#### CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Venue: Training Room, 3rd Floor, Date: Monday, 30th June, 2008

Bailey House, Rawmarsh Road, Rotherham. S60 1TD

Time: 10.30 a.m.

## AGENDA

- 1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006).
- 2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered later in the agenda as a matter of urgency.
- 3. Minutes of a meeting of the Clifton Park Restoration Project Board held on 11th June, 2008. (copy attached) (Pages 1 7)
- 4. B6273 Pontefract Road, Brampton Objection to proposed waiting restrictions. (report attached) (Pages 8 10)

Ken Wheat, Transportation Unit Manager, to report.

- to report receipt of an objection to proposed waiting restrictions.
- 5. Poplar Drive, Wath upon Dearne Petitions re: parking. (report attached) (Pages 11 14)

Ken Wheat, Transportation Unit Manager, to report.

- to report receipt and investigation into 2 petitions re: indiscriminate parking.
- 6. B6463 Todwick Road, Dinnington. (report attached) (Pages 15 17) Ken Wheat, Transportation Unit Manager, to report.
  - to consider proposed extension to existing system of street lighting.
- 7. Economic Development Report on Dinnington Business Park. (report attached) (Pages 18 21)

Andrew Nettleton, Business Investment Manager, to report.

- to consider the report.
- 8. Business Incubation Centre, Dinnington. (report attached) (Pages 22 25) Geof Link, Enterprise Manager, to report.
  - to report success of the pilot and request support to roll out similar community initiatives.

- 9. Teenage Seating Unit. (report attached) (Pages 26 27) Andy Lee, Operations Manager, to report.
  - to consider provision of Youth Shelter.
- 10. Thrybergh Reservoir Draw-off Tower Renovation and Repair. (report attached) (Pages 28 30)

Dave Phillips, Principal Engineer, to report.

- to consider the appointment of Hydra-ject Services.
- 11. Plaque at Crinoline House. (report attached) (Pages 31 34) Arnold Murray, Asset Manager, to report.
  - to consider a request for the plaque.
- 12. Revised Regional Spatial Strategy. (report attached) (Pages 35 43) Andy Duncan, Strategic Policy Team Leader, to report.
  - to present a brief overview.
- 13. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following item is likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under those Paragraphs, indicated below, of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972:-

- 14. Minutes of a meeting of the Rother Valley Country Park Members' Steering Group held on 6th June, 2008. (copy attached) (Pages 44 47)
  - to note progress and receive the minutes. (Exempt under Paragraphs 3 & 4 of the Act – financial/business affairs and labour relations matters)
- 15. Rotherham Economic Regeneration Fund. (report attached) (Pages 48 59) Chris Majer, Economic Strategy Officer, to report.
  - to inform Cabinet Member of the actual expenditure and variations against planned expenditure, along with highlights of activity in 2007/078 for individual projects and provide a current position on RERF allocations in 2008/09.

(Exempt under Paragraph 3 of the Act – financial/business affairs)

# CLIFTON PARK RESTORATION PROJECT BOARD Wednesday, 11th June, 2008

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Ali, Falvey and McNeely.

Also in attendance:-

David Burton Consultant Project Manager
Phil Gill Green Spaces Manager

Andy Lee Operations Manager Alistair Farr Manager, Clifton Park

Elaine Humphries Chair of the Friends of Clifton Park Group

Joyce Miller Secretary of the Friends of Clifton Park Group

Dawn Sanders Senior Accountant

## 66. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hussain, Walker, Wootton and Phil Rogers, Director of Culture and Leisure.

#### 67. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Phil Gill, Green Spaces Manager, introduced Alistair Farr to his first meeting of the Project Board. Alistair had recently taken up the post of Clifton Park Manager on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2008.

## 68. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 30TH APRIL, 2008

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Project Board held on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2008, were agreed as a correct record.

#### 69. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Phil Gill, Green Spaces Manager, reported on the following:-

## 4.01 Early Works

As previously reported, early works funded by Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder and SRB6 were completed satisfactorily by the end of the 2007-08 financial year. A snagging inspection is due to take place on 13<sup>th</sup> June.

The area is being well used and the work had created public demand.

## 4.02 Procurement

The process towards the procurement of main contractors to implement the park restoration works remains on track, with invitations to tender issued on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2008. Further details of progress were given as part of the Project Manager's report.

## 4.03 Detailed Design Development

Detailed designs were approved at the previous Project Board meeting. Since then a small number of design matters have arisen that require further consideration. Chief amongst these is the advice from the building architects that the proposed biomass boiler would require the addition of an 8 metre high chimney to the Garden Building/Walled Garden. This would represent a significant departure from designs seen and approved by Project Board, HLF and BIG Lottery, English Heritage and other stakeholders. There would also be additional costs, and a further planning application would need to be submitted. An alternative to a biomass boiler with a chimney would be a gas boiler. A paper setting out the pros and cons of the biomass versus a gas boiler installation has been provided by the services consultant and is included as Appendix 1 to this report. The gas boiler would not require a chimney and would therefore avoid the concerns outlined above.

The meeting debated information contained in Appendix 1 on the issue of the chimney and biomass or gas boiler installation.

The following issues were covered:-

- Architect's design and scale of chimney
- Planning issues
- Possible additional costs
- Supply of wood/specialist chipper/sustainable fuel
- Emissions issue
- Possible impact/effect of the chimney on building design
- Public perception
- Costs
- Tree recycling

It was agreed:- That, once detailed costings were available, an urgent meeting of the Project Board take place as soon as possible in order to determine the issue of the gas boiler/biomass boiler installation.

## 4.04 Children's Play

LDA Design has been appointed to prepare a masterplan for the new Adventure Play Park to be funded by Play Pathfinder and BIG Lottery, to ensure a good fit with the activity area being delivered through the 'Parks for People' scheme. It is intended that this will lead to the production of a design brief/schematic plan for specialist designers to work up the detailed proposals for the elements within the play areas. A copy of the brief for production of the masterplan is included as Appendix 2.

Appendix 2 set out:-

- Overall purpose
- Detailed requirements
- Design considerations
- Outputs required
- Programme

It was agreed- That the Project Overview report be received.

## 70. PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT

David Burton, Project Manager, reported on the following:-

## **Programme**

The major milestone dates, as indicated in the programme issued at the last Project Board meeting, are:-

Tender Receipts	4 July 2008
Contractor Interviews	22/23 July 2008
Contractor Selection Process Completion	25 July 2008
Cabinet Member Meeting Approval	28 July 2008
Project Board Approval	30 July 2008
Letter of Acceptance	8 August 2008
Main Contract Start on Site	15 September 2008
Start in Cenotaph Area – no earlier than	17 November 2008
Completion of Activity Area – no later than	27 March 2009
Rotherham Show	5/6 September 2009
Completion of Cenotaph Area – no later than	23 October 2009
Completion of whole site - no later than	18 December 2009

The final completion date will be the subject of further discussion with prospective contractors.

## Play Pathfinder

The following milestone dates have been agreed in order that the Play Pathfinder scheme can be incorporated in the Clifton Park Restoration contract.

Initial Masterplan Briefing	10 June 2008
Initial Stakeholder Consultation	23 June 2008
Final Stakeholder Consultation	8 July 2008
Presentation of Final Design Brief to Project Boa	rd 30 July 2008

## 5.02 Progress

Early Works Contract Complete

Tender Documentation - Stage G

## Page 4

This is progressing in line with the above programme.

Tender Documents have now been issued. A Bidders Conference has been held with the five tenderers, where presentations by the design team explained the design philosophy and practical details.

#### 5.03 Costs

These are discussed under Agenda 7 - Legal / Financial Issues.

## 5.04 Procurement Strategy

A rigorous evaluation process will be undertaken subsequent to return of tenders including full desktop financial and quality evaluation. This will be followed by in-depth interviews with each of the tenderers. A scoring system has been developed that will ensure consistency and transparency. This system has been detailed in the tender documentation and is based on a 65/35 ratio of price versus quality. This should ensure that a competitive price aligned with a good quality submission is chosen.

