

Report

Report subject: Salisbury Vision and Churchfields Industrial Estate
Report to: Planning and Economic Development Overview & Scrutiny Panel
Date: 3 July 2006
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1 Matters for consideration

Scrutiny Panel Members are requested to note the current progress on Salisbury vision and note that options for Churchfields Industrial Estate will be considered within the overall timescales of the vision project

2 Introduction and background

At its meeting on the 7 September 2005 the Cabinet agreed the appointment of specialist advisors to work alongside the council in developing a vision for Salisbury.

In February 2006, Gillespies were appointed as lead advisors for the project and the project board approved their project plan and timetable in April 2006. At a previous meeting this panel requested that an update report be prepared with particular focus on whether it was possible to implement any quick wins in relation to Churchfields Industrial Estate.

The panel is represented by Cllr Mrs E Chettleburgh.



Awarded in:
Housing Services
Waste and Recycling Services



3 Baseline study

In accordance with the project timetable, an initial baseline study has now been completed and presented to the project steering group. An initial set of issues identified through the baseline study were presented to a consultation drop in event held on the 26 and 27 May at the Red Lion Hotel. The steering group have considered the views expressed at the event which broadly endorsed the vision objectives and key issues identified. As a result of the consultation feedback, the vision aims and study objectives have been amended and approved by the steering group (see Appendix 1)

4 Churchfields

The baseline review includes an assessment of Churchfields and has identified the following key issues which are familiar to the council:

- Poor access for HGVs
- Conflicting uses on the estate
- Poor local environment
- Problems with car parking
- Environmental impact on city centre

A joint member/officer meeting took place earlier in the year where it was generally agreed that there are no single quick win solutions that could be considered outside the overall vision process. The Chairman of the Churchfields Action Group has recently confirmed that he is pleased with the progress being made on the vision and specifically in relation to Churchfields and is content not to consider any proposals outside of that process.

5 Conclusions and recommendations

The vision project is progressing according to timetable and budget. The baseline review and initial consultation has concluded that the original aims and objectives are broadly in line with needs and expectations.

The panel are asked to:

- 1 Note the progress being made to date
- 2 Note the revised aims and study objectives
- 3 Note that any actions in relation to Churchfields will be developed as part of the overall timetable for the vision exercise.

The Vision for Salisbury

The Vision for Salisbury is a city based on a thriving centre defined by a high degree of vitality and communal activity played out within a safe and exciting public realm. A lively centre will provide an attractive pedestrian oriented environment which allows the enjoyment of its historic spaces, buildings and streets.

Salisbury has a unique and special character that will be protected in order to develop a niche city that has an exemplary visual, cultural, educational and commercial offer. Varied shopping opportunities will be a key feature of the Vision associated with appropriate larger retailers but retaining and enhancing the distinctive character created by the independent and specialist stores.

The city will be easily accessible to all both physically and socially, and be a place that balances the needs of residents, through a high quality living and working environment, and the needs of visitors by presenting itself as a pre-eminent tourist destination. Salisbury will have a much improved appeal offering a greater range of different experiences encouraging people to use the city for longer periods. The natural environment upon which the city was founded will be preserved and enhanced as part of a future for the city that is based on a highly sustainable transport, development and spatial identity.

The Vision Objectives

- Encourage development that has a genuine mix of uses including those that provide a role for civic, educational and cultural activities.
- Create a predominately open air, café culture city, where people gather and meet others.
- Create a vibrant evening economy
- Create a place where traffic is kept moving but the impact of noise, air pollution and safety is reduced to an absolute minimum.
- Create a place where people can live, work and enjoy themselves with the minimum adverse impact on each other.
- Provide a city with safe, comfortable and welcoming streets and spaces
- Maximise the use of public spaces through more diverse activity.
- Encourage the use of creative lighting, public art, comprehensive signage and high quality street furniture.
- Reduce city centre traffic by encouraging the use of Park and Ride, discouraging through traffic, minimising the impact of coaches and moving people around the city efficiently and sustainably.
- Provide an integrated transport system that caters for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users.
- Ensure development has a rich visual appearance that respects the special character the city has and its high quality historical architecture.
- Respect and celebrate the current historic pattern of the city.
- Provide a centre with specialist and regional services that are not readily available in the surrounding areas.

- Create a city with a range of housing to meet all needs.
- Extend the role and services offered by the educational institutions.
- Develop an employment centre that offers opportunities for all levels of skills and for a wide range of professions.
- Respect the existing employment base and avoid losing established businesses
- Avoid loss of city centre retail to out of town sites.
- Encourage biodiversity, protection of wildlife and enhance the landscape setting of the city.
- Develop a role for green tourism.
- Maximise the value of the rivers.
- Protect and encourage further visual and physical linkages to:
 - The Cathedral
 - The Commercial Core
 - The Rail Station
 - The rivers and open spaces
 - Clarendon Way – national footpath