

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

STOURBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE – 21st MARCH 2005

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

STOURBRIDGE TOWN CENTRE MASTERPLAN

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To update the Committee on the progress of the preparation of Stourbridge Area Town Centre Master Plan which will form part of a future Area Action Plan for Stourbridge Town Centre

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Committee considered a report on the proposed Stourbridge Area Town Centre Master Plan at their meeting on the 31st January 2005. The Committee agreed to support the work of officers in developing the Stourbridge Town Centre Area Action Plan, and asked for a report on progress to each future meeting.
- 2.2 The study area is shown on Appendix A to this report, and includes the town centre and the adjacent land to the north
- 2.3 Members were advised in the report presented on the 31st January 2005 that the legislation relating to this work is new, and is to a large degree untested in practice. As a result, tenderers were asked to make proposals on how they would deliver an Area Action Plan in compliance with the new legislation, and their responses to this question were used in the tender evaluation process.
- 2.4 Negotiations have since taken place with the firm appointed to carry out this work, David Lock Associates, and as a result a timetable for this study is shown below. It should be noted that completion of stages 4 – 6 within the timescales proposed is dependant on the adoption of the Council's Local Development Framework
- Stage 1; collation of background information and preliminary liaison with consultees; complete by end May 2005
  - Stage 2; preparation of draft study proposals by end June 2005
  - Stage 3; initial consultation on draft study proposals Summer 2005
  - Stage 4; formal consultation as set out in the Council's Local Development Framework; April - July 2006

- Stage 5; Completion and submission of draft final document ; January – March 2007
- Stage 6; Adoption of the document as an Area Action Plan; June 2008

### 3.0 PROPOSALS

- 3.1 That the contents of this report be noted and that the Committee support the work of officers in developing the Stourbridge Town Centre Area Action Plan
- 3.2 That further reports be submitted on the Stourbridge Town Centre Area Action Plan in due course

### 4.0 FINANCE

- 4.1 The cost of preparing the Stourbridge Town Centre Area Action Plan will be met from existing revenue budgets.

### 5.0 LAW

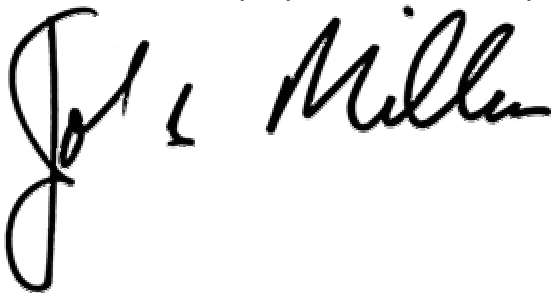
- 5.1 Local Development Documents are prepared under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- 5.2 Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 enables the Council to do any thing which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic/social or environmental well-being of any part of the borough.

### 6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 6.1 The proposals in this report accord with the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.

### 7.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 That the proposals set out in paragraph 3.1 and 3.2 of this report be approved

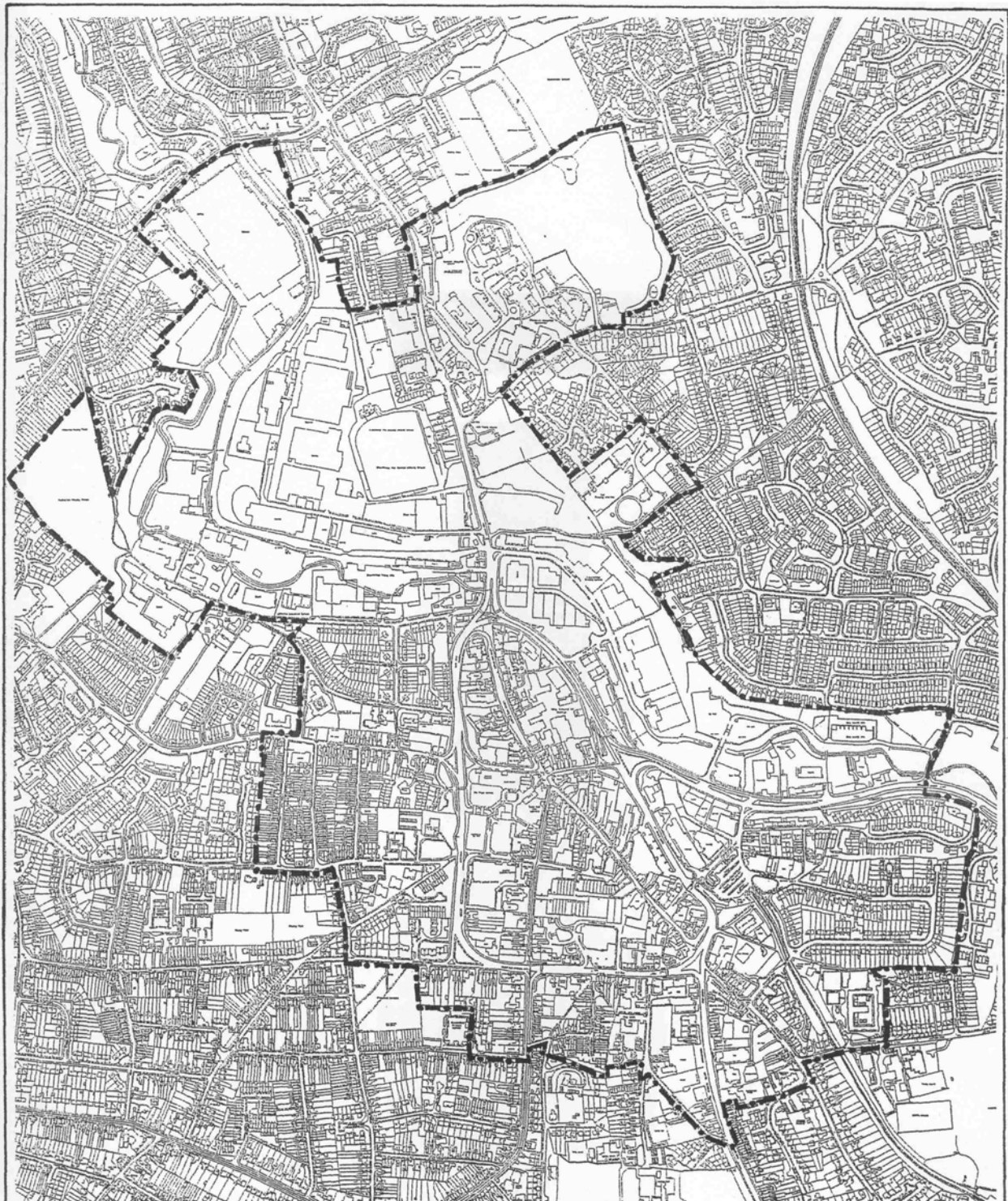
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John B. Millar'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Director of the Urban Environment - John B. Millar  
Contact Officer: Rupert Dugdale ext 5538

Background documents used in the preparation of this report:-

- 1 Consultants brief – Stourbridge Town Centre Area Action Plan
- 2 Revised Dudley Unitary Development Plan
- 3 Planning Policy Statement 12 – Local Development Frameworks
- 4 Report of the Director of the Urban Environment; Stourbridge Area Town Centre Master Plan; Stourbridge Area Committee 31<sup>st</sup> January 2005

Appendix A - proposed study area



**Title:** Town Development Framework: Area of Scope

**Location:** Stourbridge

**Scale:** NTS

**Prepared by:** LJT



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