



Councillor Roy Galley

Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Housing Delivery

Wealden is a very special area. It has overall an almost unique local distinctiveness containing within it parts of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Low Weald, the Pevensy Levels and the South Downs. It is not one cohesive distinctiveness but a variety of different landscapes and architectural styles. For these reasons we need to take steps to preserve and enhance this special environment.

The Quality of what is built and the surroundings in which we live and work are important to us all and for future generations. The Design Guide is intended to retain and enhance that quality. It is available to help developers and individual homeowners when framing their planning applications.

It is a guide. It is not prescriptive or meant to be inflexible. It is not intended to stifle initiative. Without the new ideas of our forebears we would not have the exciting variety of built environment that we do.

Many people have worked very hard to put this Design Guide together and I would like to thank them all. Many Council staff have been involved as have Town and Parish Councils, amenity groups, architects and agents. Their contributions are highly valued. Several workshops have been held to shape this document and I'm very grateful for the efforts made by a lot of people.

In particular, I would like to thank my predecessor as portfolio holder, Councillor Keith Whitehead, whose dedication and hard work have been invaluable in completing this important piece of work.



Councillor Keith Whitehead

Formerly Portfolio Member for Planning and Development