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Rutland County Council



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Minutes of the **MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL FORUM** held virtually on Monday, 8th February, 2021 at 7.00 pm

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting of the Parish Forum.

2. UPDATE FROM THE COUNCIL

Councillor Hemsley provided the forum with an update.

It was noted that there had been a steep rise in COVID cases in the last few months. Rutland currently had 463.3 cases per 100,000 of the population which equated to 185 new cases between the beginning of January to 4th February. This was largely due to an outbreak at Stocken. The Vaccination programme was in place and everyone needed to reinforce the message of hands, face, space.

The second matter was in relation to the local plan and regulation 22. Rutland had appointed a programme officer to act as a liaison officer with the planning inspector, her name was Kerry Truman and her details were on the website. On 18th February Scrutiny would be looking at, in particular, the housing Infrastructure fund.

3. DYING MATTERS IN RUTLAND

HM Lord-Lieutenant of Rutland, Dr Sarah Furness PhD introduced the Dying Matters in Rutland initiative that aimed to give Rutlanders a single source of information about the many forms of help available to them when they had to plan for their own deaths or cope with the dying and deaths of loved ones.

The Lord-Lieutenant thanked members for the invitation to speak to the Forum. A Certificate of Thanks was being sent to all volunteers that were working to deliver the vaccination programme to residents of Rutland. Parishes were thanked for their local leadership roles and were asked that if anyone deserved individual recognition to let her know.

The pandemic had given more recognition to mortality. The dying matters initiative aimed to break the taboo of death. The initiative involved providing leaflets with advice to residents and signposting to organisations and information to help with planning, such as bereavement support and arranging funerals. Information was also available online at the following link: [Dying | Dying Matters in Rutland | England](#)

The Lord-Lieutenant wanted to spread the word of the dying matters initiative and asked if Parishes could support this and she would provide leaflets (around 20 to each). There were no posters yet but this would be actioned and sent.

4. DESIGN GUIDE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

Richard Shaw, Principal Design Officer at RCC, presented to the Forum the public consultation for the Design Guidelines, which aimed to help improve the quality of new build developments in the area by setting out the Council's high design expectations and detailing the steps that should be taken for anyone wishing to apply for planning permission.

The presentation is attached to these notes.

5. PARISH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Monday 15 March 2021

- Langham Parish Council update
- Environment

Suggested items with no specific date:

- Leisure
- Highways and Transport Working Group process
- Updates from previous items as appropriate
- External Funding – How RCC and Parish and Town Councils can access external funding and the process for applications. *(Item suggested by Oakham Town Council)*