## Play Pathfinder

As noted above the Final Design Brief will be presented to the next Project Board meeting on 30 July 2008. The method of procuring the detailed design and implementation are still under discussion, but there is obviously a need to ensure a competitive process that will satisfy the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations whilst still achieving the aim of incorporating the works into the Clifton Park contract.

#### 5.05 Risk Management

The risk register, set up previously using the Council's RISGen software, has been maintained throughout the design process. The Quantity Surveyor will include contingency sums to cover for the most relevant quantifiable risks and these will be monitored and included within the contract documentation as appropriate.

Further Risk Management workshops will be carried out subsequent to the appointment of the successful contractor.

**It was agreed-** That the Project Manager's report be received.

## 71. GREEN SPACES ISSUES

Phil Gill, Green Spaces Manager, reported on the following:-

## 6.01 Clifton Park Manager

Alistair Farr took up the post of Park Manager on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008.

#### 6.02 Trees

There is a need to progress the felling of selected trees in line with previously agreed proposals in order to supply timber for future use in construction of new park buildings through the 'Tree Cycle' project. The Park Manager gave a brief outline of the current position and proposed actions in this matter.

It was agreed:- That the report on Green Spaces Issues be received.

#### 72. LEGAL/FINANCIAL ISSUES

## 7.01 Legal

As noted previously a further planning application will need to be submitted if the use of the Biomass boiler is sanctioned by the Project Board. It is understood by the Architect, following discussions with the Development Officer, that any determination on a planning issue can be taken on this matter at Delegated Powers level.

#### **7.02 Costs**

## **Development Stage**

A final Development Costs claim has been submitted to the HLF in line with previous reports. This is currently being processed by the HLF.

## Implementation Stage

The following costs are included in the Stage Two grant approval. The total remains the same as that approved at Stage Two submission, i.e. £7,329,769. The projected breakdown of these costs is as follows:-

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£4,130,323

Other costs (inc. preliminaries, fees,

contingencies, inflation, work already completed, equipment)

£2,060,944

Activity (including new staff and

increased	maintenance	e over 5 years)	£1,138,502

Total

£7,329,769

The sources of funds to cover these costs will be as follows:-

HLF grant (62%)	£4,518,000
RMBC capital	£1,395,475
RMBC revenue (over 5 years)	£925,159
Other external funding	£302,000
(HMR, SRB6, Neighbourhood Renewal)	
Sunk funds	£153,093

Total	£7,329,769
Non-cash contributions	£26,042
Friends of Clifton Park	£10,000

The 'Other External Funding' amount (£302,000) and the 'Friends of Clifton Park' amount (£10,000) included above have been expended on the Early Works contract.

An exercise is taking place to ensure that all costs included in the above that have been incurred under the Early Works contract, are excluded from the final budget allowance.

A Pre Tender Estimate is being prepared by the QS that will forecast the cost of the Tenders in line with the contract documentation that has been sent to the tenderers. This will identify any areas of potential overspend against the Stage 2 Approval budget and should be available shortly.

In the meantime an initial Value Engineering meeting was held on 10 June 2008 to identify items included within the design that may need to be re-designed, reduced in scope and/or specification to ensure that preferred tender price is kept within the budget for the Approved Purposes. The following are areas where further investigations will be carried out:

Drainage – keeping more of the surface water on site
Benches – reduction in specification
Resin bound gravel – investigation of priority areas
Re-surfacing existing tarmac footpaths – possible reduction of areas
Memorial Gardens – possible reduction of box hedging
CCTV – reduction in scope of off-site transmission
Excavated waste material – retention of all on site

**It was agreed:-** That the Legal/Financial report be received.

#### 73. HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND ISSUES

The HLF has reappointed Andrew Purcell as their Monitor for the Clifton Park Restoration Project. A progress meeting is scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> June 2008. It is hoped that this will include consideration of information to be provided by RMBC in order to secure a 'Permission to Start' from the HLF.

The final claim for the Development Grant was made on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008. This is currently being processed by HLF.

**It was agreed-** That the report on Heritage Lottery Fund issues be received.

#### 74. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items of business.

## 75. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed:- (a) That an urgent meeting be called as soon as possible to discuss the fall back position of the gas boiler installation, any possible modification to agreed design and the need for a chimney, once costings are available for consideration.

(b) That the next scheduled meeting of the Project Board be held on Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2008 at 9.00 a.m.

## **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Regeneration and Development Services Matters
2.	Date:	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2008
3.	Title:	Pontefract Road Brampton; Ward 7
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

## 5. Summary

To report an objection to a proposed No Waiting at any Time Traffic Regulation order on Pontefract Road Brampton. The objection is based on the grounds that the objectors business (car dealer) will suffer as a consequence of the introduction of the no waiting restriction on the road adjacent to their premises.

#### 6. Recommendations

- 1. The objection to the proposed traffic regulation order be not acceded to and the order be made
- 2. The objector be informed of the outcome of this meeting

Following the receipt of the request for waiting restrictions an investigation was undertaken on site. Vehicles were observed parking in this area at various times of the day. These vehicles were both obstructing the footway in this area and were also interfering with the free and efficient flow of vehicles along Pontefract Road. Located nearby are an MOT station, car sales business and Public House which may contribute to the parking stress.

The letter of objection was received from the owner of one of these businesses (see appendix A). The letter objects to the proposal based on the following:-

 We have been at 116 Brampton Road for 6 years with no problems with parking at all in this time. We pay in the excess of £20,000 in rates, our business brings in people from all areas which helps the Brampton Community.

I feel that if this road has restrictions put on it our business would suffer as there is very little customer parking in the area as it is.

With regard to the objection on the grounds that customers parking will suffer. It is to be noted that the public highway does not serve to act as a car parking facility for a business and as such the highway should not be regarded as a location that businesses should refer to as customer parking. Observations on site have also revealed that parking along Pontefract Road does lead to conflict between opposing traffic flow and vehicles have also been observed to park partly on the footway in this location, consequently reducing the available footway width for pedestrians.

#### 8. Finance

It is estimated that the works will cost approximately £3,000 and funding is available from the existing budgets for 2008/09.

#### 9. Risks and Uncertainties

Implementation of the scheme is subject to securing the required Traffic Regulation Order. Failure to secure the T.R.O will mean that the current parking situation will remain.

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposed scheme is in line with the Councils' main themes of Alive, Safe and Achieving and also accords with the Equalities Policy.

#### 11.Background Papers and Consultation

Consultation with the statutory consultees, ward members and Brampton Parish Council has been undertaken with regard to the proposal. Brampton Parish Council responded in writing supporting the proposal and welcoming the measures as the best way to minimise the traffic problems in that area. No other responses were received.

**Contact Name :** Nigel Davey, Engineer, Ext 2380 nigel.davey@rotherham.gov.uk

PRESTIGE CAR SALES

116 BRAMPTON ROAD WATH-UPON-DEARNE ROTHERHAM S63 6BB

PHONE 01709 878087

FAX 01709 876893

VAT REG No 789116392

07 MAY anna

REF. NO.

Regarding the Notice of No PARKING on PONTEFract ROAD. BRANGTON.

I THE OWNER of PRESTIGE CAR SALES Would hake to OBJECT to the No PARKING ON THIS ROAD.

we have been 116 BLAMPTON ROAD for 6 years WITH NO Problems WITH PARKING AT All IN THIS TIME.

We Pay in the Excess of £20,000 in RATES, OUR Business Brings in People from All Area's which Helps the Brampton Community.

I FEEL That If this ROAD HAS RESTRICTIONS PUT ON it OUR Business Would Suffer As There is Very hittle Customer Parking IN The Arisa As It is. The handlady AT The Bulls Hemo Will NOT Allow Anyone to Park in the Pub Car Park She Asks Them to Move or Champs Them.

Many People use THIS ROAD to PARK IE FOOTBALL, BOWLING CLUB, CHILDRENS FOOTBALL TRAINING ALSO People PARK DOWN THIS ROAD to use THE NEW CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA IE KNOLLBELL LANE.

THIS MAY BE THE ONLY COMPLAINT YOU RECIEVE AS WE found The Notice IN THE GUTTER ON PONTEFRACT ROAD, if we had not found it we would have had NO IDEA ABOUT THE PARKING RESTRICTIONS AT All.

