

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**PLANNING and TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**27 May 2009**

**Report of the Director of Planning Transport and Leisure**

**Part 1- Public**

**Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)**

**1 GUIDES ON SAVING WATER AT HOME AND SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE SYSTEMS (SUDS)**

**Summary**

**At the meeting of this Board on 3 June 2008 a series of non-statutory guides on renewable energy technologies were approved for publication. This report outlines two new guides, one on 'Saving Water at Home' and one on 'Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS)' that identify measures that can be adopted by householders and businesses alike and integrated into the design of new developments.**

**1.1 Introduction**

1.1.1 The supporting text to policies CC1 (Sustainable Design) and CC3 (Sustainable Drainage) in the Managing Development and the Environment DPD (MDE DPD) identifies the need to have regard to the Council's guides on water efficiency and SUDS. These two new non-statutory technical guides will complement advice in Kent Design and its technical appendix on 'Water Efficient Homes'. They will also help to deliver the Council's Key Priority to 'make a positive local contribution to tackling the causes and effects of climate change' and promote adaptation measures to address seasonal water shortages as identified in the Council's Climate Change Strategy 2008-11.

**1.2 Guides on Water Efficiency and SUDS**

1.2.1 **Annex 1** to this report sets out two new non-statutory technical guides: one on 'Saving water in the home', the other on 'Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS)'.

1.2.2 Each guide identifies why there is a need to address the issue of water efficiency, conservation and management locally, what the benefits are of integrating and adopting certain measures, and also when and where they are suitable. Importantly, the guides direct people to organisations, eg Waterwise, who can offer expertise and detailed practical advice.

1.2.3 The guides will be kept under review and will subsequently be updated as the technologies themselves evolve and develop and new information becomes available. In this way the Council can best provide a service in drawing attention to methods and options for addressing sustainable development and energy use.

1.2.4 It is the intention to make these guides freely available to householders and developers both as paper copies and electronically on the Council's web site. The final guides will be published to a good quality production standard.

### **1.3 Legal Implications**

1.3.1 There are no legal implications because the guides are technical non-statutory documents.

### **1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations**

1.4.1 It is the intention to provide the guides to planning applicants free of charge.

### **1.5 Risk Assessment**

1.5.1 There are no risks involved in preparing and distributing the guides.

### **1.6 Recommendations**

1.6.1 The guides on 'Saving Water at Home' and 'Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS)' in Annex 1 **BE APPROVED** and be made available free of charge to householders and planning applicants.

Background papers:

contact: Nigel De Wit

MDE DPD

Tonbridge and Malling Corporate Performance Plan 2009/10

Tonbridge and Malling Climate Change Strategy 2008-11

Report on Guides on Renewable Energy Technologies

(Planning and Transportation Advisory Board Meeting of 3

June 2008)

Steve Humphrey

Director of Planning Transport and Leisure