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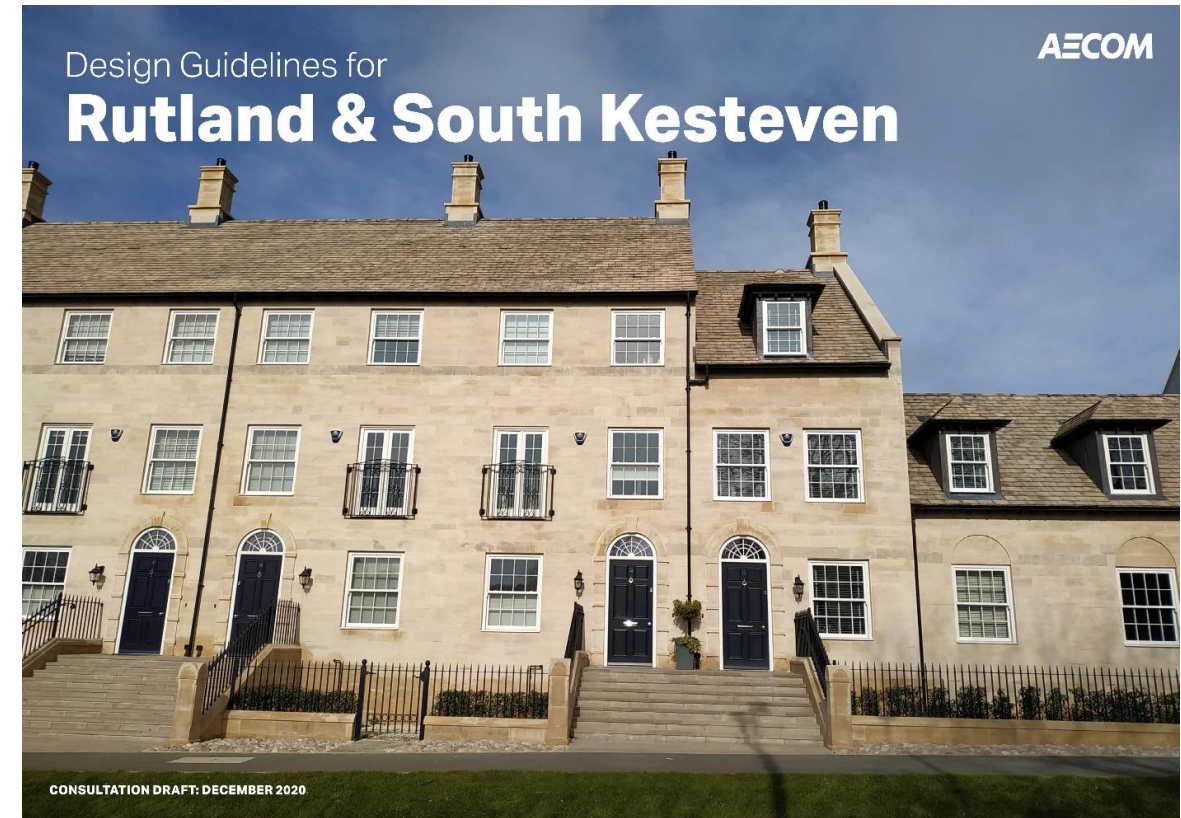
The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

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^ωRutland County Council **Design Guidelines for Rutland and South Kesteven**

What this session covers

- What is 'Design'?
- Government Design Agenda
- Background and introduction to the Design Guidelines
- Brief outline of what it covers
- Details of the consultation



What is 'Design'?

Design is not always subjective (architecture)

It's about peoples lives and quality of life

↳ **Macro** - Climate Change and Healthy Lifestyles

Micro – convenient car parking and easy to put your bin out, building materials and details.

Brings together: Town Planning/Economic Development, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Highways Design

Social, Environmental, Economic

- 1) **Will it last well – Durable and adaptable?**
- 2) **Will it work practically?**
- 3) **Will most people think it looks good - is beautiful?**



“It is the collaborative and multi-disciplinary process of shaping the physical setting for life in cities, towns and villages; the art of making places;”

Urban Design Group

Government Design Agenda

Climate Change Act 2008 –revised **2019** reduce the UK's net emissions of greenhouse gases by 100% relative to 1990 levels by 2050 **Future Homes Standard and Environment Bill** (Forthcoming)