I Hope you could hook AT THIS AS your own Business then you would understand our FEARS AT THIS Proposed Problem.

A-HAWKIWOTH

Alland

## **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Regeneration and Development Services Matters
2.	Date:	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2008
3.	Title:	Poplar Drive Wath Upon Dearne; Ward 19
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

## 5. Summary

To report results of an investigation into the request for residents only parking or waiting restrictions following receipt of two petitions one with 9 signatures from residents of Willow Road, Wath and a further petition with 13 signatures of other residents in the area.

#### 6. Recommendations

- 1. Receipt of the petitions be noted
- 2. The request for residents only parking or waiting restrictions be not acceded to but the location be added to the Planning and Regeneration list of locations where residents permit parking has been requested
- 3. Lead petitioners are informed of the outcome of this meeting

Two petitions have been received regarding the issue of indiscriminate parking on Poplar Drive, Wath Upon Dearne. One petition has been received from residents in the vicinity of Poplar Drive (containing 13 signatures) and the second petition is from residents of Willow Road (containing 9 signatures). The petitions request resident only parking or waiting restrictions on Poplar Drive Wath Upon Dearne due to current parking stress as a result of tradesman vans from the nearby housing development and parking by 6<sup>th</sup> form students attending the adjacent Wath Comprehensive School.

Officers have visited the location on a number of occasions and at different times of the day to ascertain the extent of the parking problem that is alleged. The results of the investigation demonstrated that whilst on street parking was taking place on Poplar Drive primarily between the junction of Sandygate and Hollygrove this parking was not interfering with the free and safe movement of traffic on Poplar Drive.

Analysis of the injury accident record on Poplar Drive shows no injury accidents recorded within the last three year period.

There is also the likelihood that some of the tradesman vans that have been observed parking on Poplar Drive are connected with the adjacent housing development currently under construction to the rear of Poplar Drive. It is inevitable that within a relatively short period of time, these vans will not be parking on Poplar Drive when the development is complete.

Whilst the issue of parking by students attending the adjacent school is noted, officers from Planning and Regeneration have contacted the school in order that a dialogue is established with the school and that jointly, efforts are made to reduce the number of car trips made by all pupils and parents etc on the 'school run'.

## 8. Finance

None at this stage

#### 9. Risks and Uncertainties

Not applicable in this instance.

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Any proposed scheme would need to be in line with objectives set out in the South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan, and the associated road safety and casualty reduction strategy for improving road safety. In this instance it is not felt that any scheme contributes significantly to justify investment.

#### 11.Background Papers and Consultation

Consultation with ward members has been undertaken. No responses have been received

Contact Name: Nigel Davey, Engineer, Ext 2380

nigel.davey@rotherham.gov.uk

Strategic Director, Bailey House, Rawmarsh Road, Rotherham.

We the undersigned wish to protest about the use of Poplar Drive, Wath on Dearne being used as an overflow car park for Wath Comprehensive School students. The use of the grass verge is not appreciated and the double parking is causing problems for the residents, tradesmen and visitors to properties and the street sweepers are experiencing problems too. At times it is virtually a one way traffic street.

We would like a "Parking for residents only scheme between 8am and 2.45pm" to be implemented and as we all pay Council Tax we deserve some consideration.

We have raised this matter with our local Councillor.

1 Poplar Drive Wath, 563 THX
3 Poplar Dr. Wath S637NX Sheila Thorpe JEAN DAYKIN E.S. DAYKIN O FLINT 15, POPLAR DRIVE WATH 13 POPLAR DRIVE WATH. M WRIGHT 35 How/ EfROOL WATH D HAMER 35 HOLLY GROUE WAFEL LIPON DEARNE SHEMER 9, Poplat Drive Wall - on Dearne SHEILA BUCKNELL 11 POPLAR DRIVE, WATH-UBN-DEARNE AUDREY MARSDEN 7 POPLAR DRIVE, WATH-ON-DEARNE S. SILCOCK 7 POPLAR DRIVE WATHON-DEARNE D. SILCOCK T. TAYLES 107 SANDY GATE WATH-ON DEARNE L. J. Bettney 5. Poplar Drive wath on Dearne

Environment & Development Services

2 2 MAY 2008

LPI: 2481 ATTN.

Strategic Director, Bailey House, Rawmarsh Road, Rotherham.

We the residents of Willow Rd., and Holly Grove, Wath on Dearne are finding it more and more difficult to access our estate east of Sandygate due to Poplar Drive being used as a parking lot for Wath Comprehensive School 6<sup>th</sup> form students. The double parking is causing a traffic hazard for all vehicles turning into Poplar Drive from Sandygate when school is in session. Do we have to wait until there is a serious accident before something is done about it. We the undersigned ask you to act upon this petition.

Name	Address	Signature
L Bailey	19 Willow Road	LBailey
S Bailey	19 Willow Road	S Bailey
J. NEWHAR	21, Willow ROAD	Julen
L BIRKS	17 Willow Road	
J. Odey	23. HILLEN ROPS	J. Oder
M. MERCER	22 Wilhow RS	Moss
D HOLLAND	27 WILLOW RD.	Ditufel.
B-OLDHAN	30 willow RD	B-Uldham
5. Holron	18 WILLOW RD	5.16

## **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL - REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Regeneration and Development Services Matters
2.	Date:	30 June 2008
3.	Title:	B6463 Todwick Road, Dinnington – Proposed extension to existing system of Street Lighting; Ward 4, Dinnington Ward
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

## 5. Summary

To inform Cabinet Member of a proposal to extend the existing system of street lighting on the B6463 Todwick Road, Dinnington.

## 6. Recommendations

It is recommended Cabinet Member resolve that:

- i) Detailed design be carried out, and subject to no objections being received, the scheme be implemented.
- ii) The scheme be funded from the Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Programme for 2008/09.

To infill a gap within the existing system of street lighting along Todwick Road, and to extend it to the start of the proposed 40mph speed limit, it is proposed to install approximately 14 lighting columns between the junction with Rotherham Road and Thornbury Animal Sanctuary.

#### 8. Finance

The scheme is estimated to cost £30,000, with funding for the works identified being available from the Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Programme for 2008/09.

#### 9. Risks and Uncertainties

Objections to the proposed scheme could result in the scheme not being implemented.

The estimated cost is dependent upon the need to implement appropriate traffic management measures while undertaking the works, and to divert Statutory Undertakers apparatus; these are expected to be minimal.

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposed scheme is in line with the Local Transport Plan objectives for improving road safety.

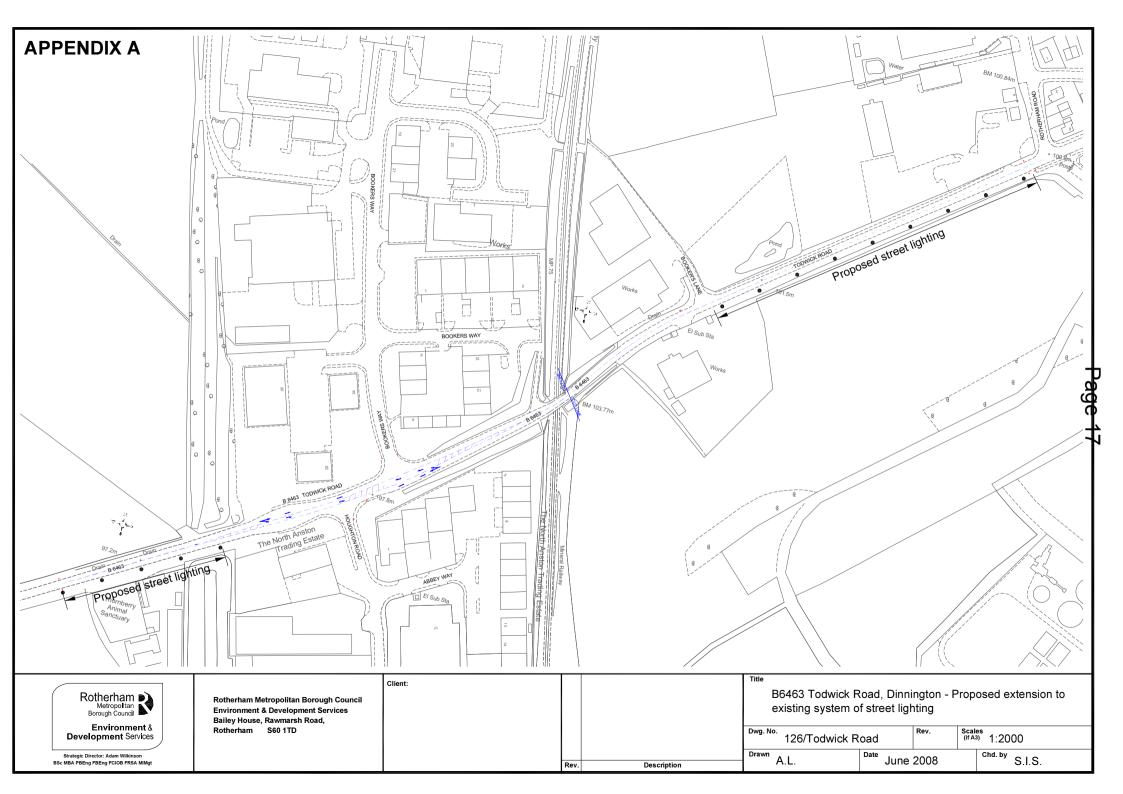
## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

