

Spelthorne Borough Council

# Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document

Adoption Statement (Regulation 14 of the  
Town and Country Planning (Local Planning)  
(England) Regulations 2012) June 2026



## Spelthorne Takes Shape



## **Executive Summary**

This Adoption Statement has been prepared in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, which sets out the requirements for adopting Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). The Climate Change SPD was formally adopted by Spelthorne Borough Council on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

The SPD provides detailed guidance to support the implementation of the climate related policies contained within the Spelthorne Local Plan 2024–2039/40, which was adopted on 17 March 2026. Its purpose is to assist applicants, developers, landowners and decision-makers by clarifying the Council's expectations for designing and delivering development that mitigates and adapts to climate change whilst supporting the transition to a low-carbon future.

## **1. Purpose of the Climate Change SPD**

- 1.1 The Climate Change SPD provides detailed, practical guidance to support the implementation of the climate change and environmental policies within the adopted Local Plan. It explains how the Council will apply policy requirements relating to:
- reducing carbon emissions from new development
  - energy efficiency and fabric-first design approaches
  - renewable and low-carbon energy technologies
  - climate change adaptation measures
  - sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) and flood resilience
  - water efficiency
  - sustainable construction and embodied carbon considerations
  - biodiversity enhancement and urban greening
  - electric vehicle charging infrastructure and sustainable transport measures
- 1.2 The SPD does not introduce new policy. Instead, it amplifies, clarifies and supports existing Local Plan policy to ensure consistent and transparent decision-making and to help applicants demonstrate compliance with the Council's climate change objectives.

## **2. Preparation, consultation and finalisation**

- 2.1 Preparation of the SPD followed the statutory process set out in the 2012 Regulations, beginning with engagement with key stakeholders.
- 2.2 A draft Climate Change SPD was published for public consultation for a period of four weeks (8 May 2026 to 5 June 2026) in accordance with Regulation 13. The consultation materials were made available:
- on the Council's website and consultation platform
  - at the Council Offices
  - on request in accessible formats
- 2.3 All representations received were recorded, summarised, and carefully considered. Following consultation, modifications were made to the SPD to improve clarity, consistency and effectiveness. These changes do not materially alter the overall direction or intent of the document.
- 2.4 A Consultation Statement, setting out the representations received and how they were considered, is published alongside the adopted SPD.

### **3. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**

- 3.1 Spelthorne Borough Council has carried out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening of the Climate Change SPD in accordance with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The Screening confirms that the SPD does not introduce new policy, allocate land or change the scale or distribution of development. The SPD provides guidance on the implementation of policies already contained within the adopted Local Plan and is not considered likely to give rise to significant environmental effects requiring a full SEA.
- 3.2 As required by Regulation 9, the Council consulted the statutory environmental bodies for 28 days between 18 February and 18 March 2026. Historic England agreed with the conclusion, the Environment Agency agree the SPD does not itself give rise to likely significant environmental effects and Natural England agreed with the conclusion. The Environment Agency did provide further comments, agreeing that the environmental issues within their remit are considered thoroughly in the Local Plan policy and associated Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRA) Level 1 and Level 2. Providing advisory comments acknowledging that work is ongoing to investigate and address groundwater flood risk.
- 3.3 The Council therefore determined that a full SEA is not required. Sustainability Appraisal is also not required, as the SPD sits beneath the adopted Local Plan, which has already been subject to comprehensive SA/SEA. The full SEA Screening Determination, including the Schedule 1 assessment and consultation responses, is published alongside this Adoption Statement.

### **4. Where the SPD and Supporting Documents Can Be Viewed**

- 4.1 The following documents are available on the Councils [website](#) and can be made available for inspection at the Council offices:
- Adopted Climate Change SPD
  - Consultation Statement
  - SEA Screening
  - Adopted Spelthorne Local Plan 2024–2039/40
  - Policies Map
  - This Adoption Statement

### **5. Right to challenge**

- 5.1 Any person with sufficient interest in the decision to adopt the Climate Change SPD may apply to the High Court for permission to apply for judicial review of that decision.

5.2 Any such application must be made promptly and, in any event, not later than three months from the date of adoption.