2019 National Design Guide

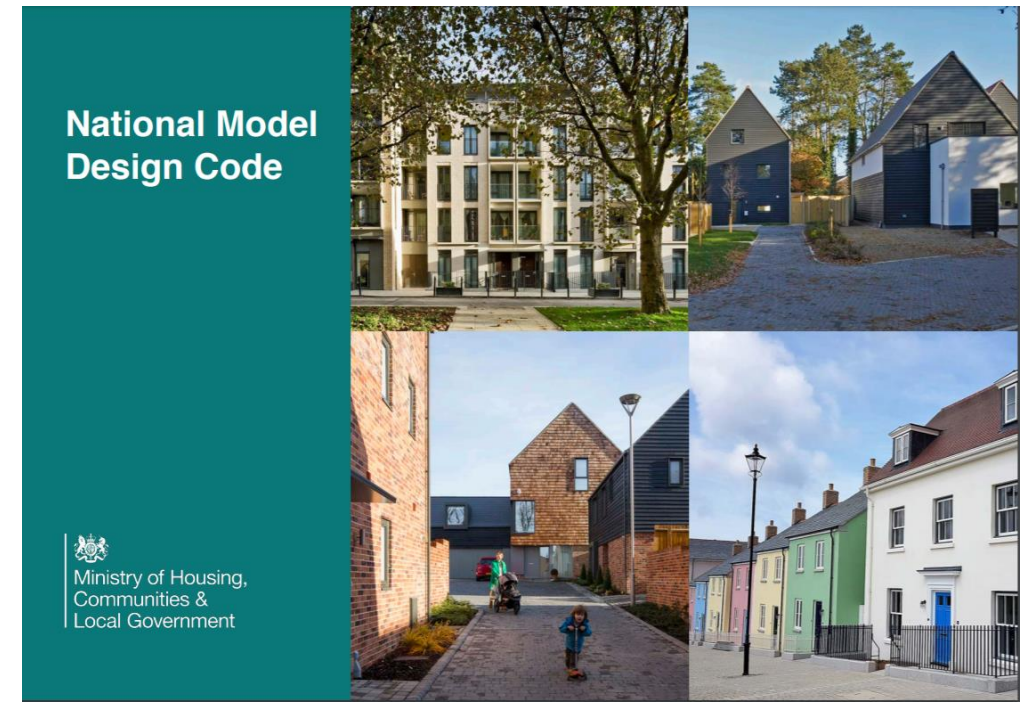
2020 Building Better, Building Beautiful Commission report –Living with Beauty

2020 Gear Change: A bold vision for walking and cycling

2020 Planning for the Future -White Paper consultation

30 January 2021 – consultation on new proposals

Changes to the NPPF (BBBBC response)
Draft National Model Design Code



New Proposals mean...

Greater concentration will now be placed on the **quality, design** and the **environment** in planning than **ever before**

~
the **local community fully involved** in how they want new developments to look and feel

expectation that good quality design will be approved while **poor quality will be rejected**

all streets are lined with trees

the word “**beauty**” will be specifically included in planning rules for the first time since the system was created in 1947



**‘We all want beauty for the
refreshment of our souls.’**

OCTAVIA HILL (1883)

The Design Guidelines for Rutland and South Kesteven

Aim and Purpose

- Help improve the quality of new build development
- To provide better guidance and advice to both developers and decision makers
- Supplement the policies within the forthcoming Local Plan
- As an SPD, these guidelines will be a material consideration when determining planning applications.



How has it been prepared?

- Fully funded through the award of a Planning Delivery Grant jointly awarded to SKDC and RCC on a competitive bidding basis
- Part of suite of measures alongside appointment of Principal Design Officer, Design Review Panels and enhanced design considerations in planning application decisions
- AECOM commissioned to prepare the document with officer, member and stakeholder workshops held



How has it been produced?

- Produced by experts in design, planning, landscape and heritage
- Designed to complement new national guidance on good design – more specific, local and easier to use
- Focus on housing, particularly larger schemes
- Promotes development that responds well to local character
- Sets high expectations on process and outcomes



What does it cover?

1. Design Process
2. National guidance that must be followed
3. Major development (residential)
4. Detailed Design – architecture, materials, smaller sites and householder applications
5. Commercial development
6. Related policies and guidance table