As part of the bridge replacement works on the B6463 Todwick Road, Dinnington, a system of street lighting was installed between Bookers Lane and Houghton Road. This has resulted in a gap of approximately 240 metres between this system of street lighting and that which pre-existed up to the junction of Rotherham Road, resulting in motorists travelling between lit and unlit areas over a relatively short distance.

Added to this is a proposal to reduce the existing National Speed Limit between Rotherham Road and Thornbury Animal Sanctuary to 40mph which was subject to a Director of Service report on 7 November 2007. Consequently, it is proposed to infill the system of street lighting and extend it to Thornbury Animal Sanctuary to improve road users safety during the hours of darkness

A plan showing the position of the proposed street lighting is attached as Appendix A.

**Contact Name :** Andrew Lee, Assistant Engineer, Ext. 2380, andrew.lee@rotherham.gov.uk



## **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL - REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Development Services
2.	Date:	30 June 2008
3.	Title:	Economic Development Report on Dinnington Business Park
4.	Programme Area:	EDS - RiDO

## 5. Summary

This report updates the Cabinet Member on progress in regenerating the former Dinnington Colliery site. Marketing of the site commenced in December 2005. From the outset demand has been strong and the site has been developed out faster than anticipated attracting a good mix of quality end users across different sectors.

#### 6. Recommendations

- i. Cabinet Member notes the progress achieved to date at the former Dinnington Colliery Site
- ii. RiDO continues to work with Renaissance South Yorkshire in promoting the site to business investors.
- iii. Consideration Is given to informing other Members on this matter.

The former Dinnington Colliery site was reclaimed for industrial and commercial use and put on the market in December, 2005. The site is comprised of two major areas either side of Church Lane, with c45 acres in Phase 1 currently under development. Initially it was thought that development of Phase 1 would take around 8 – 10 years. However, the majority of the site has now been developed in only 3 years. There are only three plots totalling 7.26 acres left on phase 1.

Development on the site has been a mixture of end users and speculative industrial and commercial space. The first anchor tenant on site was Johnston Press who moved out of the centre of Sheffield, creating Europe's newest newspaper printing operation, and the company's jewel in the crown operation. Johnston Press brought 50 people with them from Sheffield, but have also employed a further 50 from the local area. The company print The Sun and News of the World for the northern part of England up to the Scottish borders, plus many other local newspapers.

Others on site include engineering companies Macalloy Ltd, who moved and expanded from their Don Valley base in Sheffield, Scomark Ltd of Bolsover who manufacture oil drilling equipment and IBA Molecular who manufacture a cancer seeking agent for use in hospitals. Latest investor is local company E. V. Bennett Ltd, who are expanding on to the site.

The site has also been popular with property developers, and a number of them have built a range of speculative office, industrial and hybrid units. Priority Sites completed a hybrid development (half office half workshop) early in 2007 and have successfully sold all but one unit. New Park Developments have built three developments on the site with both office and industrial premises. The office and new industrial units alongside Outgang Lane were only completed in autumn 2007 and have already attracted new occupiers. Northern Trust have recently released their industrial development in early 2008, and already let 5 units. The company are feeling confident for the future lettings on the site. Evans Easyspace has constructed 15 small offices and 16 workshops which continue to be popular with only 7 units currently vacant. Cloverleaf Limited has opened a new pub restaurant on the gateway to the site and employs 60 people. Currently under construction is Rotherham MBC's new business incubation centre which will open at the end of 2008 and provide office and workshop units to new start up businesses.

As at December, 2007 total area developed on phase 1 is 23,700 m<sup>2</sup> (248,000 sq. ft.+), with a further 2300 m<sup>2</sup> (241,000 sq. ft.) under construction. The development on phase 1 is estimated to provide employment for around 1200 people when it is full, with current job levels already at 950. Attached at Appendix 1 is a plan showing developments carried out and the plots remaining under the Phase 1 development.

Renaissance South Yorkshire (RSY) are now looking at opening up a further c40 acres for the phase 2 development, bordered by Church Lane and Monksbridge Road. Tenders are currently being appraised by RSY to install infrastructure on the site, i.e. a new road access and utilities provision. It is envisaged that work will commence in summer 2008, with a completion in the autumn. Phase 2 is aimed solely at end users and not developers as there is a distinct lack of land available in

South Yorkshire for this category. There are already a number of serious interested enquiries for plots that are being followed up. It is estimated that phase 2 will provide employment for around 1000 people when it is complete.

#### 8. Finance

No implications other than a potential increase in rateable value within the borough and this will also contribute to RMBC's LABGI return.

## 9. Risks and Uncertainties

Downturn in financial and property markets may cause a slow down in the continued development of the site.

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

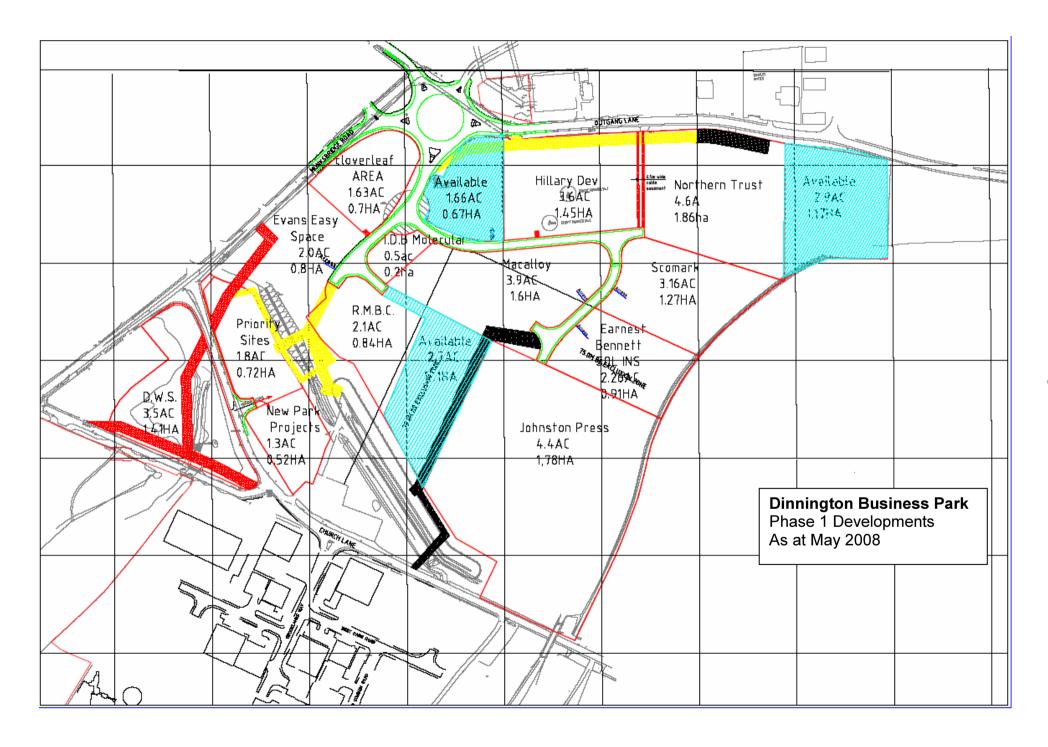
Positive contribution to:

- Local Area Agreement targets on business start up and worklessness
- DWP City Strategy targets
- Delivery of the Working Neighbourhoods Plan, with a focus on the creation of job opportunities surrounding disadvantaged neighbourhoods
- Reducing environmental impact through increasing quality and choice of employment options for local community - reducing need to travel (by car) to major employment centres
- The regeneration of South Rotherham

## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

LDF

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## **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet member for Regeneration and Development - Delegated Powers
2.	Date:	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2008
3.	Title:	Business Incubation Development - Dinnington
4.	Directorate:	Environment & Development Services

## 5. Summary

To recognise the success of the pilot project in Dinnington and to support the roll out of further similar community enterprise initiatives throughout the borough of Rotherham.

