

Meeting of the Cabinet – 9th September 2009

Report of the Director of the Urban Environment

Draft Supplementary Planning Document – Glass Quarter – Approval for Public Consultation

Purpose of Report

1. To seek Cabinet approval for the Draft Supplementary Planning Document “Glass Quarter” for public consultation.

Background

2. The purpose of the Supplementary Planning Document is to provide a framework to guide development and investment in the Glass Quarter whilst recognising and retaining its unique heritage, in order for it to evolve as a visitor destination to the benefit of local residents, businesses and visitors.
3. The Document will use an evidence base formed by a Historic Landscape Characterisation Study (HLC) and a frontloading consultation which was undertaken in early 2009 to create a boundary for the Glass Quarter. This will be used to build a ‘sense of place’ for the area through design guidance so that it can be developed and enhanced as a visitor destination. A framework will be provided to guide the development of opportunity sites to act as a catalyst for regeneration in the area and to provide public realm improvements.
4. The draft guidance takes into account National Planning Policy and Guidance, Regional Planning Policy and Local Planning Policy set out in the Council’s Unitary Development Plan 2005 and the emerging Black Country Joint Core Strategy.
5. The draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been prepared in consultation with a range of Council Directorates and key stakeholders located in the Glass Quarter area. Initial scoping consultation responses have been incorporated into the draft where appropriate. The draft SPD will be available for a statutory 6 week public consultation period as set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 for any comments or suggested improvements. A copy of the Draft SPD is available in the Member’s Room or can be viewed electronically on the Council’s ‘CMIS’ pages. The consultation period will begin on the 18th of September and run until 30th October. As part of the consultation, the document will be accompanied by a short questionnaire for individuals or organisations to comment. The SPD is accompanied by a Statement of Community Involvement, both of which are also available in the Members Room and on CMIS.

6. Any representations following this consultation period will be incorporated, if appropriate, into a final version of the document which will be presented to the Cabinet in December 2009 for adoption. The document will then become a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

Finance

7. This Draft SPD will not have any direct implications for Council resources over and above normal policy and development control costs which are met from existing budgets.

Law

8. In accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs), along with Planning Policy Statements (PPS) and the Regional Spatial Strategy are a material consideration in determining planning applications and the Council has a duty to ensure compliance with such policy and guidance as appropriate. Once adopted the SPD will become a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. The SPD has been prepared under the new planning system enacted by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Under the Act the SPD will form part of Dudley's Local Development Framework. Work on the SPD has been undertaken in line with the Town and Country Planning (England) Regulations 2004.

Equality Impact

9. One of the main purposes of the SPD is to guide development to retain and enhance the unique heritage of the Glass Quarter, in order to improve the overall environment and tourism economy of the Glass Quarter. This will benefit the wider community and future generations in the Glass Quarter locality, helping achieve sustainable development in the Borough in line with Council and Government priorities and strategies. This will include meeting the needs of children and young people seeking to provide economic and environmental benefits within the Borough as well as having a positive effect for future generations.

Recommendation

10. Cabinet Members are asked to approve the draft Supplementary Planning Document "Glass Quarter" for publication for a statutory public consultation period of six weeks.



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For John Millar
Director of the Urban Environment

Contact Officer: Annette Roberts - Planning Policy Team
Telephone: 01384 814172
Email: annette.roberts@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

Draft Glass Quarter SPD (September 2009)
Draft Glass Quarter SPD Consultation Response Form