Design Process

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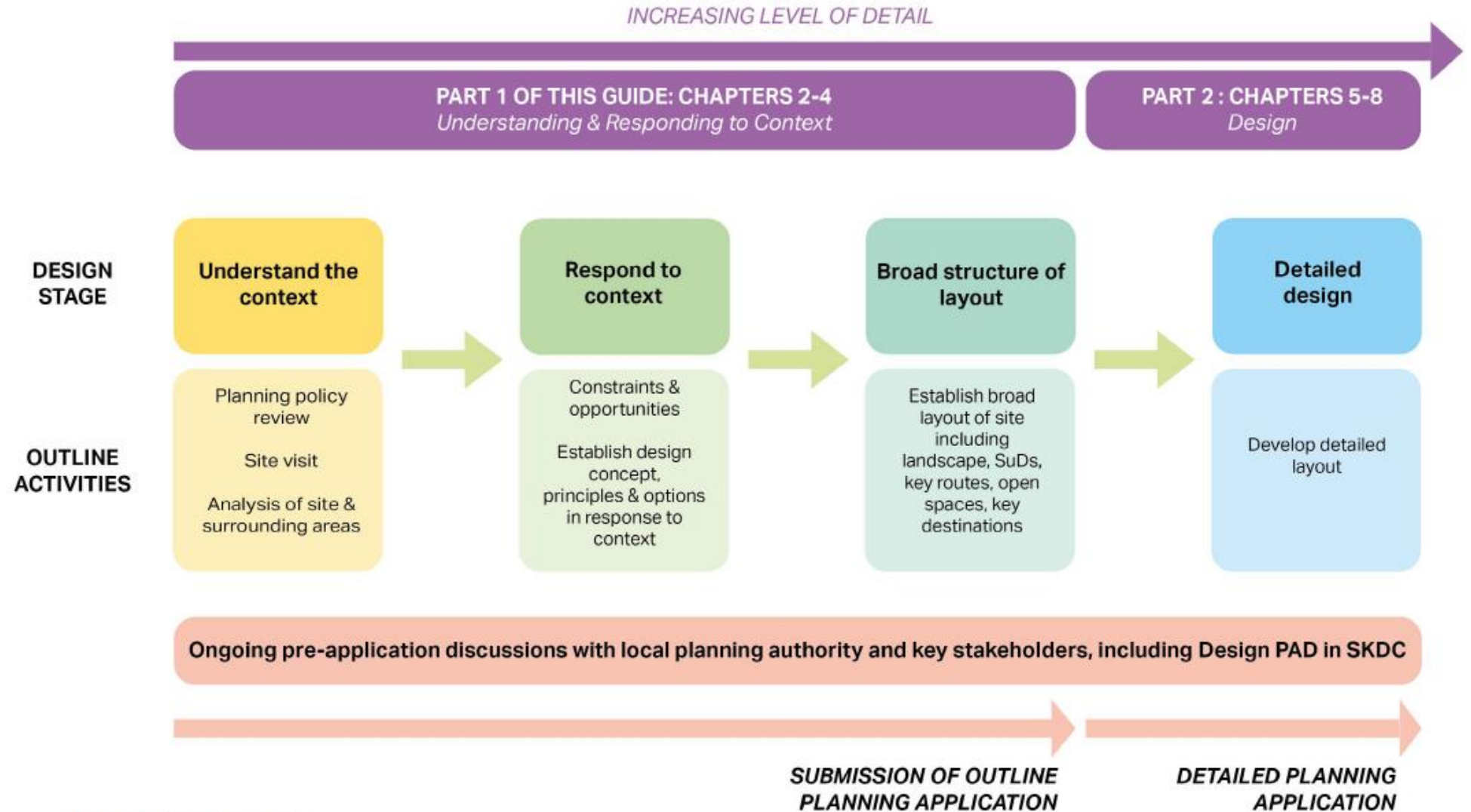


Figure 1: Design process overview.