## 6. Recommendations

To note the success of the pilot project and to support the proposals to roll out other community projects in other deprived areas of the Borough using ERDF funding under Priority 3.

A Business Incubation Development project has been operating in Dinnington since 2006. The project is targeted on Dinnington and surrounding former coalmining communities of south Rotherham. Dinnington is highlighted in the recently adopted Working Neighbourhoods Plan as an area with levels of deprivation and was also one of seven target areas under Rotherham's Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.

The project provides pre-curser interventions needed to encourage new start businesses from the local community at Dinnington and surrounding neighbourhoods. This was to form a vital part of the integrated business support and incubation and value added services to fledgling companies and was designed to operate primarily, but not necessarily exclusively, within the Dinnington/S.Rotherham area. These interventions are based around the development of a local Enterprise "Gateway", located close to local community facilities, such as the FE College knowledge hub and flexible desk space, a community Learning Resource Centre (library, café, nursery etc) and a local Comprehensive School. The localised facilities and services encourage local people from all backgrounds to investigate self-employment and entrepreneurship, and enable them to rehearse their business ideas in a supportive and learning environment.

The project was funded by UKBI (UK Business Incubation) using DTI Phoenix finance and was seen as a pilot project to test the local market. The key to this project was the recruitment of a local business adviser/champion with the right set of complementary skills to work at community level and deliver hands on professional business counselling and advice.

The results from this project (funded from 2006 to 2008) have been outstanding both in terms of the numbers of outputs achieved and in stimulating interest and awareness in self-employment, with 223 individuals engaged and 47 new businesses created. A summary is provided below.

## Measurable Outcomes:

Outputs	Target	Actual
Number of pre-start individuals assisted with advice	60	223
Number of individuals started on training course	40	98
Number of new business started through the facility	15	47
Number of jobs created	30	108

#### Non Measurable Outcomes:

By providing a pro-active awareness and advisory service based in the locality we have stimulated a possibly otherwise latent demand and interest in self-employment. This has proved to us that reactive services provided by mainstream support does not always work in these areas and under these circumstances. The success of this more pro-active approach has prompted us to develop and extend this process in other areas of the borough particularly in deprived areas and is highlighted in the Working Neighbourhoods Plan.

These results have been achieved from a combination of activities as follows:

- Running business start awareness sessions in local centres
- Drop in sessions and clinics for one to one advice
- Running business ideas workshops for those who need to build confidence in their business idea or model
- Access to free start up training courses run locally by Rotherham Chamber Enterprise. (previously these had not been available locally)
- Providing post start mentoring
- Providing local access to Business Link training for special groups e.g. over 45's and women in business.
- Running our own post start training in key skill areas such as bookkeeping and marketing.
- Developing working relationships with community groups e.g. job centres, libraries, area assembly, key local groups, schools and colleges (in this case the Rother Valley site of RCAT).

## Roll Out to remainder of Borough under ERDF Priority 3

The intention now is to replicate the above project in the north and central parts of the Borough by using external funding (e.g. through ERDF) to employ further community business advisers, and to use the processes piloted in Dinnington to engage with local people to stimulate and encourage them to become self-employed. We will then, working within the provisions of the new regional Business Link support process, provide a hands-on support to the new businesses to ensure they receive the best possible guidance and advice in the early stages of their business life.

#### 8. Finance

The original project received £150k of revenue funding from UKBI with 50% of match funding being provided by RMBC in kind. The project was underspent by £28k due to a late start, but still managed to achieve outputs well in excess of the original targets. The project is continuing through 2008/9 supported by LAA funding.

A current bid for ERDF priority 3 funding is in place,(£950k over three years) and this is to continue the project in Dinnington, and to extend it to the north of the Borough and to Rotherham central up to 2011. This is part of a consortium bid with VAR, Rotherham Chamber, RCAT, Rotherham Youth Enterprise and RokD., to deliver an Enterprising Neighbourhoods project for Rotherham.

#### 9. Risks and Uncertainties

Risks identified here are those identified when the project was developed.

Not getting the funding or sufficient funding.- this could directly impact on our ability to achieve business start and jobs targets. Medium probability.

The initial project has been successful and a new ERDF bid is already submitted.

Not getting enough match funding – this could partly jeopardise our ability to claim fully against the funding. Low probability.

There is capacity within the partner match sources to cover this.

Not being able to employ people with the right skill sets – this could impact on our ability to deliver to the targets and on the quality of provision. Low probability. A business adviser with the right skills has been recruited and the consortium partner support will manage this risk element.

Not being able to engage partners and other project supporters- this would only have a low impact on the project as a whole but could slow its progress. Low probability. The strength of the existing consortium bid reduces this risk

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

This project fits within the enterprise strand of the emerging Rotherham Economic Plan And it also aligns directly with the Working Neighbourhoods Plan in developing community enterprise support.

Sustainability –this project contributes to economic and social well-being in our more deprived areas and helps to stimulate enterprising activity and raise personal aspirations. This is in line with our Regeneration policy as follows:

 Provide an excellent and sustainable environment for businesses by providing the conditions to attract and support people with new ideas, business start-ups and ensure continued long-term business growth.

## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

Zernike (UK) Report on Business Support and Incubation Strategy Dec 2003

Business Incubation Development Fund Proposal - Sept 2005

ERDF Priority 3 Bid Outline Business Plan - February 2008

#### **Contact Name:**

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## **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL - REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services
2.	Date:	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2008
3.	Title:	Teenage Seating Unit
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

## 5. Summary

The provision of a youth shelter has been identified by the community during the formation of a master plan for Greenlands Park, North Anston. Funding is now available for a permanent youth shelter for Greenlands Park. However, it is intended to install a temporary portable teenage seating area in the park to assess the position and likely effect before a permanent shelter is provided.

#### 6. Recommendations

That Green Spaces working with the Rother Valley South Area Assembly and Youth Shelter co-ordinating group be allowed to site a portable teenage seating unit for a trial period of 3 months on Greenlands Park to assess community impact before providing a permanent shelter if a positive outcome is achieved.

Green Spaces, working with the Rother Valley South Area Assembly and Youth Shelter co-ordinating group, seek to site a portable teenage seating unit on Greenlands Park initially on a trial basis for 3 months. This is to try to resolve a nuisance behaviour problem by groups of young people. Previous use of these portable seating units elsewhere in the Borough has met with some success in similar situations.

There have been ongoing concerns regarding the anti-social behaviour at Greenlands Park. This has led to two public meetings being held to discuss resident's concerns and some initial outreach work has been undertaken by the Youth Service as a result. A seating area has been requested by the youths using the park. This will provide a meeting place for them away from the doctors surgery and children's play area which would alleviate some of the community's concerns. Meetings have been attend by Greenlands TARA and the project has their support and also the support of the local SNT.

#### 8. Finance

There are no cost implications to this service for the temporary unit. However if a permanent unit were installed, there would be a small annual maintenance cost. A capital allocation is available from DCFS Play pathfinder funding for the purchace and installation of a permanent shelter.

