved or have an interest in promoting and securing a green infrastructure network at the NEV.

How will this proposal meet the equality duties?

The SPD details the principles established by the Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026, in particular Policies NC3, RA3, EN1, EN2, EN3, EN4, EN5, EN10 and EN11, to ensure the delivery of an extensive green infrastructure network that maximises opportunities for habitat connectivity and enhanced biodiversity.

What are the barriers to meeting this potential?

Developers will be required to deliver development in broad accordance with the Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026 and the NEV Planning Obligations SPD.

2 Who's using it?

Refer to equality groups

What data/evidence do you have about who is or could be affected (e.g. equality monitoring, customer feedback, current service use, national/regional/local trends)?

All those who have an interest in new development, specifically at the NEV should find the information in the SPD easy to understand. The document aims to be concise and present a forward looking design approach to the delivery of GI for the NEV with a 'Leisure Lifestyle' where outdoor activity is available from your doorstep and integrated into daily life; where both the journey and the destination are fun, outdoor, active, and social.

Through well designed GI, the NEV can be a flagship example of delivering sustainable development objectives and the promotion of healthy and active lifestyles.

Throughout the preparation of the SPD, the Council has been working with a range of stakeholders and delivery partners including Parish Councils, the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, the Forestry Commission, the Woodland Trust, the Ramblers, Swindon Bicycle Users Group (BUG), and other local stakeholders and interested parties.

How can you involve your customers in developing the proposal?

All those should find the information in the SPD easy to understand. There are some principles and concepts which may seem more remote to members of the public when understanding what the SPD is trying to achieve.

Following public consultation and comments regarding unfamiliar planning terms, all planning related words referenced in the SPD are explained, there is also a narrative to provide context and understanding as far as possible. A 'Glossary of Terms' is also included in the SPD.

Who is missing? Do you need to fill any gaps in your data? (pause DIA if necessary)

The approach detailed seeks to achieve the effective delivery of an extensive green infrastructure network to ensure that new and existing communities have easy access to quality a range of open spaces including the delivery of a nature reserve, major and local open spaces with play and outdoor sports facilities and allotments. This will promote inclusiveness across all equality groups and promote the dimensions of equality.

3 Impact

Refer to dimensions of equality and equality groups
Show consideration of: age, disability, sex, transgender, marriage/civil partnership, maternity/pregnancy, race, religion/belief, sexual orientation
and if appropriate: financial economic status, homelessness, political view

Using the information in parts 1 & 2:

a) Does the proposal create an adverse impact which may affect some groups or individuals? Is it clear what this is? How can this be mitigated or justified?

The SPD does not in itself promote anything 'new' or 'in addition to' the adopted Local Plan (notably Policies NC3, RA3, EN1, EN2, EN3, EN4, EN5, EN10 and EN11); it outlines the typologies of green infrastructure that will be secured within the new development and neighbouring communities, in accordance with adopted policy. As nothing 'new' is proposed, it is likely to have a negligible effect on people with protected characteristics, taking into account the principles of inclusive design and sustainable development required by the Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026.

The SPD will provide a mechanism to support an integrated and well-connected place where communities can be created and where people want to live. It will support the delivery of a built environment that is safe and secure so reducing fear of crime, which in turn will reduce social exclusion. Good urban design and easy access to open space also has significant health benefits.

On balance, the SPD should not have an adverse impact on equality groups.

What can be done to change this impact?

b) Does the proposal create benefit for a particular group? Is it clear what this is? Can you maximise the benefits for other groups?

Does further consultation need to be done? How will assumptions made in this analysis be tested?

Public consultation on the draft SPD took place in accord with the Swindon Borough Statement of Community Involvement in Planning (2013). The statement sets out the requirements for consultation on planning documents to ensure the continuous community involvement with statutory and other stakeholders in the preparation of planning documents. The SPD went out for public consultation for 6 weeks from 20th February to 3rd April 2017. The Swindon Equalities and Access Group (SEAG), Swindon Guide Dogs and Swindon Seniors Forum were all consulted.

4 So what?

[Link to business planning process](#)

What changes have you made in the course of this DIA?

Following public consultation, improvements have been made to the clarity and presentation of the maps. Planning terms are explained and a 'Glossary of terms' appended to the SPD.

What will you do now and what will be included in future planning?

Through the public consultation all comments will be considered in terms of positively shaping the SPD.

When will this be reviewed?

N/A

How will success be measured?

Success will be measured through the coordinated and timely delivery of the New Eastern Villages coming forward over the next few years.

For the record

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of person leading this DIA: Angela Clack | Date completed: 17 th May 2017 |
| Names of people involved in consideration of impact | |
| Approved: Nick Stephenson | Date Approved: 20 th June 2017 |
| Name of director signing DIA | Date signed: |

Diversity Impact Analysis – an inclusive business planning tool

1. What's it about? refer to equality duties

- What is the proposal? What outcomes/benefits are you hoping to achieve
- Who's it for?
- How will this proposal meet the equality duties?
- What are the barriers to meeting this potential?

2. Who's using it? consider all equality groups

- What data/evidence do you have about who is or could be affected? (e.g. equality monitoring, customer feedback, current service use, national/regional/local trends)?
- How can you involve your customers in developing the proposal?
- Who is missing? Do you need to fill any gaps in your data?

3. Impact consider dimensions and equality groups

Using information in parts 1 & 2:

- a) Does the proposal create an adverse impact which may affect some groups or individuals? How can this be mitigated or justified?
> What can be done to change this impact?
 - b) Does the proposal create benefit for particular groups or individuals. Is it clear what this is? Can you maximise the benefits for other groups?
- Does further consultation need to be done? How will assumptions made in this analysis be tested?

4. So what?

- What changes have made in the course of this DIA?
- What will you do now and what will be included in future planning?
- When will this be reviewed?
- How will success be measured?

Considerations

Our equality duties

1. Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
2. Advance equality of opportunity
3. Foster good relations

Equality groups

For the following equality groups: age, disability, sex, transgender, marriage/civil partnership, maternity/pregnancy, race, religion/belief and sexual orientation.

Extended by SBC policy to include: financial economic status, homelessness, political view.

Dimensions of equality

How will the proposal affect Human Rights and life chances of different groups? Consider how the proposal affects

1. Longevity.
2. Physical security.
3. Health.
4. Education.
5. Standard of living.
6. Productive and valued activities.
7. Individual, family and social life.
8. Participation, influence and voice.
9. Identity, expression and self-respect.
10. Legal security.