Rutland's Special Character

Overview of landscape and built character

⇒ Emphasis on thoroughly assessing each development site

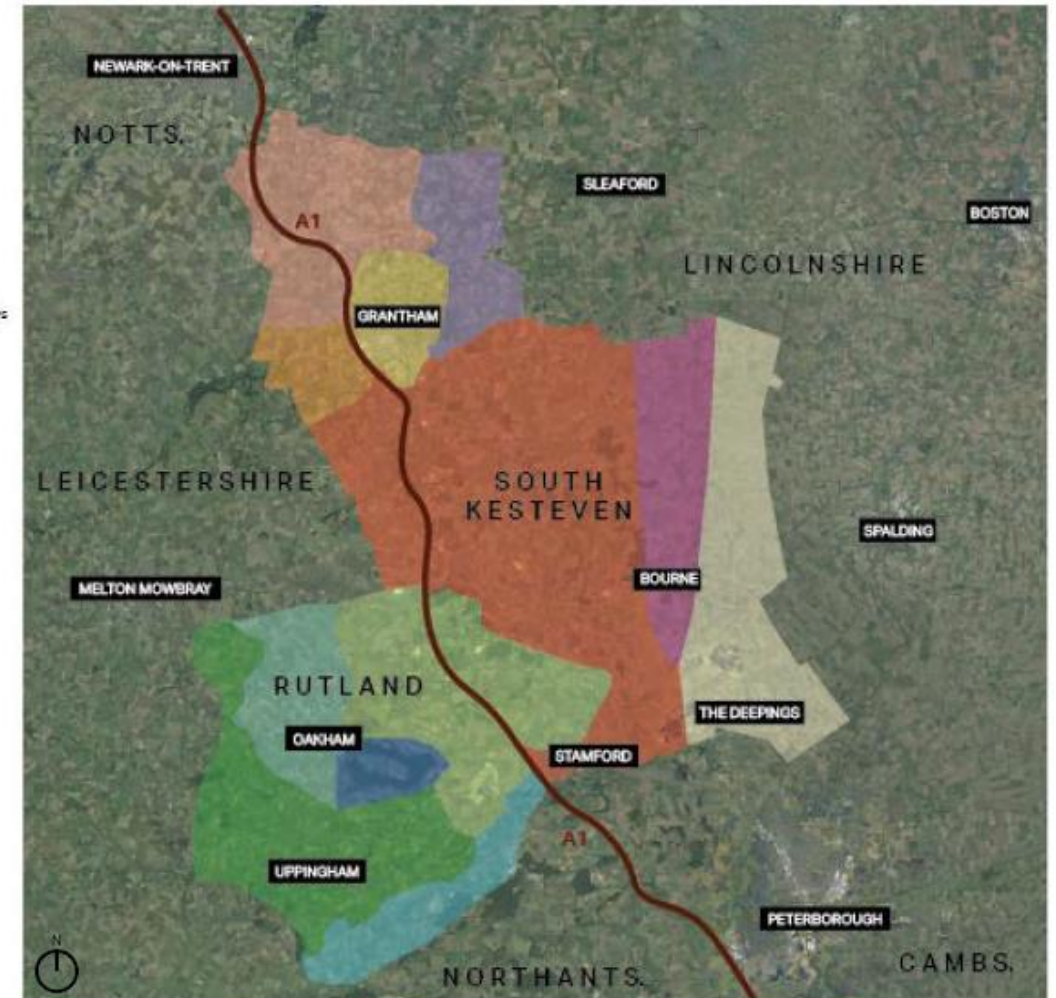


Figure 15: Landscape Character Areas (Rutland Landscape Character Assessment (2003), South Kesteven Landscape Character Assessment (2007)).