#### 9. Risks and Uncertainties

Any risks would be reduced by the fact that the shelter would only be temporary. However, if it were proposed to make the shelter permanent then we would need a firm commitment from partners (especially SNT/Police and Youth Service) to make it work in the long term through regular visits, intervention as necessary and pro-active engagement with users.

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

This would meet the following priorities:

- Rotherham Safe by reducing the incidence and impact of antisocial behaviour by providing facilities for young people.
- Rotherham Alive by investing in the next generation and focusing on children and young people.

## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

The youth shelter has been identified on the parks master plan which was developed through consultation with the local community.

This has been requested through the Area Assembly following discussions between local partners and ward members, and has the support of the local Safer Neighbourhoods Team.

**Contact Name:** Andy Lee

Operations Manager - Green Spaces

2457

andy.lee@rotherham.gov.uk

## **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL - REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Regeneration and Development Services
2.	Date:	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2008
3.	Title:	Thrybergh Reservoir – Draw Off Tower Renovation and Repair Ward 14 Silverwood
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

## 5. Summary

To report on progress following the Statutory Inspection of Thrybergh Reservoir in April 2007 and to seek an exemption to Council's Standing Orders under the provisions of clause 38.2 such that Hydra-Ject Valve Services be appointed for works relating to the Draw Off Tower renovation and repair.

#### 6. Recommendations

#### It is recommended that:

(i) An exemption to Standing Order 48 be granted and the Council appoint Hydra-Ject Valve Services for works relating to the Draw Off Tower renovation and repair, subject to funding being made available.

The statutory inspection for Thrybergh Reservoir completed in April 2007 made a safety recommendation to the effect that:

 A specialist contractor to inspect and report on the valves, pipework and bulkheads in the valve tower and associated tunnels in order to determine the condition and adequacy of these items and what works are needed to ensure their continuing integrity and safe operation in the future.

The inspection and report were to be completed by the end of 2007, and all works are to be completed by 2008. These dates will be enforced by the Environment Agency (EA).

The specialist contractor appointed for the inspection and report were Hydra-Ject Valve Services. Their report, accepted by the Inspecting Engineer on behalf of the EA, recommended 5 matters 'in the interest of safety' and a further two as 'matters in the interests of maintenance and safety of public/personnel'. These were:

- Acquire more information with regard to the integrity of the valves. (A further survey).
- Renewal of the valve spindle on the scour pipe
- Renewal of all of the valve spindle extensions
- Freeing of the seized scour valve
- Renewal of all bolts on all pipework, bulkheads and valves
- Renewal of the ladder in the dry well
- Renewal of the draw-off tower cover plates

The first item above has already been completed in the form of a borescope survey. The remaining items have been quoted at £41,473

Rather than seek two further quotations for this range of specialist works, it is proposed to exempt these works from the Council's Standing Orders under the provisions of clause 38.2. To obtain further quotations would necessitate further 'confined space' man entry into the valve tower and tunnels where concerns have obviously already been made regarding safety. Furthermore, Hydra-Ject are the sole licensee for the *Hydra-Ject* process of freeing seized valves by a process of controlled torque pulses without vibration. (This method has been used with success at Ulley Reservoir and throughout the water industry). Also, prompt commissioning of these works will ensure that the deadlines set by the previous inspection report and enforced by the EA are sure to be met.

#### 8. Finance

For these works, estimated at £41,473, Standing Order 47.6.3 - 3 quotations - would normally apply. It is intended that these works will be funded through Council Capital funds when the Regeneration and Asset Board meets on  $18^{th}$  June 2008. (Maintenance Capital Investment Programme).

#### 9. Risks and Uncertainties

The relatively small and one off nature of these works means that risks in respect of (lack of) value for money are low. Prompt commissioning of these works ensures minimised risk to health and safety and ensures that deadlines for provision will be met.

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The services ensure the continued safety of the dam and reservoir at Thrybergh and the associated Country Park and therefore contribute to the 'Rotherham Alive' and 'Rotherham Safe' agendas.

## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

Consultation has taken place with the Director of Legal and Democratic Services and with the Strategic Director of Finance on the proposed exemption and both support this report.

**Contact Names**: David Phillips, Principal Highway Engineer, Streetpride, Tel. ext. 2950, <a href="mailto:david.phillips@rotherham.gov.uk">david.phillips@rotherham.gov.uk</a>

## **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL**

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Environment and Development Services
2.	Date:	30 June 2006
3.	Title:	Plaque in Crinoline House
4.	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Services

## 5. Summary

A request has been received from a relative of Alderman Wallhead for the plaque within Crinoline House which commemorates him.

## 6. Recommendation

The request is granted in return for a donation to the Mayor's Charity

The request below has been received from Janet Keens through Rotherham Connect.

I understand there is a plaque within Crinoline House which commemorates my Grandfather Walter Wallhead, Mayor Of Rotherham. He raised a lot of money for several charities and was a well respected Alderman.

I was wondering whether it would be possible to pass this plaque onto his last surviving daughter Christine Keens (nee Wallhead).

We would of course donate an agreed amount to charity which obviously follows on from the great work my Grandfather.

A reply has been sent to Janet Keens explaining that as the plaque commemorates a former Councillor and Civic event/ history a report is required to our current Councillors to obtain their decision.

Photographs of the plaque are included at appendix 1.

#### 8. Finance

There are no financial implications

#### 9. Risks and Uncertainties

There are no risks and uncertainties

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposal does not have any significant impact on the Council's policies, priorities, inspections and performance.

## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

None

Contact Name: Arnold Murray, Asset Manager, Economic & Development

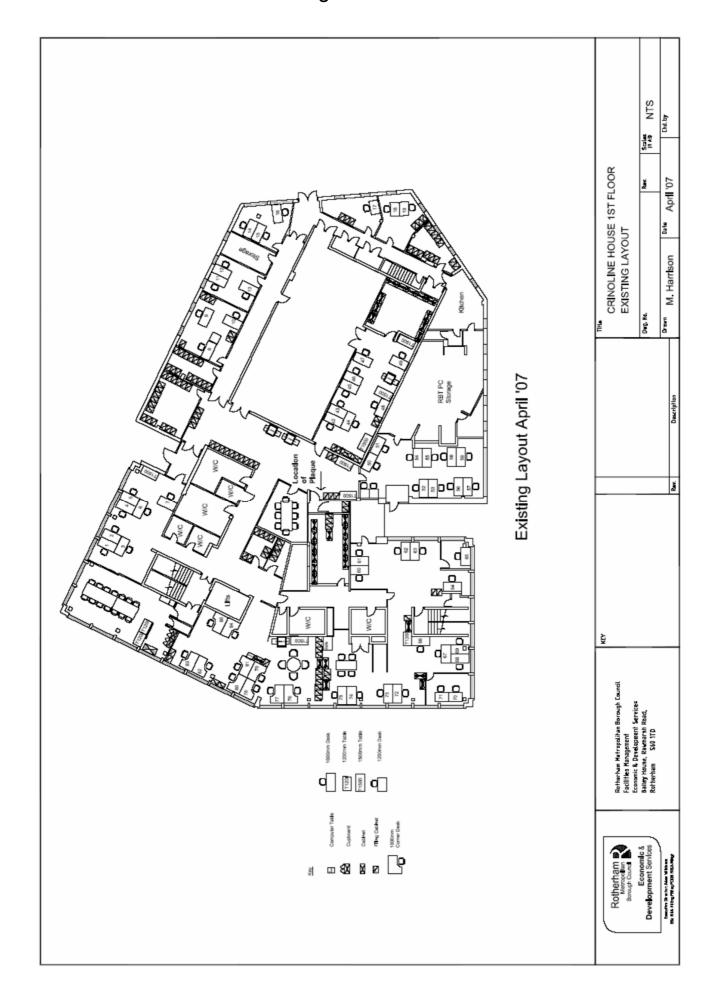
Services. Ext. 2103

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## Appendix 1







# **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services
2.	Date:	30 June 2008
3.	Title:	Revised Regional Spatial Strategy
4.	Programme Area:	Environment & Development Services

# 5. Summary

The Secretary of State has issued a revised Regional Spatial Strategy (The Yorkshire and Humber Plan) on 21 May 2008. The report gives a brief overview of the matters of interest for Rotherham and outlines the future arrangements for review of RSS.

