

Meeting of the Cabinet – 9th December 2009

Report of the Director of the Urban Environment

Approval for Adoption of the ‘Glass Quarter Supplementary Planning Document’

Purpose of Report

- 1) The purpose of the report is to seek Cabinet approval for the formal adoption of the Council’s Glass Quarter Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

Background

- 2) The purpose of the SPD 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 evolve as a visitor destination to the benefit of local residents, businesses and visitors.
- 3) The SPD uses an evidence base formed by a Historic Landscape Characterisation Study (HLC) and a frontloading consultation 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 has also been 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 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 (adopted 2005) and the emerging Black Country Joint Core Strategy.
- 5) The SPD was prepared in consultation with other Council Directorates and key stakeholders located in the Glass Quarter area.
- 6) The Glass Quarter SPD was prepared, accompanied by a Statement of Consultation, and taken out to public consultation for a 6 week period between 18th September 2009 and 30th October 2009. This consultation included a drop in event on the 18th October 2009 in Amblecote where interested parties were given the opportunity to discuss the SPD and make comments. During this consultation a number of responses were received and which, through analysis, have been broken down into separate issues. A number of the comments made within these representations have been incorporated into the SPD as amendments to the text.

- 7) In accordance with Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, the Council must make available for inspection the SPD, the Consultation Statement setting out the main issues raised from representations received and how these have been addressed in the SPD, and an Adoption Statement. A list of the comments received, the Council's response to them and any subsequent text changes included within the Consultation Statement are available in the Members Room.
- 8) These issues have been carefully considered by officers and revisions have been made to the document where appropriate. A copy of the finalised Glass Quarter SPD is available in the Members Room.

Finance

- 9) This 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

- 10) 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

- 11) 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

- 12) Cabinet is recommended to approve the adoption of the Glass Quarter Supplementary Planning Document.

A handwritten signature in dark ink on a light yellow background. The signature reads 'J. B. Millar' in a cursive, flowing script. The 'J' is large and loops around the 'B', and the 'M' is also large and loops around the 'I'.

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J. B. MILLAR
DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

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List of Background Papers

Glass Quarter Supplementary Planning Document. Available from:
www.dudley.gov.uk/glassquarterspd

Formal Consultation Summary of Representations Received.