Understanding and responding to context



Site analysis



Response to context



Broad structure of layout



Design concept

Residential Development

Cross-Cutting Themes

Climate Emergency and Healthy Lifestyles

Layout, Buildings,

Contact with Nature

Positive Social Contact

Healthy Food

Physical Exercise

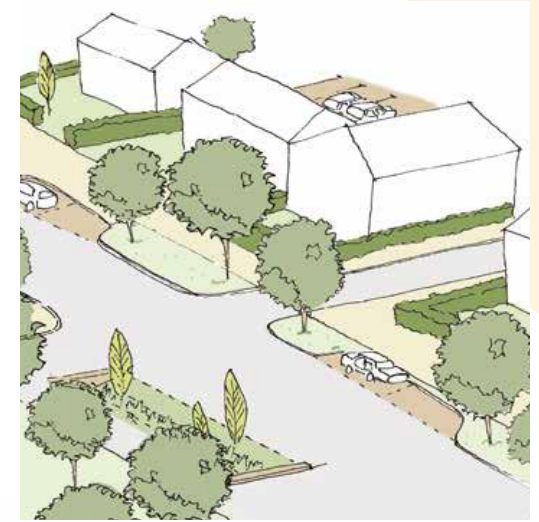
Lifetime Homes



Residential Development

Landscape

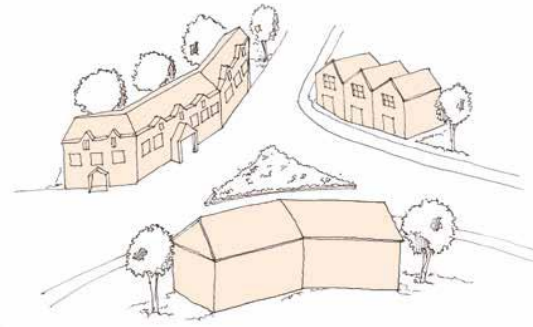
- 5D: Strong Landscape Structure
- 5E: Continuous Green Corridors and Circuits
- 5F: Trees in the Public Realm
- 5G: Sustainable Drainage Systems



Residential Development

Streets

- 5H: Street Hierarchy
- 5I: Connected Layouts
- 5J: Addressing the street (perimeter blocks)
- 5K: Strong front boundary treatments
- 5L: Special Places
- 5M: Street character
- 5N: Local street character

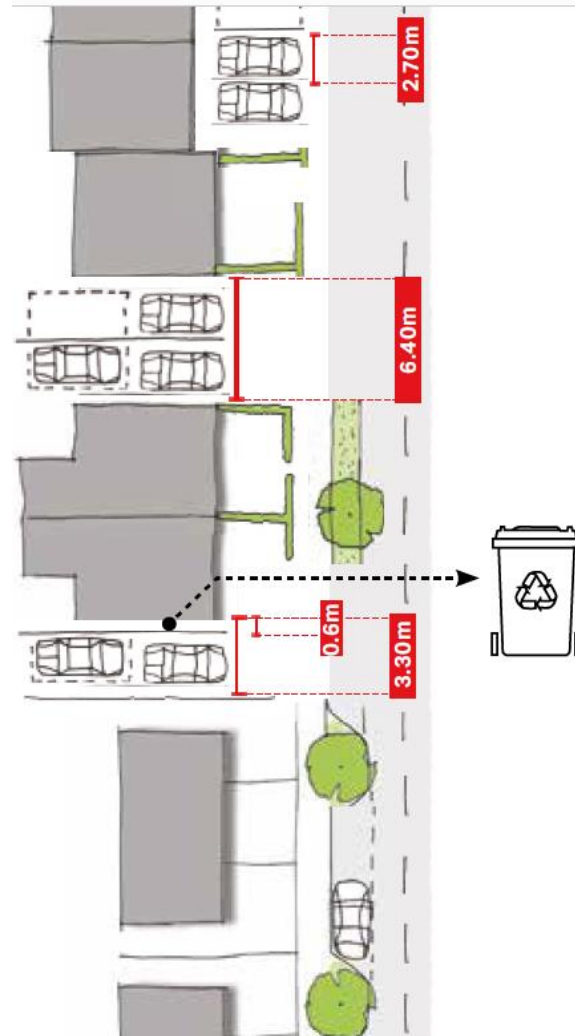


Residential Development

Other key elements

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- 5O: Local Centre / Community Facilities
- 5P: Cycle Infrastructure
- 5Q: Car Parking
- 5R: Affordable Housing
- 7A-F: Commercial Development