### 6. Recommendations

1. Cabinet Member to note the contents of this report.

# 7. Proposals and Details

The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) sets out the scale, priorities and broad locations for change and development in the Yorkshire and Humber region up to 2026. In so doing, RSS presents a framework for development decisions, essentially seeking to guide **what** development is needed, **where** it should go and **how much** is required.

RSS forms part of the statutory development plan for Rotherham and is a key policy framework within which we prepare our local development framework (LDF), local transport plan and other plans and strategies affecting Rotherham's future. Our emerging LDF must be in "general conformity" with RSS and the Regional Planning Board is a statutory consultee for "regionally significant" planning applications. As such it is important that we consider any implications that RSS may have for Rotherham, and our wider role in the region, and engage in its review.

Revised RSS was issued by the Secretary of State on 21 May 2008. It has full statutory status and replaces the RSS published in December 2004. A members' seminar on revised RSS was held on Tuesday 24 June.

An overview of the Council's previous consultation responses to draft revised RSS is given at Appendix 1. The main issues of interest for the Council are summarised below.

# Core Approach

Draft revised RSS policies required a more concentrated pattern of development, focussing new development on the existing cities and towns in the region. Revised RSS changes the wording of Policy YH5 Principal Towns and explanatory text. This provides a mechanism for local authorities to identify additional Principal Towns, especially where this would support transformation of the Regeneration Priority Areas (within which Rotherham falls). This is an acceptable compromise between a regional urban concentration approach and allowing local flexibility to direct development to support continuing regeneration of former coalfield towns.

# Housing

A new policy is introduced in revised RSS to manage the step up in housing supply and delivery. Among other things, the policy requires local authorities to carry out a Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) in 2008. The Sheffield/Rotherham Joint SHLAA is on course for completion in this time frame. The table below sets out the revised RSS housing targets. (Draft RSS housing targets are shown in Table 1 within Appendix 1.) Delivery of these targets will be challenging. Work is underway as part of the LDF Site Allocations DPD to identify potential development sites and quantify spatial options for growth. Consultation on sites is planned for later in 2008.

# Final RSS annual housing provision for South Yorkshire (net)

	2004-08	2008-26	Total new dwellings 2004-26
Barnsley	840	1015	21,630
Doncaster	855	1230	25,560
Rotherham	750	1160	23,880
Sheffield	1025	1425	29,750
South Yorkshire	3470	4830	100,820

### Economy

Draft revised RSS gave an employment forecast for Rotherham showing little or no expected growth to 2016. The corresponding employment land requirement figure was a negative figure, estimated to be between –11 and –25 hectares. Revised RSS takes account of more recent data which reflects the strong improvements in the Rotherham economy. The number of jobs in Rotherham is now expected to grow by 1,590 a year. The corresponding employment land requirement figure of 90 hectares up to 2021 is also more realistic.

### Waverley

Draft RSS Policy SY1 South Yorkshire Sub Area supported "significant advanced manufacturing related development at the Waverley/Orgreave Advanced Manufacturing Park". The Waverley – Orgreave AMP site was also listed as a "Regionally Significant Investment Priority". Revised RSS amends Policy SY1 to support "advanced manufacturing and related research and development at Waverley". Waverley AMP is deleted from the list of "Regionally Significant Investment Priorities". Despite repeated efforts by the Council, the potential for major housing development at Waverley is not reflected in the policy.

### **Future review**

Review of RSS has already commenced with consultation on a draft project plan. The need for early review stems from the Housing Green Paper's requirement that regional spatial strategies reflect the Government's plans for increased house building. The "2009 update" of the Yorkshire and Humber Plan is therefore focussing on the levels, locations and infrastructure for growth. As part of this update the Regional Assembly has issued a "call for evidence" to gauge stakeholder views on strategic approaches to accommodating growth in the region. Following member endorsement, a response to this current consultation will be submitted in due course.

In the longer term the Government intends that regional spatial and economic strategies will be merged into a single regional strategy. These are to be prepared by regional development agencies, Yorkshire Forward for this region. The arrangements for this transfer of responsibility are evolving.

#### 8. Finance

No direct budgetary implications although RSS will influence regional spending priorities and therefore have an effect on the implementation of Rotherham's emerging Local Development Framework and Local Transport Plan.

### 9. Risks and Uncertainties

The 2004 Planning Act and subsequent guidance increased the spatial and subregional content of Regional Spatial Strategies. Through formal responses to consultation on the review of RSS, the Council's representation at the Regional Planning Board and Regional Planning Forum and ongoing officer level involvement in its drafting, the Council will seek to ensure that RSS strikes an appropriate balance between being regionally specific and still allowing local flexibility.

It is also important that the Council responds to RSS consultations at each stage and fully engages in the process of reviewing RSS to ensure that policy is not imposed "by default".

# 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The implementation of RSS via the LDF and other local plans and strategies should make a positive contribution to all of Rotherham's Regeneration priorities.

Equalities issues feature in RSS core policies and should benefit positively from the successful implementation of RSS.

Achieving sustainable development is a core theme of the RSS. At each stage of the development of RSS, a Strategic Environmental Assessment/Sustainability Appraisal (SEA/SA) has been carried out.

The RSS seeks to improve the health of the Region's population by a variety of means.

### 11. Background Papers and Consultation

Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber to 2016 (based on Selective Review of RPG12) – December 2004

Draft Regional Spatial Strategy (the Yorkshire and Humber Plan) – December 2005

The Yorkshire and Humber Plan, Examination in Public, Report of the Panel – March 2007

The Yorkshire and Humber Plan, Proposed Changes – September 2007

The Yorkshire and Humber Plan, Regional Spatial Strategy to 2026 – May 2008

### **Contact Name:**

Andy Duncan, Strategic Policy Team Leader 01709 823830, andy.duncan@rotherham.gov.uk

# Appendix 1: Overview of RMBC consultation responses to draft revised RSS

A draft revised RSS (The Yorkshire and Humber Plan) was submitted to Government by the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly in December 2005. The Council submitted a response to draft RSS, which was reported to EDS Cabinet Member's Delegated Powers Meeting (03/04/06), CMT (10/04/06) and Cabinet (03/05/06).

The Examination in Public of draft RSS (EiP), led by an independent Panel, was held during September and October 2006, at which the Council were represented. The Panel Report was published on 4 May 2007 giving their conclusions and recommended changes to draft RSS. The Panel's findings were reported to the Rotherham LDF Steering Group (25/05/07), CMT (04/06/07) and Cabinet (06/06/07).

The Secretary of State published Proposed Changes to draft RSS on 28 September 2007. The Proposed Changes took account of the Panel's recommendations in part and also updated draft RSS in light of more recent employment and housing figures. The Council submitted a response to the Proposed Changes, which was reported to CMT (26/11/07), EDS Cabinet Member's Delegated Powers Meeting (03/12/07), and Cabinet (12/12/07).

Revised RSS was issued by the Secretary of State on 21 May 2008. It has full statutory status and replaces the RSS published in December 2004.

The following table outlines the evolution of the main matters of interest to the Council within RSS.

### **CORE APPROACH**

#### **Draft RSS**

Policies YH6, YH8 and SY1 and the related identification of "Main Towns in South Yorkshire" require a more concentrated pattern of development, focussing new development on the existing cities and towns in the region. 34 Principal Service Centres and Main Towns are listed. All other freestanding settlements ("Local Service Centres") would be limited to local affordable housing and economic diversification.

# RMBC response to draft RSS and EiP submission

The Council accepted the reasoning behind this in terms of seeking to promote sustainable development, make best use of existing infrastructure and reduce the need to travel but did not agree with the way draft RSS sought to apply this approach. The Council considered this approach to be too prescriptive and to encroach upon areas more properly determined by Rotherham's own Local Development Framework. The Council also considered that the regeneration of the former coalfield towns could be jeopardised by this approach.

