

Spatial Planning for the Health & Wellbeing of Nottinghamshire, Nottingham City and Erewash

Report for Cabinet 29th September 2016

The report proposes that the Health and Wellbeing Checklist prepared by Nottinghamshire County Council (Public Health) be used by Gedling Borough Council to assess major developments (those of more than 10 dwellings or 10 sq m of other floorspace).

Following circulation of the Cabinet report, it is recommended that a change be made to the assessment matrix in order to add a further criterion under the heading of 'Housing quality and design' to read:-

'Does the proposal promote good design through layout and orientation, meeting nationally described space standards?'

Planning Practice Guidance states that where a local planning authority wishes to require an internal space standard, they should only do so by reference in their Local Plan to a Nationally Described Space Standard. Furthermore, the Council can only include the nationally described space standards based on the evidence of need which is not currently available. Floorspace has been monitored comprehensively with the introduction of Community Infrastructure Levy in October 2015 and the possibility of drafting non-statutory guidance will be considered at a future date.

However, there is benefit in including this new question in the assessment matrix for Health and Wellbeing assessments in order to recognise the impact that cramped living conditions can have on health and wellbeing and to raise this as an issue for future consideration.