Residential Development

Detailed Design

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- 6A: Build Quality
- 6B: Architecture
- 6C: Materials
- 6D: Roofs
- 6E: Residential Amenity
- 6F: Servicing
- 6G: Extensions
- 6H: Infill Development

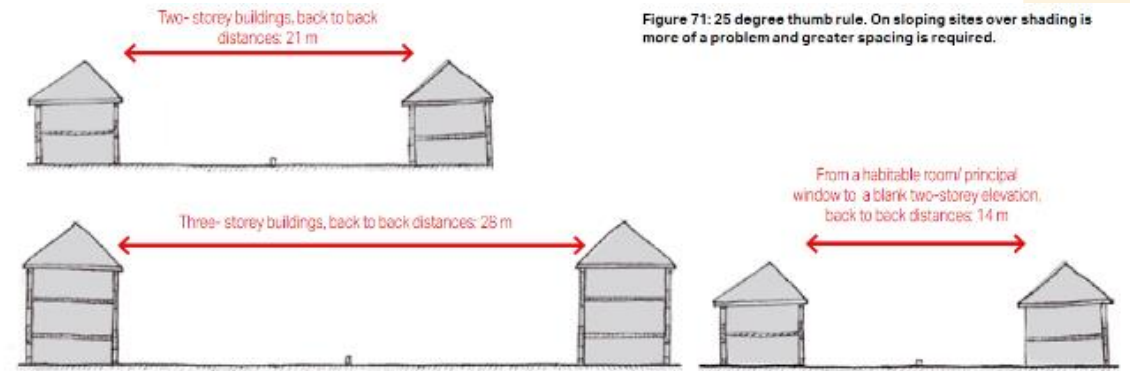
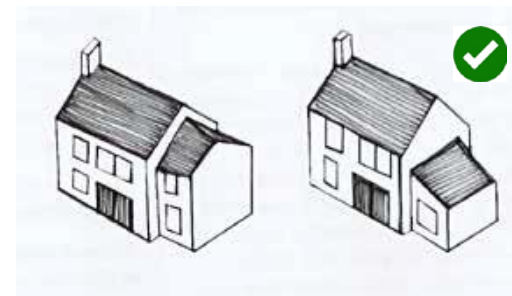
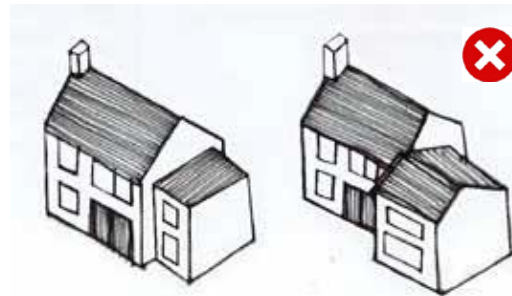


Figure 69: Back to back privacy distances.

AECOM

Figure 71: 25 degree thumb rule. On sloping sites over shading is more of a problem and greater spacing is required.