### **Panel Report**

The Panel considered that identification of "main towns" or "principal service centres" below the level of sub-regional centres (Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield) could only be properly assessed at the local level. RSS should therefore set out the functions of lower order centres and leave the choice of such centres to local planning authorities in their LDFs. The list of Principal Service Centres should

be deleted and criteria for their identification in LDFs set out.

# **Proposed Changes**

The Secretary of State has implemented the Panel's recommendation in part by amending Policy YH6 to add a list of criteria under which LDFs can "exceptionally" include additional "Principal Towns". The justification for the Policy has been amended to accept that it is likely that additional Principal Towns will need to be identified in some South and West Yorkshire districts. However, the list of named settlements has not been deleted from draft RSS.

# **RMBC** response to RSS Proposed Changes

Ideally, the Proposed Changes should implement the Panel Recommendation. However, the Proposed Change may represent a workable compromise but the word "exceptionally" should be deleted from Policy YH6 section C to make the Policy consistent with the intention of the accompanying explanatory text.

### Revised RSS (May 2008)

Minor changes to the wording of the policy and explanatory text. Provides a mechanism for local authorities to identify additional Principal Towns, especially where this would support transformation of the Regeneration Priority Areas (within which Rotherham falls).

#### HOUSING

#### **Draft RSS**

Draft RSS set out a net housing requirement for Rotherham of 750 additional dwellings per year until 2016 and 950 a year for the remaining period to 2021. Table 1 shows this in the South Yorkshire context:

Table 1: Draft RSS annual housing provision for South Yorkshire (net)

	2004-11	2011-16	2016-21	Total new dwellings 2004-21
Barnsley	840	840	950	14,830
Doncaster	855	855	1080	15,660
Rotherham	750	750	950	13,750
Sheffield	1025	1025	1100	17,800
South Yorkshire	3470	3470	4080	62,040

### RMBC response to draft RSS and EiP submission

The Council recognised that this figure accommodated some of the housing requirement that the Regional Assembly's distribution model originally apportioned to Sheffield, due to the City's constrained potential for development beyond its urban area. This was considered acceptable and indeed desirable to assist in Rotherham's aspirations for growth. At the EiP, the Council presented a joint case with Sheffield City Council arguing for a higher housing allocation for both Sheffield and Rotherham in recognition of the household projections published before the Examination.

### **Panel Report**

The Panel considered that the housing figures in draft RSS should be increased to

account for the higher household growth projections and the more optimistic employment growth figures available at the EiP. The Panel therefore recommended increased housing figures from 2011 for South Yorkshire as given in Table 2:

Table 2: Panel Report annual housing provision for South Yorkshire (net)

	2004-11	2011-16	2016-21	Total new dwellings 2004-21
Barnsley	840	1015	1015	16,030
Doncaster	855	1230	1230	18,285
Rotherham	750	1160	1160	16,850
Sheffield	1025	1425	1425	21,425
South Yorkshire	3470	4830	4830	72,590

# **Proposed Changes**

The Proposed Changes extend the housing figures to 2026 to comply with the guidance in PPS3 Housing. The higher targets are also brought forward to 2008 to reflect the higher projections and the Government's emphasis on delivery of increased housing numbers as set out in the Housing Green Paper. Splitting up the phasing of the targets beyond 2008 is thought arbitrary and is therefore dropped. Table 3 sets out these figures:

Table 3: Proposed Changes annual housing provision for South Yorkshire (net)

	2004-08	2008-26	Total new dwellings 2004-26
Barnsley	840	1015	21,630
Doncaster	855	1230	25,560
Rotherham	750	1160	23,880
Sheffield	1025	1425	29,750
South Yorkshire	3470	4830	100,820

# **RMBC** response to RSS Proposed Changes

The Proposed Changes are supported as they accommodate the higher household and employment projections now available. The extension of the figures to 2026 is supported as it enables Rotherham's LDF to set out a 15 year supply of housing land from its expected adoption date of 2009 and thus comply with PPS3. A change to the phasing of increased provision from 2011 onwards (rather than 2008) is suggested to allow time for the identification of sufficient land and its allocation via the LDF process.

### Revised RSS (May 2008)

No change to the housing figures in RSS Proposed Changes. New policy introduced to manage the step up in housing supply. Table 4 sets out the Final RSS housing figures.

Table 4: Final RSS annual housing provision for South Yorkshire (net) Total new 2004-08 2008-26 dwellings 2004-26 21,630 Barnsley 840 1015 Doncaster 855 1230 25,560 Rotherham 750 1160 23,880 Sheffield 1025 1425 29,750 South Yorkshire 3470 100,820 4830

#### **ECONOMY**

### **Draft RSS**

Draft RSS gave an employment forecast for Rotherham showing little or no expected growth to 2016. The corresponding employment land requirement figure was a negative figure, estimated to be between –11 and –25 hectares.

# RMBC response to draft RSS and EiP submission

The overall approach of the economy policies in draft RSS was welcomed by the Council, subject to some detailed concerns. The data the Assembly had used to inform draft RSS policy on economic land supply were considered to be out of date and therefore generated incorrect employment land requirement figures. The Council had previously lobbied the Assembly for the use of the latest Regional Econometric Model (REM) data and continued to do so, alongside formally objecting to this element of draft RSS.

### **Panel Report**

The Panel considered that the employment land projections given in draft RSS were the most up to date at the time of drafting. However, the evidence available at the EiP pointed to the need to revise the figures to take account of the forecasting done for the Sheffield City Region Development Plan based on the latest REM data. The Panel therefore recommended changes to draft RSS to this effect.

### **Proposed Changes**

The Proposed Changes take account of the more recent data which reflects the strong improvements in the Rotherham economy. The number of jobs in Rotherham is now expected to grow by 1,590 a year. The corresponding employment land requirement figure to 2021 of 90 hectares is also more realistic.

### **RMBC** response to RSS Proposed Changes

The Proposed Changes to the job growth projections and the corresponding employment land requirements are supported.

### Revised RSS (May 2008)

No change to the improved employment figures in RSS Proposed Changes.

### WAVERLEY

### **Draft RSS**

Draft RSS Policy SY1 South Yorkshire Sub Area supported "significant advanced manufacturing related development at the Waverley/Orgreave Advanced Manufacturing Park". The Waverley – Orgreave AMP site was also listed as a "Regionally Significant Investment Priority".

# RMBC response to draft RSS and EiP submission

The support for the Waverley AMP was welcomed but the Council considered that draft RSS should have gone further and recognised the long-term potential of Waverley as a mixed use development incorporating a significant housing element.

# **Panel Report**

The Panel accepted that Waverley is a location for major development, rather than a site in isolation, and is therefore appropriate for inclusion in RSS. The Panel raised a concern that the planned mix of uses at Waverley beyond manufacturing could have an adverse impact on proposals for Rotherham town centre and Sheffield city centre without a clear steer in RSS. The Panel recommended that draft RSS should therefore give a clearer direction on the scale and type of development that would be acceptable in this location.

# **Proposed Changes**

The Proposed Changes amend the Policy wording to support "manufacturing development at the Waverley Advanced Manufacturing Park" as opposed to "manufacturing related". The Waverley AMP is also deleted from the list of "Regionally Significant Investment Priorities".

# **RMBC** response to RSS Proposed Changes

The Proposed Changes are not supported. The changes to the wording of Policy SY1 seem a narrow interpretation of the Panel recommendation in respect of Waverley. This potentially restricts future development to purely manufacturing rather than the research and development, product and process development and innovation uses of the first phases. The deletion of Waverley from the list of regional investment priorities is also a retrograde step.

The amended Policy should give a clear direction on the scale and type of development for Waverley. Firstly, by reinstating the draft RSS wording on Waverley. Secondly – in light of the Housing Green Paper, Central Government's emphasis on delivering higher housing numbers and the housing requirement given in the Proposed Changes – the Policy should go further by recognising the long-term potential of Waverley to become a new community comprising mixed use development with a significant housing element.

### Revised RSS (May 2008)

Policy wording amended to support "advanced manufacturing and related research and development at Waverley". Waverley AMP is deleted from the list of "Regionally Significant Investment Priorities". The potential for major housing development at Waverley is not included in the policy.

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Agenda Item 14

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3, 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Agenda Item 15

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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