

CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL AND MANAGEMENT PLANS: CONSULTATION



Report of: Cllr Neil Roberts, Cabinet Member for Democratic, Development and Legal Services

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Agenda Item: 7.

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Key Decision? NO

CABINET

1. Executive Summary

To inform the Cabinet of proposed consultation in connection with draft conservation area appraisal and management plan for Colton, Harlaston and Hopwas conservation areas and to request approval of the drafts and agreement to the consultation process.

2. Recommendations

1. That the Cabinet approve the draft conservation area appraisal and management plans for Colton, Harlaston and Hopwas Conservation Areas for consultation.

3. Statement of Reasons

Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans have to be undertaken regularly on a rolling programme. They are an essential part of the process which aims to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area and provide a foundation for future decision making.

The understanding of an area gained through undertaking an appraisal can help to inform policy and decision making through the development control process. Conservation Area Appraisals can also help to form a framework for developing management guidelines. They can provide a sound defence on appeal in relation to various policies and development control decisions. The Colton, Harlaston and Hopwas appraisals will form part of the evidence base for the emerging Local Development Framework.

A management plans can provide the basis for developing management proposals which aim to preserve or enhance the conservation area. Under Section 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 the Council has a duty from 'time to time to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of any parts of their area which are conservation areas'. The management proposals take the form of mid- to long-term strategy, setting objectives for addressing the issues and recommendations for action arising from the appraisal and identifying any further or more detailed work needed for their implementation.

It is now accepted that involving the local community in evaluating what makes an area special and where the boundaries of a conservation area should be drawn, is integral to the appraisal process.

Community Benefits

1. The conservation area appraisal and management plan will provide a clearer understanding of the importance of the conservation area and a framework

	for the future management of it. The management plans may also be useful to the local community, in a variety of ways, as it outlines how the Council will work with other stakeholders including the local community to positively manage the conservation area.
Views of Overview & Scrutiny	1. The views of the Environment and Development (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee have not yet been sought. However, the responses to the proposed consultation will be considered by the Committee and its comments reported to Cabinet before a decision is made on adopting the document.
Alternative Options	1. There are no alternative options to undertaking conservation area appraisals and management plans as they are a requirement of national policy guidance and the Council is committed to progressing them through the Local Area Agreement.
Consultation	1. The methodology of consultation is the subject of internal consultation at officer level.
Financial Implications	1. The cost of production of management plans and consultation exercises will be met from existing budgets. 2. The implementation of recommendations in the management plan will either utilise existing resources and existing budgets or be funded from external bodies.
Strategic Plan Implications	1. None.
Sustainability Issues	1. In creating documents which contribute to the understanding and management of conservation areas, the Council is seeking to help to preserve and enhance these areas for future generations.
Human Rights Issues	1. None directly. Appraisals and Management Plans will inform future proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas.
Crime & Safety Issues	1. Better consideration of the way conservation areas are managed can help to highlight potential problems and thus help reduce the possibility of crime and improve community safety.

4. Risk Management

	Risk Description	Likelihood / Impact	Status	Countermeasure
A	Draft appraisal and management plans may not stand up to testing at appeal	Low/High	Environmental	None available
B				
C				
D				
E				

Background documents

- 1. Draft Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Colton – November 2011**
- 2. Draft Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Harlaston – November 2011**
- 3. Draft Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Hopwas – November 2011**

Relevant web links

Please list details