Commercial Development

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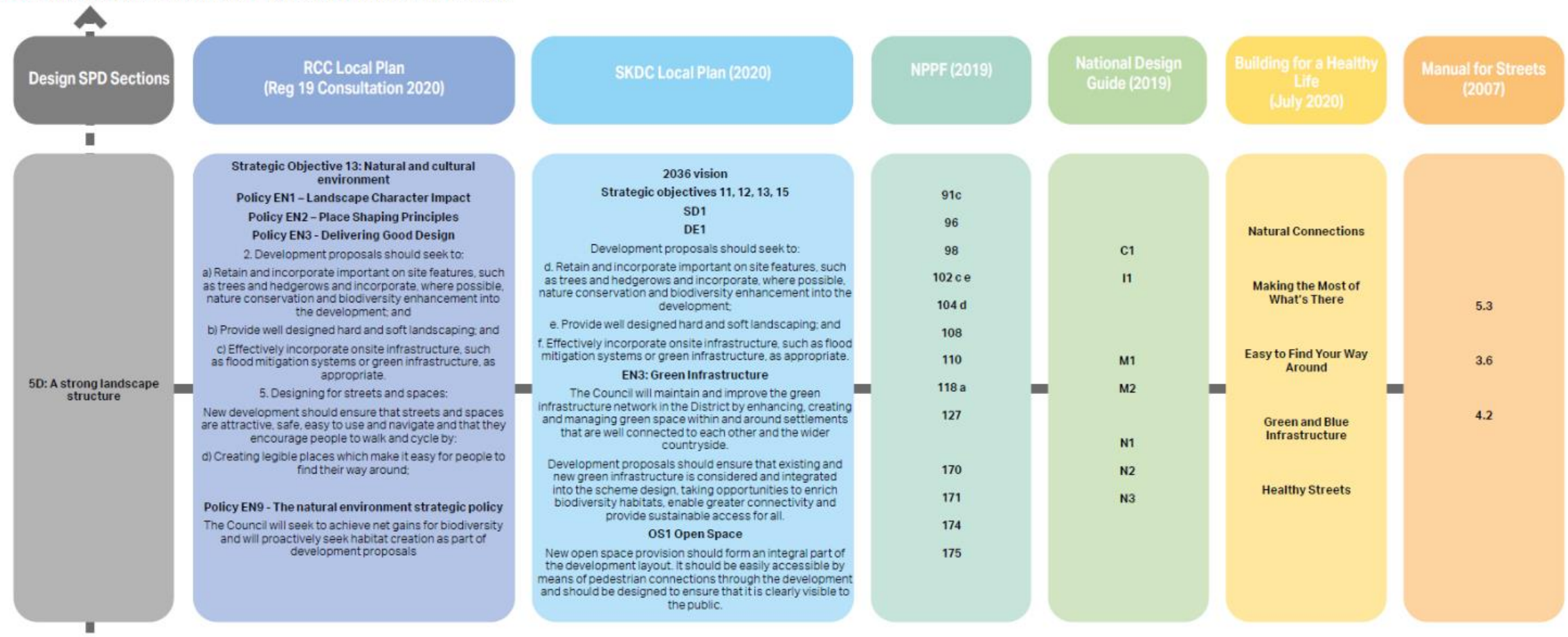
- 7A: Follow the process
- 7B: Responding to the climate emergency
- 7C: Frontages
- 7D: Landscape screening
- 7E: Parking and servicing
- 7F: Architecture



Annex – backed up by policy

ANNEX Policy and guidance documents that back up the Design SPD chapters

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Consultation

- First draft - seeking views on the style, format, usability and content
- 6 weeks - **29th January to 12th March 2021**
- COVID-19 - Webpage and Online Survey
- FAQ Document

www.rutland.gov.uk/designguide

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DesignGuidelines

The key aims of the SPD are to:

1

Establish the requirements for a high level of design and build quality in all development proposals in Rutland and South Kesteven;

2

Set out the design steps and considerations that planning applicants need to undertake; and

3

Provide applicants with a clear understanding of good quality design at any scale or type of development, from a new community to an individual home extension.

1. Which factors do you think are most important when considering the design of new housing developments?

Please choose no more than three.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minimising the impact on climate change. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensuring new development blends into the wider landscape and has a green character designed for nature that people can enjoy. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Encouraging people to live healthy, sociable and active lifestyles. Opportunities for walking, cycling and great places to play are included in the design. | <input type="checkbox"/> Respecting the built character and materials of the local area. Architecture to be of a high quality. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Responding to local issues and listening to local people. | <input type="checkbox"/> Providing a range of houses for different people's needs, budgets and circumstances. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Making places accessible, easy to move around and well connected to their surroundings. | <input type="checkbox"/> Places that function well and are designed to reflect practical considerations (e.g. bins and parking). |

OK